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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION BOARD

**FROM:** CHRISTOPHER J. RIGGS, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT:** HASHERY LLC PROPOSAL FOR ENFORCEMENT (INV-89-2025)

**DATE:** DECEMBER 17, 2025

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**BACKGROUND:** On September 12, 2025, a Notice of Violation was issued to Hashery LLC for hosting an event on its premises which included on-site cannabis consumption, failure to verify the ages of attendees of the event and having an unapproved recreational vehicle which displayed the business's name on the premises. The Office of Compliance and Investigations for the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission ("NJ-CRC") became aware of this violation through the regular monitoring activities of compliance officers on September 12, 2025. At that time, an investigation was conducted, and a recommendation was provided via e-mail to the Director of the Office of Compliance and Investigations. Upon a determination by the Director of the Office of Compliance and Investigations that violations had occurred, the matter was presented to Counsel's Office for consideration. In coordination with Counsel's Office and the Office of the Executive Director, the Notice of Violation was issued on September 12, 2025. On September 26, 2025, Hashery LLC responded to the Notice of Violation.

**AUTHORITY:**

**N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-14.2**

(a) A cannabis retailer shall be authorized to:

1. Purchase or acquire usable cannabis from cannabis cultivators, cannabis manufacturers, cannabis wholesalers, or cannabis retailers;
2. Purchase or otherwise obtain cannabis products and related supplies from cannabis manufacturers, cannabis wholesalers, or cannabis retailers;
3. Purchase or acquire paraphernalia and related supplies;
4. Possess, display, transport, transfer, distribute, supply, sell, and furnish usable cannabis, cannabis products, paraphernalia, and related supplies to a consumer, to other cannabis retailers, or to delivery services, based on purchase orders from consumers...



...**(e)** A cannabis retailer shall only sell cannabis items directly to a consumer.

**N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:35-10a**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following acts are not unlawful and shall not be an offense or a basis for seizure or forfeiture of assets under N.J.S.2C:64-1 et seq. or other applicable law for persons 21 years of age or older, provided the acts are consistent with the relevant definitions set forth in section 3 of P.L.2021, c. 16 (C.24:6I-33), and when an act involves a cannabis item, it was first obtained directly from a licensed cannabis retailer or delivered by a licensed cannabis delivery service making delivery of a purchase order fulfilled by that licensed cannabis retailer for off-premises delivery, evidenced by it being in its original packaging or by a sales slip, invoice, receipt, or other statement or memorandum: ...

...**b.** Transferring without remuneration: one ounce (28.35 grams) or less of usable cannabis; the equivalent of one ounce (28.35 grams) or less of usable cannabis as a cannabis product in solid, liquid, or concentrate form, based upon the equivalency calculation for different product forms set by the commission pursuant to subsection a. of this section; or five grams (0.176 ounce) or less of cannabis resin to a person who is of legal age for purchasing cannabis items, **provided that such transfer is for non-promotional, non-business purposes.** Transferring at any one time any amount of any cannabis items described herein in an amount greater than as permitted pursuant to this subsection shall be considered a violation of the “Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1987,” P.L.1987, c. 106 (N.J.S.2C:35-1 et al.), and subject the person to prosecution as if the person distributed marijuana or hashish in violation of that act. Transferring to a person who is not of legal age that was done by a cannabis establishment, distributor, or delivery service licensed pursuant to P.L.2021, c. 16 (C.24:6I-31 et al.), or an employee or agent thereof, or by any other person, is subject to a civil penalty or other legal consequences as set forth in subsection b. of section 64 of P.L.2021, c. 16 (C.2C:35-10d) or section 6 of P.L.2021, c. 25 (C.2A:170-51.13), as applicable, and a fine as set forth in section 3 of P.L.1999, c. 90 (C.2C:33-13.1).

**N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-9.15(e)**

**(e)** cannabis business shall ensure that a delivery vehicle bears no markings that would either identify or indicate that the vehicle is used to transport cannabis.

**N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-14.3(a)**

**(a)** Before allowing entrance to a cannabis retailer, and additionally prior to selling or serving cannabis items to a consumer, for each transaction, cannabis retailer personnel shall examine any one of the following pieces of photographic identification and shall confirm the consumer is of legal age to purchase cannabis:



1. The person's United States passport; other country's passport; or proper government-issued documentation for international travel, provided it is lawful to use as identification in the United States;
2. The person's motor vehicle driver's license, whether issued by New Jersey or by any other state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, provided the license displays a picture of the person;
3. A New Jersey identification card issued by the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission; or
4. Any other identification card issued by a state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the United States that bears a picture of the person, the name of the person, the person's date of birth, and a physical description of the person.

**N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-14.3(c)**

(c) Cannabis retailer personnel shall log that the examination of photographic identification and confirmation of legal age pursuant to (a) above occurred in a record, and the cannabis retailer shall maintain such record and it shall be available for inspection by the Commission.

**N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-20.4**

(a) During an onsite assessment, a review of financial records, or other Commission review of the license holder and its operations, if the Commission identifies a violation of the Act or this chapter, the Commission shall provide notice of the violation, including an official written report of the findings and the nature of the violation, to the cannabis business or testing laboratory within seven business days following the onsite assessment or other identification of the violation.

1. Such notice may be provided by service of written notice or the receipt of a written notice from an investigating officer that a violation has occurred, which may be presented to the license holder's owner, principal, or manager at the licensed premises or administrative office, or through other reasonable form of notice, such as certified mail or personal service pursuant to N.J. Ct. R. 4:4-4.

(b) Unless otherwise specified by the Commission, within 20 business days of receipt of the notice of violation pursuant to (a) above, the cannabis business or testing laboratory shall:

1. Correct the violation(s); and
2. Notify the Commission, in writing, with a postmark date that is within 20 business days of the date of receipt of the notice of violation, of any corrective actions taken to correct the violations, and the date of implementation of such corrective actions.



(c) The violation identified pursuant to (a) above shall not be deemed corrected until the Commission verifies, in writing, within seven calendar days of receiving notice of corrective action pursuant to (b) above that the corrective action is satisfactory.

(d) If the violation identified pursuant to (a) above has not been corrected in accordance with (b) above, the Commission may, in its discretion, issue a notice of proposed suspension or revocation to the license holder and seek to revoke the cannabis business license in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.8.

#### **N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-20.6**

(a) This section sets forth civil monetary penalties for violations of the Act or this chapter and enforcement procedures for imposing and collecting civil monetary penalties by the Commission.

(b) A monetary penalty imposed by the Commission on a license holder pursuant to this subchapter may not exceed \$500,000 per violation. Penalties may be imposed on a license holder as follows:

1. Not more than \$500,000 per major license violation; and
2. Not more than \$50,000 per any other license violation.

(c) A violation by each entity or person per day shall constitute a separate incident for purposes of calculating the number of violations.

(d) The Commission may impose greater penalties for successive violations up to the maximum amounts set forth at (b) above.

(e) The penalty for a subsequent violation shall only be imposed if the license holder has been notified of the prior violation or violations.

1. Such notice may be provided by service of written notice or the receipt of a written notice from an investigating officer that a violation has occurred, which may be presented to the license holder's owner, principal, or manager at the licensed premises or administrative office, or other reasonable form of notice such as certified mail or personal service pursuant to N.J. Ct. R. 4:4-4.

2. If violations are discovered during an undercover or unannounced inspection or onsite assessment, then no notice of any prior violation is necessary to impose the penalty for a subsequent violation.

(f) Notwithstanding anything in this section, the Commission may, in the Commission's sole discretion, consider additional factors in determining the penalty for each violation. Such factors may include, but are not limited to:



1. Any prior violations that the license holder has admitted to or was found to have engaged in;
2. Good faith measures by the license holder to self-report or prevent the violation;
3. The license holder's record of compliance with the laws and rules pertaining to personal use cannabis;
4. Corrective action(s) taken by the license holder related to the current violation or prior violations;
5. Willfulness and deliberateness of the violation;
6. Likelihood of reoccurrence of the violation; and
7. Violations involving damage or danger to the life, health, welfare, safety, or property of any person.

(g) Any penalties, costs, and/or fees pursuant to this subsection may be imposed and collected by the Commission in a summary proceeding pursuant to the Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999, P.L. 1999, c. 274 (N.J.S.A. 2A:58–10 et seq.).

(h) The Commission may additionally seek reimbursement for the costs of the State, including, but not limited to:

1. Costs of investigation, expert witness fees and costs, attorney fees and costs, and transcript costs for violations; and
2. Costs of cleaning up, mitigating, or remedying any environmental damage caused by a cannabis business or testing laboratory.

(i) The license holder may request an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B–1 et seq., and 52:14F–1 et seq., to contest the Commission's imposition of a civil monetary penalty for any license violation within 14 days of receipt of the notice of civil monetary penalty.

(j) If the license holder requests an adjudicatory hearing pursuant to (i) above, the Commission shall arrange for a hearing to be conducted by the Commission and a final agency decision shall be issued after the hearing by the Commission.

1. If the Commission affirms the civil monetary penalty, it shall become final.



(k) The cannabis business may, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.10, apply for injunctive relief against the Commission's civil monetary penalty in the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division.

**N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-20.7**

(a) Violations shall be categorized as follows:

1. Category I, which is the exhibition of a pattern and practice of violating the requirements of the rules, posing a serious risk of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of consumers or personnel;
2. Category II, which is the failure to comply with administrative requirements, such that the licensee or permittee poses an immediate and serious risk of harm or actual harm to the health, safety, or welfare of consumers, personnel, or the general public, including, but not limited to, transfer of cannabis to a person under 21 years of age;
3. Category III, which is the submission of fraudulent, false, or misleading information, as to a material fact, to the Commission, or falsifying or concealing any record required to be maintained by the license holder;
4. Category IV, which is the failure of any owner, principal, management services contractor, employee, or volunteer of a cannabis business license holder or testing laboratory to register with the Commission and be issued a Cannabis Business Identification Card; or failure to complete training course, or failure to be in physical possession of their Cannabis Business Identification Card while acting in the course of their duties; and
5. Category V, which shall consist of other violations of the Commission's rules, or violations of valid ordinances established by municipalities that do not constitute a major violation.

(b) The Commission shall issue sanctions for violations of this chapter that account for the particular circumstances of the violation. The Commission shall consider, at a minimum, issuing the following sanctions for violations:

Category	Violation 1	Violation 2	Violation 3	Violation 4
I	Revocation			
II	\$500,000	Suspension	Revocation	
III	\$250,000	\$500,000	Revocation	
IV	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	Suspension
V	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000



(c) A license holder shall pay an imposed civil monetary penalty by the time specified by the notice of enforcement action.

**IN-DEPTH REVIEW:** Inquiring parties can review the violations committed in the attached September 12, 2025, Notice of Violation. Hashery LLC failed to adhere to the statute and Adult Use regulations as it hosted an event on its premises which included on-site cannabis consumption, failed to verify the ages of attendees of the event, and had an unapproved recreational vehicle which displayed the business's name on the premises.

As required when a Notice of Violation is issued, Hashery LLC did provide a response within 20 business days of receipt of the Notice of Violation, addressing the violation, and stating its reasoning that no violations of the statute or regulations occurred.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is the opinion of staff that Hashery LLC has failed to adhere to the requirements imposed by the statute and regulations. This failure to adhere to the requirements, however, did not pose an immediate and serious risk of harm or actual harm to the health, safety, or welfare of consumers, personnel, or the general public.

The Office of Compliance and Investigations considers this a “violation of the Commission’s rules... that do not constitute a major violation” and therefore it is prudent that the violations be treated as a Category V violation.

## APPENDIX

### N.J. Admin. Code § 17:30-20.4

(a) During an onsite assessment, a review of financial records, or other Commission review of the license holder and its operations, if the Commission identifies a violation of the Act or this chapter, the Commission shall provide notice of the violation, including an official written report of the findings and the nature of the violation, to the cannabis business or testing laboratory within seven business days following the onsite assessment or other identification of the violation.

1. Such notice may be provided by service of written notice or the receipt of a written notice from an investigating officer that a violation has occurred, which may be presented to the license holder's owner, principal, or manager at the licensed premises or administrative office, or through

other reasonable form of notice, such as certified mail or personal service pursuant to N.J. Ct. R. 4:4-4.

(b) Unless otherwise specified by the Commission, within 20 business days of receipt of the notice of violation pursuant to (a) above, the cannabis business or testing laboratory shall:

1. Correct the violation(s); and
2. Notify the Commission, in writing, with a postmark date that is within 20 business days of the date of receipt of the notice of violation, of any corrective actions taken to correct the violations, and the date of implementation of such corrective actions.

(c) The violation identified pursuant to (a) above shall not be deemed corrected until the Commission verifies, in writing, within seven calendar days of receiving notice of corrective action pursuant to (b) above that the corrective action is satisfactory.

(d) If the violation identified pursuant to (a) above has not been corrected in accordance with (b) above, the Commission may, in its discretion, issue a notice of proposed suspension or revocation to the license holder and seek to revoke the cannabis business license in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:30-20.8.

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(a) This section sets forth civil monetary penalties for violations of the Act or this chapter and enforcement procedures for imposing and collecting civil monetary penalties by the Commission.

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(f) Notwithstanding anything in this section, the Commission may, in the Commission's sole discretion, consider additional factors in determining the penalty for each violation. Such factors may include, but are not limited to:

1. Any prior violations that the license holder has admitted to or was found to have engaged in;
2. Good faith measures by the license holder to self-report or prevent the violation;
3. The license holder's record of compliance with the laws and rules pertaining to personal use cannabis;
4. Corrective action(s) taken by the license holder related to the current violation or prior violations;
5. Willfulness and deliberateness of the violation;
6. Likelihood of reoccurrence of the violation; and
7. Violations involving damage or danger to the life, health, welfare, safety, or property of any person.

(g) Any penalties, costs, and/or fees pursuant to this subsection may be imposed and collected by the Commission in a summary proceeding pursuant to the Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999, P.L. 1999, c. 274 (N.J.S.A. 2A:58-10 et seq.).

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3. Category III, which is the submission of fraudulent, false, or misleading information, as to a material fact, to the Commission, or falsifying or concealing any record required to be maintained by the license holder;
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