



**State of New Jersey**  
**CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

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JEFF BROWN, *Executive Director*

December 18, 2023

Michael McQueeney, Esquire  
ASCEND NEW JERSEY  
[REDACTED]

**Re: FINAL AGENCY DECISION**  
**APPROVAL OF APPLICATION TO AMEND ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT**  
**CENTER (“ATC”) PERMIT AND CLASS 5 RETAILER LICENSE ALLOWING**  
**CHANGE OF LOCATION**

Dear Michael McQueeney:

The New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission (“NJ-CRC”) has received and reviewed your application requesting a change of location of your dispensary location of your ATC permit and your Expanded ATC Class 5 Cannabis Retailer license, from 395 Bloomfield Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey to 325 NJ-215, Wharton, New Jersey. Upon the completion of the NJ-CRC’s review, your application has been approved, provided that the entity adheres to the conditions stated below.

Details on the Commission’s review of your application materials, terms and conditions of Commission approval, and next steps are provided below. Please read this information carefully; failure to satisfy any requirement may result in penalties levied against the ATC, including fines and permit suspension, revocation, or renewal denial.

**NJ-CRC Review of Application Materials**

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30A-7.8(a)(1), an ATC shall submit to the NJ-CRC an application for an amended permit, together with fees, if applicable, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30A-7.10, prior to any change of the alternative treatment center’s location. As an Expanded ATC, Ascend New Jersey is also subject to the Commission’s personal-use cannabis regulations at N.J.A.C. 17:30, et seq. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-9.2(a), cannabis business license holders shall submit an application for an amended license, along with the applicable fee, if any, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.17, for a change of location. As part of a change of location application, the NJ-CRC requires either a letter of support from the municipality in which the ATC will be sited, or a resolution if formal action has been taken by the governing body, as well as a lease or purchase agreement or letter of intent establishing site control at the new location.

After review of your application, the NJ-CRC determined that your entity has adequately demonstrated site control through a lease agreement and local approval at the proposed new location through a

resolution of support from the Wharton Borough Council. The fee to apply for a change of location for an ATC is \$10,000.00. Additionally, the fee to apply for a change of location for an adult-use cannabis business is \$10,000.00. Your application to change location is approved, pending payment of the \$20,000.00 fee and the submission of any materials as indicated below.

### **Terms and Conditions of NJ-CRC Approval**

The Commission's approval provided herein is based and conditioned on the information provided in the entity's change of location application materials. It is your responsibility to ensure the entity understands and complies with all applicable regulations, regardless of whether they are expressly mentioned in this letter. Failure to adhere to the conditions and commitments in the entity's application materials, or failure to satisfy any required terms and conditions set forth below, may result in adverse action taken against the ATC. Additionally, please be advised that Ascend New Jersey shall comply with all applicable labor requirements in statute and Commission regulations. This includes the requirement in N.J.S.A. 24:6I-7(a)(2)(g) to maintain a labor peace agreement with a bona fide labor organization. Similarly, the requirement to enter into a collective bargaining agreement under N.J.S.A. 24:6I-7.2(e) shall transfer to the new location.

### **Next Steps**

Your entity must submit payment for the associated change of location fees under N.J.A.C. 17:30A-7.10 and N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.17. Accordingly, payment in the amount of \$20,000.00 is due and owed before the location change may be effectuated. The NJ-CRC will email you an invoice that must be paid online using the Commission's licensing portal.

Please be advised that Ascend New Jersey is not permitted to dispense products at the Wharton location until all NJ-CRC inspections, local inspections, and any other state inspections have been conducted. Evidence that these inspections have been completed must be provided to the NJ-CRC prior to the commencement of operations. Ascend New Jersey shall not conduct any medical or adult-use cannabis dispensing activities at the Wharton facility until it receives an amended medical permit or adult-use cannabis license authorizing Ascend to commence such activities.

Congratulations on your successful application and thank you for your interest in working with the NJ-CRC to establish a safe and equitable cannabis industry for the State of New Jersey. Should you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please submit your inquiry to the NJ-CRC Licensing inbox at [crc.licensing@crc.nj.gov](mailto:crc.licensing@crc.nj.gov).

Sincerely,



Dianna Houenou  
Chairperson  
New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission