



Office of Cannabis Management

KATHY HOCHUL

Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT

Cannabis Control Board Chair

JESSICA GARCIA

Board Member

REUBEN MCDANIEL, III

Board Member

ADAM W. PERRY

Board Member

JENNIFER GILBERT JENKINS

Board Member

CHRIS ALEXANDER

Executive Director

Meeting Minutes

Title:	New York State Cannabis Control Board Meeting
Time & Date:	January 25, 2023 at 10:00am
Location:	1 Liberty Plaza, 11 th Floor, New York, NY 10006 and Virtual via Webcast

Attendance

Board Chair:	Tremaine Wright
Board Members Present:	Jessica Garcia, Reuben R. McDaniel III
Board Members Present (virtually from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances):	Adam W. Perry, Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins
Board Members Absent:	N/A
Others Present:	Chris Alexander, Axel Bernabe, Damian Fagon, Lyla Hunt
Others Present (virtually):	Nicole Quackenbush

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 21, 2022 Board Meeting
- IV. Consideration of Board Member Disclosure Resolution
- V. Consideration of Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses
- VI. Consideration of Adult-Use Conditional Processor License
- VII. Consideration of Cannabis Laboratory Testing Permits
- VIII. Consideration of Medical Cannabis Regulations
- IX. Consideration of By-Laws
- X. Consideration of Candidate for General Counsel
- XI. Consideration of Office Staff Disclosure Resolution
- XII. Executive Director Report
- XIII. Public Comment
- XIV. Adjourn



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Action Items

Resolution No. 2023-01:	Resolution Permitting Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins to Hold Public Office and Serve as a Member of the Cannabis Control Board.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2023-02:	Resolution Issuing Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2023-03:	Resolution Issuing Certain Conditional Adult-Use Processor Licenses.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2023-04:	Resolution Issuing Certain Cannabis Laboratory Permits.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2023-05:	Resolution Directing the Office of Cannabis Management to File Certain Revised Medical Cannabis Regulations.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2023-06:	Resolution Approving the Appointment of the General Counsel Candidate Linda Baldwin.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
Resolution No. 2023-07:	Resolution Permitting Office of Cannabis Management Employee Katherine Diaz to Hold Another Public Office.	Passed, Unanimous Vote

Notes & Comments

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An amended agenda was adopted to include the Consideration of By-Laws. Chair Wright commented that on December 29, 2022, the first Conditional Adult-Use Cannabis Retail Dispensary (CAURD) opened in Manhattan, and this week, the second CAURD dispensary opened. It is owned by a justice involved individual and the business is operating at a location identified and provided by the Social Equity Cannabis Fund. This marks another advancement for the Seeding Opportunity Initiative, which is how the New York market has been launched, relying on family farmers, small business owners and nonprofits. Over the coming weeks, it is anticipated that several other dispensaries will open throughout the State. Upon a motion from Board Member Jessica Garcia, and a second from Board Member Reuben McDaniel, the Minutes of the December 21, 2022 Cannabis Control Board Meeting were approved unanimously with the exception of Board Member Gilbert Jenkins, who abstained from the vote.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Wright introduced Board Member Dr. Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins who was appointed by the New York State Senate to fill the vacancy and serve on the Cannabis Control Board. Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins replaces former Board Member Jen Metzger. Dr.



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Gilbert Jenkins is an Assistant Professor of Agricultural Science at Morrisville State College. Her work there deals with sustainable agricultural practices relative to soil health, crop nutrient and pest management. Currently, industrial hemp is the central focus of her research, evaluating production practices to make hemp a successful component of crop rotations in New York State.

- Chair Wright provided an overview of Resolution No. 2023-01, a Resolution Permitting Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins to Hold Public Office and Serve as a Member of the Cannabis Control Board. These positions include the following:
 - Associate Professor of Agriculture, State University of New York Morrisville.
 - Hemp, Fiber & Grain Workgroup Member, New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets.
 - Sustainability Workgroup Member in the Town of Cazenovia.
 - Nutrient Management Spear Program External Advisory Committee Member, Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
- Board Member Gilbert Jenkins commented that she is really excited to be representing some of the agricultural interests in the State on the Board and some of the academic and research interests and that she is looking forward to the work that they have to do together.

