

PHILLIP D. MURPHY Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER *Lt. Governor* 

DIANNA HOUENOU, Chair
SAMUEL DELGADO, Vice Chair
KRISTA NASH, Commissioner
MARIA DEL CID-KOSSO, Commissioner
CHARLES BARKER, Commissioner

JEFF BROWN, Executive Director

## RESOLUTION 2023-<u>139</u> CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS 1 CANNABIS CULTIVATOR AND CLASS 5 CANNABIS RETAILER LICENSES

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission ("the Commission"), established pursuant to P.L. 2019, c.153, known and cited as the "Jake Honig Compassionate Use Medical Cannabis Act," is charged with implementing the provisions of that Act as well as P.L.2021, c.16, known and cited as the "New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act"; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 19, 2021, the Commission adopted rules pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-35(a)(1) that established the licensure process for cannabis businesses and testing laboratories; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 17:30-6 through 7 outline the application process and requirements for both conditional license applicants and annual license applicants, including eligibility requirements and limitations for social equity businesses, diversely owned businesses, and impact zone businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission issued a Notice of Application Acceptance ("Notice") on November 9, 2021, outlining the specific criteria for the types of applications the Commission would accept, and the dates on which the Commission would begin accepting those applications; and

**WHEREAS**, the Notice also outlined the specific priority by which applications would be reviewed by the Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Notice, the Commission began accepting applications for Class 1 Cannabis Cultivator, Class 2 Cannabis Manufacturer, and Testing Laboratories licenses on December 15, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Notice, the Commission began accepting applications for Class 5 Cannabis Retailer licenses on March 15, 2022; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-6.1(d), the Commission shall review and score conditional and annual cannabis business license applications based on the priority designation of applications as set forth in the regulation and the Notice; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-6.1(d), the Commission shall approve and issue licenses to applicants that receive a full score or greater; and

**WHEREAS**, to review applications thoroughly and efficiently, the Commission developed an application review process that includes the following chronological steps for each application received:

- 1. Priority assignment;
- 2. Priority verification;
- 3. Review assignment;
- 4. Completeness review;
- 5. Scoring;
- 6. Qualification, Limitations, Financial/Management Agreement review;
- 7. Quality Control;
- 8. Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, all annual license applicants must submit all required application materials as outlined on pages 21 through 26 in the Commission's Notice, receive full points for all scored application measures, and satisfy all criminal history background check requirements under N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12; and

WHEREAS, for applications deemed incomplete in any respect, the application was sent back to the applicant with direction on how to appropriately cure any deficiencies in the application; and

WHEREAS, upon resubmission of a cured application, the application was placed in line for review in accordance with its priority designation and the time at which it was resubmitted; and

**WHEREAS**, the below list includes annual license applications for Class 1 Cannabis Cultivator and Class 5 Cannabis Retailer licenses that have been "cured" as necessary, have passed review by Commission staff, and are recommended by Commission staff for approval;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-35(a)(1) and N.J.A.C. 17:30-6 through 7, the following applicants have satisfied the requirements set forth in the regulation and the Commission has determined to approve the following applications for an annual license:

| No. | Application ID | Applicant Business Name       | License Class | Business<br>Category |
|-----|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1   | 2297           | Prince Garden LLC             | Cultivator    | Standard             |
| 2   | 2429           | Blaze Keyport LLC             | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 3   | 2582           | Camden Apothecary, Inc.       | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 4   | 1574           | Evergreen Nature's Remedy LLC | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 5   | 2391           | Fire and Oak LLC              | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 6   | 2081           | Goldfinch Wellness LLC        | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 7   | 2383           | Lemon 22 LLC                  | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 8   | 2408           | MMD NJ, Inc.                  | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 9   | 2077           | Nevaeh Verde LLC              | Retailer      | Standard             |
| 10  | 2316           | Pinelands Apothecary LLC      | Retailer      | Standard             |

Submitted by:

Dianna Houenou, Chair

## **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Cannabis Regulatory Commission at its meeting held on the 18th day of August 2023.

Christopher Riggs, Chief Counsel

| Vote on the Approval of This<br>Resolution | Motion | Second | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--|--------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Commissioner Barker                        |        |        | X   |    |         |        |
| Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso                 |        |        |     |    |         | X      |
| Commissioner Delgado                       | X      |        | X   |    |         |        |
| Chairwoman Houenou                         |        |        | X   |    |         |        |
| Commissioner Nash                          |        | X      | X   |    |         |        |