Guy C Everest	I dont believe your commission is acting in good faith for the people and you all should be fired and investigated. Recreational marijuana was voted in by the people for the people. And, if you're commission can't do it's Job. The people will do it for you, once again.
sean welsh	I just dont understand how after 2 years you still dont have recreational marijuana is beyond me. As a med card holder thats not even really what gets to the core of my issues with the state CRC. My issues are that for some reason any expansion to the product line for med patients must wait until rec is fullly up and running. So basically as a patient i have to wait for whenever it is NJ deciedes to open rec so ill have access to my fast acting concentrates which for someone reason will not be avaiable for med until after they are avaviable first to rec. where is the sense is that? that goods for actual edibles too, not those unsatisfying lozenges. The point of the story is that bc of your way of working this situation outnj weed prices are insane, the produts that are avaiable for not even close to good enoughwhats with 70% cap on vapes? im now hearing solventless conentrates? so all we can buy is rosin? for prolly 100 half a gram? for rec i get all the caps and limits and this and that i get but for med for a patient thereshouldnt be all this limiting on the amounts and types and percentage of thc, A governement agency shouldnt put a limit on what a dr wants to legally prescribe me. Thanks for your tie and sorry i am nt the slighest happy with this program.
AConcerned Citizen	This is getting ridiculous. There is not reason for the continued delay. At this point you are affecting customers and business. You say you are doing this to "help" make sure everything runs smoothly, but at this point, you are creating discord with voters who have been waiting close to 2 years at this point. Get it together and make this happen. You are stalling and not helping anyone but yourself.
Daniel Plainview	You people really need to get it together. The people have
I drink your milkshake	spoken, man, prove to us that democracy isn't fucking dead
Syceria Stephens	Hi,
High Vibes Delivery	When will cannabis delivery applications begin tot accepted?
	Will delivery business be allowed to deliver to recreational use consumers and medicinal marijuana patients as well?
Thomas Czajkowski	All Commision members, you are not fooling anyone, you should all quit or Murphy should remove you all, as it is

	obvious that you all have hidden agendas to prevent fulfilling the will of the NJ voters. Too bad the NJ voters cant vote on electing all of you as we would vote you out. Terrible job, you all should be ashamed of your incompetence.
Patricia lamele	The entire CRC should resign to allow a capable committee to get the job done wiithout foolish delays. Your rec pot rules are so unconsciable; no tea, edibles, home grown, and 1 oz per year are you serious? NJ residents voted for rec pot 2 years ago now we should vote on each foolish rule you want to implement. Alcohol is freely avaliable around homes for children to drink without a 1 bottle a year purchase rule. Resign and have a capable commission get the job done now.
judith F. Despommier	What are the hiring practices for Eleven ElevenWellness,LLC license application#s1034 and 1102 for their proposed Bergenfield location?  Hope fully NOT college students and/or prior cannabis offenders.
Thomas Turcich	If a Retail Micro Social Equity applicant has 0 % chance of
Kahuna Buds LLC	acquiring a site/building because the town they live in says no or only 1 neighboring town said yes but there are no sites available. What are the options other than annual application if another town (2-3 towns away) has space and desire for stores?
Erica M	Could this commission be any bigger of a farce or corrupt? You guys are pieces of sh, dragging down New Jersey, dragging down Democrats- you've made a mockery of this entire process and it's pretty clear to anybody except for your pathetic selves. I pray to God my taxpayer monies are not going to pay your salary! Disgusting
Antonio Parrales	Since the applications will be reviewed on a rolling period, will there be a time that applications that are denied will be notified? At what point will an application be informed if they are not approved?
Rafael Zabala	Greetings,  1. When will the commission make public annual gross sale revenue and sales tax collection generated by current cannabis medical dispensaries in New Jersey? An annual report was published every year since the dispensaries started operation.  2. When will home grow be taken on by the commission as a matter of fairness and social equity?
Shea Douglas	When are the next round of awarded licenses coming out?
Press Iyamu	Good afternoon,

My name is Press Iyamu, and I am a resident of the great City of Hackensack, NJ. I want to thank the commission for committing countless hours towards regulating the cannabis industry in the garden state. And fostering an environment where cannabis can begin to benefit local businesses and taxpayers.

I am sure that all present are aware the cannabis market is projected to reach a stellar 200 billion by 2028.

As a resident of this industrious state. It is encouraging to see there were roughly 187 applications actively under review by the CRC, as of March.

NJ as a state will not fail to stake itself in the cannabis market while backed by its entrepreneurial citizens, and their endeavors, supported by the CRC and adjacent commissions.

With that said, I would like to implore the commission to adhere to their commitment of awarding licenses to minority and women owned businesses.

There is tremendous opportunity for local enrichment in not only the communities of Bergen County, but elsewhere across the state where minority and women owned businesses are rooted.

Thank you.

Nicholas Powers	,
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You guys should have a updated list of towns that have moved to allow recreational business!

On top of that please PLEASE send out some update to these towns because you have MULTIPLE towns who do not even know the next steps they must take to show municipal support!

## **Richard Roberts**

What is the expected time that it will take, as mentioned by Madam Chair, to send the expanded ATCs licenses for Adult-Use cannabis to start recreational sales in New Jersey?

#### Brian K. Everett

During today's meeting, I heard from several ATC providers who mentioned that they're excited to expand into recreational sales, and that they are more than capable of maintaining enough product for both recreational sales and medicinal sales. One provider mentioned that they will have "plenty of product in all forms", and another provider said that they currently have enough product on-hand right now to last 25 months. With this being stated in our public records, we must recognize that these providers are about to experience record sales and profits. These providers should be obligated to reduce the prices for medical patients given the expansion of recreational sales. It is not

right for a patient to be paying \$60 for 1/8th, no matter what their condition of treatment is. For many of us, medicinal cannabis has been life changing - but it is expensive and does not need to be that way.

George T DiFerdinando Jr, MD, MPH

PREVENTION FIRST And NEVER BE CHEERLEADING

Comments to the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission George T. DiFerdinando, Jr., MD, MPH April 11, 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. As an internist and public health professional, and former Deputy Commissioner of the NJ Department of Health with responsibility for the then Division of Addiction Services, I am concerned that today, on the imminent initiation of recreational sales, our public, health care, and public health communities are not adequately prepared to minimize the potential harms that will be associated with that initiation. These potential harms could, and thus should, be minimized.

Recreational sale will lead to increased use of cannabis products among all age groups legally permitted to purchase such products. And yet, when used as a recreational product, cannabis has no documented safe level of use. Thus, preparations need to be made to mitigate potential harms from that increased use. Limiting these potential harms must first focus on young children, young adults, persons who are pregnant, and seniors. Our actions I'm surging can be summed up in six words: Prevention First and Never Be Cheerleading. Before initiating recreational sale, current local use and local prevention efforts should have assessed in more detail. Education and outreach are urgently needed to assure that the public is aware of lower risk cannabis usage guidelines to prevent as many negative effects as possible. PREVENTION FIRST.

Unfortunately, there is currently an absence of detailed State issued information or guidance on prevention, either on the CRC or Department of Health's sites. Yet we don't have to go out of state to see how to minimize harm in a new recreational business. The Division of Gaming Enforcement, within the Department of Law and Public Safety, is responsibilie for oversight of all forms of gambling in New Jersey. It lists resources on responsible gambling just below the Director's bio, including hotline numbers to

call for aid, ways to 'opt-out' of gambling if you have a problem, and other resources to reduce harm. If the Division of Gaming Enforcement can do it, the CRC and/or DOH can, too.

We must never be seen as 'cheerleading' for recreational cannabis use; still, approval for sales prior to detailed discussion, planning and action on education and interventions will be read as enthusiasm for RC sale and, consequently, RC use. In contrast, there is no official enthusiasm for use of other intoxicants or potential harmful activities, such as alcohol use, tobacco use, vaping, or gambling. How are our actions to seemingly encourage cannabis sales consistent with such admonitions on the use of other substances? NEVER BE CHEERLEADING.

To sum up, I do not want to block a retail sale of cannabis in New Jersey; I do believe it is important to plan prevention and action first, to minimize harm, the same way we've done for years with tobacco and alcohol use and have done most recently to encourage responsible gambling after legalization of online gaming. The fact is, we haven't done enough

### Scott Bent

Euphorium Dispensary Inc -Conditional License Applicant For the record, Happy Anniversary to the NJ CRC!

I would like to say I am grateful for the diligent work the NJ CRC has been doing to build a strong foundation for cannabis market that can reach 2 billion+ in sales. The work the NJ CRC has done to prioritize equity, inclusion, diversity and opportunity is unmatched by any other US market and I believe can be used as a model for future markets.

With that said, I must express my extreme disappointment with many of the things I heard, some things I didn't hear and decisions that were made:

- 1. Business as usual, Institutional Racism and Exclusion: The ATCs already have a significant advantage already having vertical operations that do not rely on outside collaboration to get to market. Giving them the ability to begin recreational sales before new adult use dispensaries are even approved to open provides them with an advantage that I thought wouldn't exist in NJ.
- 2. It's not what you say, it's what you don't say: I only heard one ATC speak to the CRC dedication to equity and diversity, and with these MSO national brands, it should have been one of the first things they mentioned as they lobby for significant financial gain while willingly seeing an unfair advantage and head start in a brand new adult use market.
- 3. NJ CRC Diversity Voices: It was very disappointing to only see our Chairperson make the decision to abstain from voting and only hearing one negative vote among all the

ATC votes. The NJ CRC has been given a mission to create an inclusive diverse cannabis market and I am shocked that not one board member spoke up regarding this subject matter and the absolute lack of inclusion and diversity in the approvals of the ATC expansion.

4. Priority Applications: I hope we get clarity on how the CRC reviewed the ATC expansion applications when the social equity, diversely owned, impact zone, micro and conditional businesses applications are the priority according to the publish process.

I believe the NJ CRC fell victim to political pressures, MSO lobbyists and media reports that attempted to "rush the process" and get recreational open. It is disappointing to see seems to be a big stumble and I hope, with time, you will see the mistakes of the day and make the necessary adjustments.

Please remember, we are talking about potentially multiple millions of dollars of missed sales for the new businesses. That is very costly and could cause some businesses to lose their funding source based on the missed opportunity the NJ CRC has allowed to happen.

Thank you for taking the time and having a process for me to submit my thoughts.

Big ups to you Chair Dianna Houenou for at least making a statement and to Executive Director Brown for obviously always remembering and working for the NJ CRC mission of being safe, accessible, affordable, EQUITABLE and JUST.

JoAnn Elaine Lewis

Why as a medical Marijuana patient am I unable to buy RSO or FECO oil in my local dispensary?

## James Miller

# The Coalition for Medical Marihuana NJ

I want to thank all of the CRC members, for their stated objective to put patients first. You spoke of the importance of patient access to their medicine, and how adult consumer sales using patient dispensaries to get their recreational weed will not affect patient access at their dispensary of choice. The problem is, that has already happened. Dispensaries' consideration for implementing home delivery for patients disappeared with their gearing up for adult consumers coming through their doors as well. I emailed Curaleaf at Bellmawr to find out what the holdup on home delivery was and a representative emailed me back last July 1st to say "Currently, we do not have home delivery. Curaleaf NJ, has been very busy this year opening new dispensaries and getting our new grow site fully operational. Perhaps in the future though. My apologies for the delayed response. I have a lot going on at Curaleaf NJ, but all positive!"

That fully operational grow site was not for patients. At that time there were no lines and no limits on preferred strains. There still aren't. Patients finally have better priced cannabis and better choices, but they still have to go out in a pandemic to get it. Home delivery was canned in favor of getting ready for recreational pot smokers. Patient access is therefor still limited because of legalization concerns. This is not a future problem that you want to avoid. It is a present problem that you need to address, now that you know about it.

I would respectfully suggest that you explain why this has been allowed to happen. Just two years ago dispensaries and the MMP program were pointing fingers at each other as to why there was no home delivery after Jake's Law" was passed, which allowed home deliver for the first time. I did not hear a peep about that at the April 11 Zoom meeting. I missed my turn to speak by being called away from the computer for less than a minute. May I respectfully suggest making a free delivery service for patients be a prerequisite for any dispensary to serve adult consumers along with patients during a never-ending pandemic? Dispensaries should subsidize delivery costs with profits from adult consumer purchases. Currently, the law says that dispensaries are allowed to charge up to 10% of the cost of medicine to deliver it. May I remind you that could amount to more than \$100 for a month's supply that might be going 5 miles in a package the size of a coffee can? Patients have had a decade's worth of bad surprises. We can't let this home delivery scenario lead to yet another bad surprise. So, a month from now we get to see if you are ready? I will let you know loud and clear if there are problems. I believe I heard that there will be a patient hotline for access problems, with a real person on the phone? Which begs the question, why has that not been done before? Why did we wait till adult consumers are at the gate to listen to patient complaints? Nobody has yet warned patients about there being np plans by you or the dispensaries to keep patients at home during a pandemic, or that they will be paying for deliveries if and when they ever happen..

There is so much more. But I want you to be able to read this in 3 minutes. I can be reached at pot4ms@yahoo.com if you need a copy of the Curaleaf email or anything else. I am a co-founder of the Coalition for Medical marijuana NJ and a current Board member. I occasionally disagree with the other co-founder Ken Wolski, who you are acquainted with. That is why we are a good team and good representation for patients.

Additionally, home cultivation is an issue that WILL be dealt with this session. Specifically, S342, which will be getting an informational hearing this session. I will not let legalization concerns by legislators' (Sen. Scutari) efforts get in the way of that anymore. Not this session.

Thanks for your consideration,

Jim Miller

Toms River, NJ.

908-278-4172

Chris Goldstein

Good day,

These are a few follow up notes for my spoken comments on 4/11.

On converting ATCs to adult use sales:

As a columnist at the Philadelphia Inquirer I often wrote about NJ's medical marijuana program and the permit holders. For nearly a decade there were supply shortages, strain shortages, expensive products, questionable ownership structures, and low participation in a program that seemed designed to fail patients.

https://www.inquirer.com/search/?query=philly420 Ultimately these are the very same operators who now enjoy privileged access to sell adult use products. This result was certainly by a careful design of our complex retail cannabis laws, crafted by politicians in Trenton.

As an activist who has called for regulating cannabis for 25 years, I can certainly understand and sincerely appreciate the work and overall success of our now 1 year running NJCRC.

Despite the letter of the law, there still remain serious difficulties in the concept of launching adult-use sales for NJ (and the region) from just a handful of locations. Foremost is ongoing COVID safety.

NJ's medical marijuana dispensaries were given broad latitude under special NJCRC waivers to operate during the pandemic. Still, many locations were slow to adopt even basic safety. Curbside pickup options were spotty. Home delivery never really materialized statewide.

In fact, at the start of the pandemic in 2020 long lines were common at many dispensaries, and prices were extreme. It's only been in the last 18 months that there's been any hint at price relief for patients, and some much improved service at dispensaries

Sadly, on 4/11/22 patients report that CuraLeaf ended 2for1 sales that had been going on for months. That effectively doubled patient costs overnight, coincidentally on the day of adult-use permission. So, it seems we're immediately seeing an impact on upward prices for patients.

Personally, I remain quite skeptical of the patient access plans presented by the ATCs, especially in the face of a rush of adult use customers to so few locations.

NJCRC has also offered that prices may be about \$300 per ounce plus tax for adult-use products. Unfortunately, that price is certainly out of my reach. Consumers like me are hoping to participate in the legal market. But, most of us won't be able to afford the travel time, wait time, and those levels of costs.

NJCRC has quite correctly taken a firm position to focus on patient access. Now, how will adult-use consumers be considered? Are we here for a simple corporate payday and a quick run of taxes?

Fair prices along with fair taxes will bring us in the door. But not everyone. I'll skip the rush, and wait until there's a local equity business. As a consumer I can always find some weed. I voted to buy some real equity.

Pennsylvania product recall:

The Pa. Department of Health Medicinal Marijuana Program issued a large recall of vape pens and concentrates on 2/4/22. Many of the same companies operate in New Jersey. The NJCRC recently approved additional concentrate production in the medical program. I hope to simply keep NJCRC aware of this situation. Similar products and productions techniques may be utilized by these manufactures in NJ. I've included a link for more info: https://norml.org/blog/2022/02/10/pennsylvania-patients-respond-to-recall-of-medical-cannabis-products-say-such-incidents-strengthen-arguments-to-permit-home-cultivation/

Tax Amnesty:

The concept of equity could extend to consumers and patients who had a marijuana arrest/conviction. A first step might be offering tax amnesty on legal cannabis purchases. This could be accomplished via NJCRC in concert with other state agencies.

Residents over 21 who endured a prohibition related could always enjoy duty-free legal cannabis. This would reduce prices and inspire purchases among this vast population. A discount structure could also be extended into the medical program for patients with an arrest record. Thank you

## **Judith Dsepommier**

I am still voicing my opinion against having ElevenEleven,LLc marijuana developer from establishing a cannabis factory in Bergenfield NJ in the abandoned Sears building on S. Washington Ave. That location is in-between the Brownstone Pancake house and the ODibello music School. It's also across the street from The Armory, a

government building, across the street from Foster Village Shopping center and near 3 churches: Mercy Church, Jesus Lamb of God Fellowship, Assembly of God all on Foster ST, and End of the Earth Church on Liberty Ave. The noxious fumes emitted from this proposed cannabis factory's processing will spew forth over the entire area caused by this factory increasing both air and water pollution. It doesn't belong in the proposed abandoned Sear's building on S Washington Ave.