- Board Member Reuben McDaniel recused himself prior to a vote of Resolution No. 2023-02.
- Executive Director Chris Alexander provided an overview of Resolution No. 2023-02, a Resolution Issuing Certain Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses. The Office of Cannabis Management completed the review of and recommended 30 applicants for licensure to the Board. There are more licensees or applicants under review for licensure as OCM continues to roll out the CAURD program.

- Executive Director Chris Alexander provided an overview of Resolution No. 2023-03, a Resolution Issuing Certain Conditional Adult-Use Processor Licenses. The Office of Cannabis Management completed the review of and recommended an additional one applicant for an Adult-Use Conditional Processor License to the Board.

- Nicole Quackenbush, the Director of Health and Safety for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2023-04, a Resolution Issuing Certain Cannabis Laboratory Permits.
 - With the emergency regulations that went into effect on August 16th, OCM opened an application window that will remain opened until March 31, 2023 for laboratories in conducting medical and adult-use cannabis testing to apply. Since the November 21, 2022 meeting where the Board approved three new laboratories, OCM has received applications from six additional laboratories. At this time today, five of the six applicants have met the testing facility and staffing requirements in order to be considered by the Board for permitting in accordance with the emergency regulations. These laboratories include:
 - Botannis Labs NY Corp located in Suffolk County
 - Certified Testing and Data located in Albany County
 - MCR Labs New York located in Oneida County
 - DRS Testing located in Erie County
 - Green Analytics NY located in Rockland County



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- These laboratories will still need to complete their demonstration of capability to the satisfaction of OCM before they can begin their testing operations.
- Not all labs perform the same scope of testing. Information regarding the types of tests that laboratories can be performed is posted on the OCM website.

- Nicole Quackenbush, the Director of Health and Safety for OCM, provided an update on the proposed Medical Cannabis Regulations. The 45-day public comment period for the revised Medical Cannabis Regulations closed on September 19, 2022, and no substantial changes were made as a result of that comment period. One of the key revisions includes the streamlining of the patient registration process.
 - The streamlined process allows for patients to be auto registered at the time the practitioner certifies them for the use of medical cannabis.
 - Much like a normal prescription process, the patient will then be able to take their certification from their practitioner's office directly to a dispensing site to purchase medical cannabis from a registered organization.
 - Patients will no longer be required to file a separate registration with OCM before they can access medical cannabis.
- While regulations will be effective when published in the State Register, required system changes to streamline the registration process for certified medical cannabis patients are in progress and are expected to be completed by late March 2023.
- Board Member Jessica Garcia commented that she wanted to express her pleasure that they are finally advancing these regulations and allowing medical patients to actually be able to access medical cannabis in an expedient way.
- Board Member Reuben McDaniel commented that he is also a supporter of this resolution and thinks that it's great to get the medical program another step and be more efficient. He noted that in reviewing these regulations, there are a couple of technical changes that they might want to make at a later date, but they do not substantially change the program.
- Board Member Gilbert Jenkins asked for clarification does that mean that the technical terminology changes that they have been discussing can change, that they can vote and then change that later.
- Chair Wright commented that they can pass this with the agreement that they are going to make the necessary technical changes which is an amendment to the motion before them.

- Executive Director Chris Alexander provided an overview of Resolution No. 2023-06, a Resolution Approving the Appointment of the General Counsel, Linda Baldwin. Ms. Baldwin, who has an incredible tenure of public service to the State of New York, currently serves at the Department of State and leads a lot of work that they do there.

- Chair Wright commented that the agenda was amended to include the Consideration of the Draft By-Laws, and that she wanted to provide Board Members the opportunity to discuss some of the open issues that are there for them and to see how they might be able to move forward in getting this done sooner rather than later. Chair Wright also noted that a new draft to address some of the Open Meetings Law concerns is forthcoming.



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- Board Member Jessica Garcia commented that she is excited that they are soon going to have by-laws and believes that the by-laws should be reviewed by the General Counsel. She noted that she thinks it does require careful review to make sure that they are honoring the spirit of the law of MRTA. She also noted that they should make sure that the draft that they do vote on is clean and is not going to conflict later on with their work.
 - Board Member Adam Perry commented that he concurs with everything that Board Member Garcia stated. He noted that in his opinion, these by-laws are absolutely not ready for consideration by the Board and that the new Board member appointed by the Senate may want additional time and that he needs additional time to review. He noted that there are many things in the by-laws that are confusing and that to have these by-laws presented today without giving a fair opportunity for notice and an opportunity to be heard, an opportunity to review and to receive the advice of their own counsel is not an appropriate process. He noted that he does not think that these by-laws should be presented now for consideration, and does not think it's necessary, and that he would like to make a motion to table this at this time because he does not think these are in any way, shape or form ready for consideration by the Board.
 - Chair Wright commented that what they have on the agenda is for a consideration and discussion, it is not a resolution to adopt.
 - Board Member Reuben McDaniel commented that he wanted to have a chance to have a discussion given that they are in an open meeting and wanted to commend and thank Chair Wright for taking his recommendation seriously last time. He noted that it's been over a year and a half that they have been meeting without by-laws and that he has raised this many a time. He noted that he is glad that they have a draft of by-laws in their possession and noted that he believes that outside counsel did a good job of taking other state authority by-laws and incorporating that into these by-laws. He noted that they are very close on where they need to be with some tweaks and appreciate the work that Chair Wright has done to get them at this point and looks forward to voting on them next month.
 - Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins commented that with no legal background she cannot comment on the legality of this, the statements, but have tried to make some comments about some applications of the laws and logistics and that these were submitted in writing.
 - Chair Wright commented that they are trying very eagerly to get something before the Board so that they would have something to consider so that they can get a structure in place. She noted that they are happy to have a general counsel at this time and that they will be able to benefit from her input on this body of work because they are really trying to set up some of the procedures and structures necessary for them to have better governance for themselves, as well as for the agency as a whole, and she looks forward to receiving comments and hopes that they are able to bring this before the Board for adoption at their next meeting.
- Chair Wright provided an overview of Resolution No. 2023-07, a Resolution Permitting Office of Cannabis Management Employee Katherine Diaz to Hold Another Public Office. OCM employee Katherine Diaz will continue to hold the following public office:
 - New York City Community Board Member.



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- Damian Fagon, Chief Equity Officer for OCM, provided an update on the Chief Equity Officer Annual Report which was released earlier this month and details the progress made during the 2022 calendar year. This report will, in subsequent years, provide the public with an update of the implementation of the Social and Economic Equity (SEE) Plan which is still currently under development and is set to be released in the first quarter of 2023. The development of the SEE plan is ongoing and the work is being done through extensive outreach and engagement with stakeholders and will result in the development of a comprehensive and adaptable programmatic roadmap to help OCM navigate the constantly evolving legal landscape of cannabis.
 - Social and Economic Equity (SEE) Plan
 - Review of Nationwide Cannabis Social Equity Initiatives.
 - Registered Organization (RO) Expansion: Defining unserved and underserved areas of the state.
 - Communities Disproportionately Impacted (CDI): Methodology and mapping.
 - Summary Recommendations: Market access, licensing, incubators, technical training and workforce development.
 - Communities Disproportionately Impacted (CDI)
 - To date, the SEE Team has successfully matched approximately 90% of the 1.2 million individual arrest records with a physical location, starting from an initial match rate of approximately 60%.
 - Cannabis Compliance Training & Mentorship (CCTM)
 - OCM hosted the first webinar on January 24, 2023. The first cohort was comprised of 173 Growers and 50 processors from across New York State.
 - 66% of all CCTM participants would be considered either historically underrepresented in farm ownership or Social and Economic Equity applicants per Section 87 of the Cannabis Law.
- Executive Director Chris Alexander provided his Executive Director's report.
 - Regulatory Outreach
 - To increase engagement in the regulatory process, OCM is conducting a series of outreach events, both virtual and in-person, on the proposed Adult-Use Regulations. Outreach emphasizes increasing understanding of the proposed regulations and facilitating submission of public comment.
 - Annual Report
 - The Annual Report describes the progress and accomplishments made by the Cannabis Control Board and the Office of Cannabis Management regarding the implementation of the Cannabis Law covering the previous year and is available on the OCM website.
- Lyla Hunt, Deputy Director of Public Health and Campaigns for OCM, provided an update on Campaigns that OCM is rolling out. Leading up to the next campaign, why Buy Legal New York, which will be launching early in the Spring, OCM will be releasing some short educational videos to share with the public on a variety of different and important topics.
 - New York Cannabis Story



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- The video, which gives a historical overview of cannabis in New York, was unavailable to be played and will be released following the board meeting.
 - Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) – Traffic Safety Campaign
 - As part of the ongoing partnership with the GTSC, OCM has funded a \$1 million dollar, two-month long traffic safety campaign. The campaign takes the Cannabis Conversations message “Don't Drive High” one step further.
 - Campaign advertisements highlight additional messaging around getting a ride or staying put or making a plan following cannabis consumption.
 - Advertisements were developed and released in both English and Spanish and can be seen on billboards across the State in addition to advertisements found on TV, radio, and digital streaming platforms.
 - Board Member Adam Perry asked that considering the issues with road safety, with cognitive tests like field sobriety tests or chemical tests that are like a breathalyzer or a blood test for alcohol, would funding that is received under the MRTA go to support those research efforts for the purposes of public safety.
 - Lyla Hunt, Deputy Director of Public Health and Campaigns for OCM, commented that the reference is specific to the fact that there is no BAC equivalent for THC, meaning there is no similar sort of breathalyzer methodology to test impairment from cannabis as there is for alcohol because of the way cannabis is metabolized in the body. She noted that the best tool currently available is what is called a Drug Recognition Expert or D.R.E. They go through intense, rigorous training and when pulled onto the roadside to detect impairment by cannabis, they go through a series of steps to rule out medical conditions and detect specifically what substance individuals are impaired by. OCM has funded the expansion of New York State's already robust D.R.E program and is working continuously with the GTSC to continue to expand those efforts and keep New York State's roadways safer. She also noted that there are 13 state agencies on the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, including the New York State Police, DMV, and DOH, who are all working together to find a solution and to look for additional potential pathways for revenue and research.
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- Board Member Reuben McDaniel provided the following update regarding the Fund program.
 - The first CAURD member who participated in the Fund program opened up his shop on Tuesday, January 24, 2023.
 - In the next 45 days, there will be soft openings rolling out.
 - Significant funding will be available for the first 100 to 150 licensees to open up.
 - Board Member Adam Perry highlighted that the OCM is not able to recommend to the Board granting of licenses in the upstate places under the court case and that OCM has reviewed the applications and scored them but cannot actually give them out until the legal issue is resolved and that the only reason that they are waiting is because of the federal court ruling.
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- Members of the public were provided the opportunity to address the Board during the Public Comment period. Each member of the public addressing the Board has pre-registered and will have no more than two minutes to speak on the agenda items. Public Comments are listed in Appendix A.



- The Board adjourned the meeting.

Appendix A

NYS Cannabis Control Board 1/25/2023 Meeting – Public Comments

	First Name	Last Name	Organization (If Applicable)	Public Comment
1.	Dominic	Calabrese	CAURD applicant	<p>Mine is both a comment and sorry. Mine is both a comment and a question. So I'm a CAURD applicant card applicant and the process. So my question is, you mentioned today that beyond the first, I guess, 150 that did you say that more card licenses would be issued after the first 150? So my statement is that the application process. It's not responsive. You know, you like put your application in and then you sit in that your bed and you wait and hope and stuff. So I guess I'm just asking for sort of more transparency. I heard the Mint today mentioned something about a score so that your application would have a score like, say, for example, information about how that score is calculated and how you might bolster your application through that process. So it's really just maybe there is a source of information, but if not, if there could be more information, transparency about the application process. Thank you.</p>
2.	Michael	Gant	CAURD applicant	<p>My name is Michael Gant, I'm a card applicant. I just want to thank you guys for having me here and this opportunity. I'm truly grateful to be from off the street corner here. I mean, I can remember sometimes when I was out there trying to buy some food for my family and a jumbo squad would come in. Just take me away. Similac milk, all that I did ten days. In prison while my babies being born. And now I'm sitting here in. Front of you guys. I just want to say. Thank you for the work that you are doing. I'm truly grateful to</p>



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	First Name	Last Name	Organization (If Applicable)	Public Comment
				be here and I respect everything that you are doing. Just thank you. That's it.
3.	Jeffrey	Hoffman		<p>Thank you. My name is Jeffrey Hoffman. I'm an attorney here in New York City.</p> <p>I shopped at the snack store yesterday.</p> <p>I didn't hear you say that You bought treats for everyone. I did not play tricks for everyone. But if you want to meet me outside after the meeting, happy to smoke you out.</p> <p>So this is what equity looks like, right? You awarded licenses today.</p> <p>Licenses today to licensees who were previously convicted of cannabis crimes.</p> <p>I shopped at a store yesterday that is owned by a black gentleman.</p> <p>How many black owned dispensaries are there in this country? Like, you could probably count them on one hand. I mean, I know there's a few more, but not a lot.</p> <p>This is what equity looks like.</p> <p>So congratulations to this board, to the OCM, to the legislature, to the governor, everyone that made this happen.</p> <p>This is what it looks like.</p> <p>The.</p> <p>And also, congratulations on having a GC today. That is an incredibly important position, as you well know, unbelievably qualified person. So kudos to the to use it for selecting the individual that was hired.</p> <p>The last comment that I do want to make and the comment was already made a little bit earlier today.</p> <p>I personally know caurd applicants that chose to submit their card application fee rather than their full rent for a month.</p> <p>Okay.</p> <p>I know there's only so much information you can give them. I know you are overwhelmed.</p> <p>You need double, triple, quadruple the number of staff you have.</p> <p>But whatever you can do to reach out to these other caurd applicants that are waiting.</p> <p>Any information you can give them that I know they would appreciate it. And just I personally would.</p> <p>I mean, who am I? But I would appreciate it. They they deserve as much information as you can give them. And I know there's a limit, but as much information as you can give them, I think they do deserve.</p> <p>And I think you think that.</p>



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	First Name	Last Name	Organization (If Applicable)	Public Comment
				So I just think it would be great. Whatever you can do, let them know. And thank you.
4.	Mayank	Kapoor		<p>Now I'm on. Right. Good morning. My name is M Kapoor. I just want to make a comment on delivery guidance we spoke about previously. The one thing that I realized after sitting on a couple of Zoom calls with Dutchie, the pos provider bio truck, which is going to be the way we're going to track things in the future and on fleet, which is how we're going to be watching these deliveries that go out. There's a little bit of a security concern, which I feel like we could address by possibly recording audio or video when a driver goes out is getting a signature from a customer that delivering to which they have to anyway. It's a part of the protocol. It would be nice if that little locater could just start recording audio or video the moment they leave so that you can kind of make sure have an oversight of the interaction that's happening. Which we really have no oversight of when somebody is out there. So if somebody goes to meet the customer, we have no idea what's happening between them. Besides if the customer signs and they got their product. But if there's a complaint, if a driver decides to give out his own phone number, if a crime occurs somewhere in the mix, somebody gets robbed. It would be nice if there was a way to record the interaction to know exactly what happened. That's my only comment for today.</p>
5.	Mike	Flynn	Flintstone Cannabis Company	<p>Hello, everyone. My name is Mike Flynn. I'm the owner of Flintstone Cannabis Company out of Syracuse, New York. I'm also a caurd applicant. I was wanting to come here today to say thanks for all the hard work that you guys have been putting in to building this industry from the ground up and allowing us who were affected by the war on drugs to have the first opportunity to open a legal dispensary. I bought a 13,000 square foot building in downtown Syracuse Armory Square, and I got right to work building it in 2021. And we are I've actually set it up as a cannabis museum, educating the public on the history of marijuana educational</p>



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				<p>resources. We have 14 bud tender stations, 32 display cases for products, as well as a 3400 square foot separate area for onsite consumption. So I'm wondering if we can get some more clarification on the onsite consumption procedures. Have regulations been made on this on how to operate the area? For example, can the customers buy the products and then go to the on-site to consume, or do they have to be served in the location itself? And and that's all I have to say today. Thank you very much.</p>
6.	Coss	Marte	COMBUD	<p>My name is Coss Marte and the CEO and co-founder Combud and I founded con Body where we've hired over 50 people coming out of the prison system to work on my retail and my gyms in Manhattan. I'm proud to say that I've been operating for almost ten years and have a zero recidivism rate. As someone who really bear the bones and really have gained PTSD from the Giuliani era. And as I was arrested at 13 for two knuckle bags in front of my family and eight other times at the Bloomberg stop and frisk era, I see my mom, a Dominican immigrant, literally take nine hour bus drives, come visit me in prison for this stuff that we're to legalize it right now. I'm here to say thank you. I'm truly grateful that this moment has come today. Well, while seeing black and brown people that look like me to build this Canada's cannabis industry the right way, and I really and to reiterate the system, it's a great generational legacy. But yesterday I woke up at 4 a.m. where you support a fellow court applicant who's part of the court coalition roll in from smack to witness history. And I was the first one online, and I kept refreshing the agenda for this meeting. And I did not see the name application number 13, which I've been working so hard as you see me in all of these meetings. And I was very disappointed to not see my name. But as Damian and Chris say, Be patient, so I'm going to be patient. But as a co-founder of the Card Coalition, we like the them to be able to release all card application scores. We're not understanding the self-grading rubric system of yours. I've never had to grade myself correctly. I should have scored a 97.5, which should have been one of</p>



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				<p>the top greatest individuals. So please be transparent. Give us our scores and let us know what our grade is. This is like taking the S.A.T.S and you said you did good, but I want to know my score. Am I going to make it? All of it. But finally, I just want to thank you for this opportunity. And I want to congrats everybody who won and is awarded that card licensee. I love everybody here. I love the community. So I appreciate your and I hope we could get this industry pop in the right way. Thank you.</p>
7.	Scheril	Murray Powell, Esquire	Justice Foundation	<p>Hi. Good morning, everyone. My name is Scheril Murray Powell, Esquire. I spoke last time, but I'm a cannabis agricultural dietary supplement and trade attorney. And I run the Justice Foundation, which is based in Harlem, New York. I also work for CSI as business development manager, and I created the first social equity verification product for regulators. With that said, congratulations to our new licensees. This is such an exciting time to be alive. I know that there is a village for you and the adult use licenses are starting to organize so you have support to the OCM. Congratulations on being really consistent with your word with regards to pacing and for showing the level of diversity that is reminiscent of what we see in the legacy industry. On this list of new licensees, again, we're seeing Justice Fellows and again we're seeing our legacy community. This fills my heart with joy. It was referenced earlier by Damien that the OCM Compliance, Cannabis Compliance Training and Mentorship program started yesterday. We have 14 Justice Fellows on the list of accepted people into that program, which we are hoping will be a pipeline into licensure. So thank you for that opportunity and means the world to to our guys. With that said, as we move forward, we have heard from regulators across the country and the OCM that with the recognized recognition of legacy. What is difficult is how do we define it? So yesterday I was in San Antonio at ASTM International meeting. I sit on their executive board for 37 and I chair the Diversity</p>



