

Sender	Meeting Date	Comment
Demitrius Costello	8/18/2023	<p>Hello everyone, my name is Demitrius Costello. I would like to express my gratitude to the CRC for their tremendous work in bringing legal cannabis to NJ. As the founder of Coastal Herb Company, a cannabis-based branding agency, I want to inform potential NJ operators that our branding services are available at a discount for social equity and minority-owned businesses. We can help you define and design your brand's image and establish its ethos. Please feel free to find us on Google or social media. We are currently on Instagram and LinkedIn. We would love to connect and hear your story!</p>
Michael Gibbons	8/18/2023	<p>Please allow seniors and disabled to grow a limited amount of marijuana plants for personal medical consumption. I'm disabled and almost 70. I cannot afford to buy marijuana at these ridiculous inflated prices. I am a chronic pain patient who was able to cut my pain medication in half buy using medical marijuana. The problem is it's unaffordable, I live on social security only. I'm also a gardener and find peace and solitude growing things. Not only does it get me outside but also helps with depression. Is this state going allow us to Grow a few plants for self use. Or keep it just out of our reach . Please allow us to grow a few plants for self use. Most states allow this . Thank you kindly, Michael Gibbons.</p>

<p>John De Los Santos</p>	<p>8/18/2023</p>	<p>John De Los Santos Royal Roll L.L.C</p> <p>CRC license number RE000042 Minority owned microbusiness</p> <p>I wanted to bring your attention to the current situation regarding the cannabis license process in Paterson, NJ. The city has established ordinances for the application process, but recent developments indicate a willingness to modify these ordinances to accommodate specific applying companies.</p> <p>Although there has been an emphasis on prioritizing residents and minorities in the application process, it appears that the city has not consistently followed these ordinances. On July 18th, a significant change was introduced during the first reading, which was subsequently passed, involving the addition of three new licenses to the ordinance, a reduction of 100 ft from schools and places of worship, and the removal of residential boundaries. This change was made to address zoning issues faced by two applicants who were approved that same day.</p> <p>My personal experience reflects the challenges in the process. I submitted my application on May 08, 2023, and spent two months attempting to ascertain its status. It was only after addressing the city council meeting on July 18th that I received an update on my application, which had initially been reported as lost by the Director of Economic Development, Michael Powell. The effort required for my application's review and consideration was substantial, including making public appeals.</p> <p>However, despite these efforts, the process has encountered setbacks. The August 15th meeting saw the second reading fail, rendering two out of the three licenses approved on July 18th invalid.</p>
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<p>Laboratory Testing Committee</p>	<p>8/18/2023</p>	<p>The New Jersey CannaBusiness Association (NJCBA)'s Laboratory Testing Committee (LTC) commends the CRC for keeping consumer safety and public health at the forefront of the NJ cannabis market and their receptiveness to meet with stakeholders on these issues.</p> <p>During the August 18th public meeting, executive leadership articulated the legal cannabis market's major differentiator is the availability of safely tested and well-regulated products. Despite the New Jersey program's many successes, there are continued opportunities to address known limitations within testing programs influencing laboratory shopping, such as testing data falsification, and labeling inaccuracies, as seen across the United States.</p> <p>New Jersey is not immune to these concerns and there are common-sense solutions to</p>

		<p>mitigate challenges undermining the current legal market. The LTC has provided recommendations for effective laboratory testing standards and urges the Commission to finalize a New Jersey laboratory governance initiative, under the direction of an on-staff scientific expert, to solidify New Jersey’s position as an industry leading cannabis market and ensure the continued safety and transparency behind the state’s testing program.</p> <p>As the largest and most diverse group of cannabis science and laboratory specialists within the state, with over 100 years of cannabis science experience combined, the LTC extends our continued support and subject matter expertise to the Commission to establish permanent testing guidance and sufficient laboratory accountability. Together, we hope to operationalize our shared goals of protecting public health and safety and cultivating a responsibly regulated cannabis industry within the great state of New Jersey.</p> <p>Thank you and we look forward to additional opportunities for engagement with the CRC.</p> <p>NJCBA, LTC</p>
Margarita Tsalyuk	8/18/2023	<p>Dear Members of the Cannabis Regulatory Commission,</p> <p>I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of Yuma Way NJ, located at 517 River Drive, in Garfield, NJ. I would like to reiterate our appreciation for the CRC and in particular for Kathryn Brandt who has been an excellent investigator, always reachable and ready to help.</p> <p>We are really struggling to keep our doors open. Since our application in 2019 we have been anxiously waiting to be able to participate in the NJ market in a meaningful way. With the downfall of the medical market we have almost no patients and have been forced to furlough employees due to the lack of business.</p>

		<p>In light of the challenges we are facing, we would like to confirm that our application is on the agenda for the upcoming September 8th hearing. Having a better understanding of where we stand in the approval process would greatly assist us in planning for the future and making informed decisions for our business.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>
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