



State of New Jersey  
CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION

PHILLIP D. MURPHY  
Governor

P.O. BOX 216  
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0216

DIANNA HOUEYOU, *Chair*  
KRISTA NASH, *Vice Chair*  
AMELIA MAPP, *Commissioner*  
CHRIS RIGGS, *Acting Executive Director*

TAHESHA L. WAY  
Lt. Governor

August 14, 2025

[REDACTED]  
Botera Union LLC  
[REDACTED]

Re: **NOTICE OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION - INITIAL AGENCY  
DECISION REGARDING IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST  
BOTERA UNION LLC**

Dear [REDACTED]:

The New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission ("NJ-CRC" or "Commission") has imposed a civil monetary penalty of \$5,000.00 for the reasons articulated below.

**NJ-CRC's Issuance of Notice of Violation**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.4(a), during an onsite assessment, a review of financial records, or other Commission review of the license holder and its operations, if the Commission identifies a violation of the Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act, P.L.2021, c.16, N.J.S.A. 24:6I-31 et seq., (the "Act") or the implementing Personal-Use Cannabis Rules (the "Personal-Use Regulations"), the Commission shall provide notice of the violation, including an official written report of the findings and the nature of the violation, to the cannabis business or testing laboratory within seven business days following the onsite assessment or other identification of the violation.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-8.1, every owner, principal, management services contractor, employee, or volunteer of a cannabis business license holder or a testing laboratory that accesses the premises of a cannabis business or handles cannabis on behalf of a license holder or testing laboratory and every cannabis handler pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-44(a) shall be required to register with the Commission and be issued a Cannabis Business Identification Card.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-14.3(a), before allowing entrance to a cannabis retailer, and additionally prior to selling or serving cannabis items to a consumer, for each transaction, cannabis retailer personnel shall examine any one of the following pieces of photographic identification and shall confirm the consumer is of legal age to purchase cannabis: (1) the person's United States passport; other country's passport; or proper government-issued documentation for international travel, provided it is lawful to use as identification in the United States; (2) the person's motor

vehicle driver's license, whether issued by New Jersey or by any other state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, provided the license displays a picture of the person; (3) a New Jersey identification card issued by the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission; or (4) any other identification card issued by a state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the United States that bears a picture of the person, the name of the person, the person's date of birth, and a physical description of the person.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-14.3(d), the cannabis retailer shall not sell to a consumer in a single sales transaction more than 28.35 grams (one ounce) of usable cannabis or the equivalent of some combination of usable cannabis and cannabis products.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-14.3(e), the cannabis retailer shall make a good faith effort to prevent a consumer from exceeding one ounce of usable cannabis or the equivalent weight in cannabis products, in multiple sales transactions.

On July 2, 2025, a Notice of Violation was issued to Botera Union LLC (“Botera Union”) for violations related to its failure to maintain proper employment procedures, follow age verification processes, and comply with product sales limits (INV-86-2025).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.4(b), unless otherwise specified by the Commission, within 20 business days of receipt of the notice of violation, the cannabis business or testing laboratory shall correct the violation(s) and notify the Commission, in writing, of any corrective actions taken to correct the violations, and the date of implementation of such corrective actions. Botera Union responded to the Notice of Violation and provided a corrective action plan within 20 days of receipt of the Notice of Violation.

### **NJ-CRC’s Review of Imposition of Sanctions**

Regardless of whether a license holder provides a corrective action plan, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.5(a), in response to a violation of any provision of the Act or the Personal-Use Regulations, the Commission is authorized to take enforcement action or impose sanctions upon a license holder. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, civil monetary penalties; suspension, revocation, non-renewal, or denial of a license; referral to State or local law enforcement, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.6, -20.7, and -20.8; or any combination thereof.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.6(b), a monetary penalty imposed by the Commission on a license holder pursuant to this subchapter may not exceed \$500,000 per major violation or \$50,000 per any other license violation. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.6(c), a violation by each entity or person per day shall constitute a separate incident for the purposes of calculating the number of violations.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.6(d), the Commission may impose greater penalties for successive violations up to the maximum amounts.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.6(f), the Commission may, in the Commission's sole discretion, consider additional factors in determining the penalty for each violation. Such factors may include, but are not limited to:

1. Any prior violations that the license holder has admitted to or was found to have engaged in;
2. Good faith measures by the license holder to self-report or prevent the violation;
3. The license holder's record of compliance with the laws and rules pertaining to personal use cannabis;
4. Corrective action(s) taken by the license holder related to the current violation or prior violations;
5. Willfulness and deliberateness of the violation;
6. Likelihood of reoccurrence of the violation; and
7. Violations involving damage or danger to the life, health, welfare, safety, or property of any person.

After completing a thorough review of Botera Union's violations related to its failure to maintain proper employment procedures, follow age verification processes, and comply with product sales limits, the Commission has determined to impose a civil monetary penalty of \$5,000.00 as follows:

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>FINE</b>
Violation 1 (failure to maintain proper employment procedures)	\$1,000.00
Violation 2 (failure to follow age verification processes)	\$500.00
Violations 3-4 (failure to comply with product sales limits)	\$3,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>

In determining the penalty, the Commission considered penalties previously imposed on businesses for similar violations and the particular facts and circumstances of the violation, including:

1. Botera Union knew or should have known that its employee (Ms. Brennan) was not approved by the Commission to work in the cannabis business when Ms. Brennan began working at the dispensary;
2. Though Botera Union did not verify a purchasing customer's age at the point of sale, it did verify the customer's age at the dispensary's entrance; and
3. The substantial amount of cannabis that Botera Union sold to one individual over the 1-ounce (28-gram) limit. Botera Union admits to selling approximately 209 grams of cannabis products to the individual.

The Commission finds the imposed penalty to be fair, reasonable, and consistent with the regulations at N.J.A.C. 17:30.

### **Next Steps**

Fines must be paid online by logging into the Commission's licensing portal at <https://nj-crc-public.nls.egov.com/login>. If you feel you cannot pay the fine within 30 days of the date of this notice, you are encouraged to contact the Commission to establish a payment plan.

Please inform your assigned investigator when payment has been made.

If you wish to contest the imposition of this penalty, you may request an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and 52:14F-1 et seq., to contest the Commission's imposition of a civil monetary penalty for any license violation within 14 days of receipt of this initial decision. If you wish to exercise your right to a hearing, such a request must be made in writing and sent to:

Dave Tuason, Chief Counsel  
New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission  
PO Box 216  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0216  
[David.Tuason@crc.nj.gov](mailto:David.Tuason@crc.nj.gov)

Should you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please submit your inquiry to the NJ-CRC Licensing inbox at [cre.licensing@crc.nj.gov](mailto:cre.licensing@crc.nj.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DH' followed by a horizontal line.

Dianna Houenou  
Chairperson  
New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission