

PHILLIP D. MURPHY Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY *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>150</u> CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION #2583 TO CONVERT FROM CONDITIONAL TO ANNUAL CLASS 5 CANNABIS RETAILER LICENSE

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. 17:30-7.8 sets forth the requirements for a conditional licensee to convert to an annual license; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.8, the mandatory application requirements for all conditional conversion license applicants include:

- 1. Submission of any updates to Persons of Interest or Entities of Interest, and any other changes to mandatory information previously submitted as part of the conditional license application;
- 2. A site plan of the proposed location, including a floor plan and a description of the suitability of the location, which may include renderings, architectural plans, or engineering plans;
- 3. Evidence of compliance with local codes and ordinances for the proposed location, which may include, but not be limited to: (a) the distance from the closest church, synagogue, temple, or other place used exclusively for religious worship; or (b) the distance to the closest school, playground, park, or child daycare facility;
- 4. Zoning approval, which shall consist of a letter or affidavit from appropriate municipal officials that the location will conform to municipal zoning requirements allowing for activities related to the operations of the proposed cannabis cultivator, cannabis manufacturer, or cannabis retailer, as will be conducted at the proposed cannabis business premises, and any variances granted concerning the operation of

a cannabis business;

- 5. Proof of local support for the license applicant, which shall be demonstrated by a resolution adopted by the municipality's governing body, or, where the municipality has no governing body, a written letter of support from the municipality's executive;
- 6. Documentation demonstrating that the license applicant will have final site control of the premises upon approval of the application;
- 7. An attestation signed by a bona fide labor organization stating that the license applicant has entered into a labor peace agreement with such bona fide labor organization, except that a conditional license holder operating as a microbusiness is exempt from this requirement; and
- 8. For a Social Equity Business, Diversely Owned Business, or Impact Zone Business, evidence the license applicant is still in compliance with the requirements of the designations; and

WHEREAS, conditional conversion license applicants must submit all required application materials, 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 conditional conversion applications deemed incomplete in any respect by the Commission, the application is rejected and sent back to the applicant with direction on how to appropriately cure any deficiencies in the application pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.7(g); and

WHEREAS, during the Commission's review of Class 5 Cannabis Retailer license application #2583, the Commission identified areas of concern in the materials submitted, specifically with respect to inconsistencies in the signatures and the notarizations in the application materials; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2022, the Commission provided the applicant an opportunity to provide explanations regarding the identified areas of concern; and

WHEREAS, having considered the explanations provided, the Commission still requires additional information from the applicant in order to resolve the following pending areas of concern:

- Failure to disclose ownership interests in other cannabis businesses;
- Improper notarization of documents; and
- Conflicting statements about the submission of documents; and

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

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. 17:30-7.7(g), conversion application #2583 has not satisfied the requirements set forth in regulation, and the Commission has determined to reject application #2583 to convert to an annual license at this time. A cure letter outlining the reasons for rejection will be issued to the applicant.

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 8th day of September 2023.

Christopher Riggs, Chief Counsel

Vote on the Approval of This Resolution	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Barker		Х	Х			
Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso						Х
Commissioner Delgado				Х		
Chairwoman Houenou			Х			
Commissioner Nash	Х		Х			