

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

P.O. BOX 216 Trenton, N.J. 08625-0216 DIANNA HOUENOU, Chair KRISTA NASH, Vice Chair AMELIA MAPP, Commissioner CHRIS RIGGS, Acting Executive Director

TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor

RESOLUTION 2025-<u>07-15-03</u> CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS 1 CANNABIS CULTIVATOR, CLASS 2 CANNABIS MANUFACTURER, CLASS 4 CANNABIS DISTRIBUTOR, 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 July 18, 2023, 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 the Notice, the Commission began accepting applications for Class 3 Cannabis Wholesaler, Class 4 Cannabis Distributor, and Class 6 Cannabis Delivery licenses for Social Equity Business applicants only on September 27, 2023; 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, Class 2 Cannabis Manufacturer, Class 4 Cannabis Distributor, 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 Category	
1	21575	Elevate 9 LLC	Cultivator	Standard	
2	20443	Lenola Wellness	Cultivator	Standard	
3	19597	Megaleaf LLC	Manufacturer	Microbusiness	
4	22147	Elevate 9 LLC	Manufacturer	Standard	
5	16650	Scarlet Express New Jersey LLC	Distributor	Standard	
6	21533	Backpack Boyz JC LLC	Retailer	Standard	
7	22027	Backpack Boyz West New York LLC	Retailer	Standard	
8	19254	Beyond Hello Little Ferry, LLC	Retailer	Standard	
9	12605	Crucial Wellness, LLC	Retailer	Standard	
10	20240	Good Karma Dispensary	Retailer	Standard	
11	12284	Honesty Wellness LLC	Retailer	Standard	
12	16520	Sweetspot River Edge	Retailer	Standard	
13	21937	Zaza Dispensary 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 15th day of July 2025.

Dave Tuason, Chief Counsel

Vote on the Approval of This Resolution	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chairwoman Houenou			X			
Commissioner Mapp		X	X			
Vice Chair Nash	X		X			