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				Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee, and that was the first time introduced in a committee week where we introduced a definition for legacy operating operators for global adoption. So I will keep you posted on that activity. Again, congratulations to the new licensees and I'm looking forward to what is next as one community.
8.	Osbert	Orduna	National Hispanic Cannabis Council New York Chapter	<p>Hi. Good morning, everyone.</p> <p>My name is Osbert, I am co-chair of the National Hispanic Cannabis Council New York chapter.</p> <p>I also serve on the National Cannabis Industry Association, Diversity Equity Inclusion Committee.</p> <p>I'm here today as an individual.</p> <p>I would like to thank the New York State Office of Cannabis Management for all of their continued efforts to create a cannabis industry that focuses on creating opportunities for justice involved individuals, persons who were collateral damage in the war on drugs in communities that were disproportionately impacted minorities, women and service disabled veterans.</p> <p>I'm proud to share that I am part of a newly blessed card licensee team that was just announced today.</p> <p>Our team is just as involved.</p> <p>We are comprised of individuals from multiple races, multiple religions, from disproportionately impacted communities.</p> <p>And I'm proud to say that I believe we're the first quad licensee to actually have ownership that is service disabled veteran as well.</p> <p>Our team looks forward to the opportunity to open our dispensary in Queens.</p> <p>So my Queens people here, Queens represent and I get that I want to share that our team will be launching our dispensary as a UFC W unionized shop, creating unionized cannabis careers, making history in New York as potentially the first card applicant and the first dispensary to launch as a unionized shop, bringing economic empowerment, true living wage opportunities back to Queens, back to the communities that have been left behind and forgotten during cannabis prohibition.</p> <p>Thank you very much.</p>
9.	Kavita	Pawria-Sanchez	Cano Bronx	<p>My name is Sanchez.</p> <p>And I'm with Cano Bronx, a newly birthed organization in the South Bronx.</p> <p>I believe we're the only grassroots organization in the city focusing on cannabis equity.</p> <p>Really excited to be here.</p> <p>We co-hosted a listening session with OCM a couple of</p>



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				<p>weeks ago, and a lot of the thoughts that I'm bringing here today come out of that listening session with many, many legacy operators, folks who had previous convictions.</p> <p>I, I really just appreciate y'all's work.</p> <p>I think you're visionaries.</p> <p>You're the right people to do this.</p> <p>We're breaking ground.</p> <p>I think you all have a gargantuan task in making this all real.</p> <p>We really trust and respect the work that you're doing. And that's not something that I think you hear from the grassroots often.</p> <p>And and of course, we have thoughts to share, which is exactly what we are meant to do. Right.</p> <p>And we know you want to hear it.</p> <p>I wouldn't you know, I wouldn't waste my time if you did it.</p> <p>So we have some concerns that I'll share both about implementation and the regs, all the comments process in particular.</p> <p>So in terms of and I'll start with the regs, in terms of the regs, you know, as we comb through those 283 pages, we think that some of the eligibility criteria will really create significant barriers and, you know, will of course get into what we think those concerns are in our comments as well as a lot of questions we have. But I think at the outset we feel like some of those regs really undermine our collective goals as a result. And this is my second thought.</p> <p>We you know, I think there's 19 days till the deadline and it is just not enough time.</p> <p>And I am sure you're facing this as well. You know, collecting real, authentic feedback from the community takes time.</p> <p>You know, And I think as organizers, we always have our hands full.</p> <p>And doing that work is not easy.</p> <p>You know, I'm sure we know y'all all working at breakneck speed.</p> <p>The comments did come out before the holidays, and as a result, we lost time in in really making sure where we're really engaging our communities in terms of what this means because we do see these.</p> <p>Excuse me, I'm sorry, you've already hit the two minute.</p> <p>So we have to actually wrap it up so that we can call the next people on the list.</p> <p>We see this as make or break.</p> <p>And so if there is a possibility of more time or other</p>



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				<p>opportunities, I think that would be hugely meaningful to what actually happens here.</p> <p>And then again, on implementation, on how this rolls out, let's slow down, let's slow down so we can get it right.</p> <p>And I know that's like that's hard for me. I'm going to have to.</p>
10.	Bazaar	Royale		<p>I just wanted to say congratulations to the caurd holders.</p> <p>I want to say congratulations to the museum.</p> <p>I'm gonna keep this brief.</p> <p>But my name is Bazaar Royale.</p> <p>I'm the founder of the Brooklyn Bazaar, and I'm looking forward to some good news soon.</p> <p>Come.</p> <p>I'm here to support everybody on all sides.</p>
11.	Bruce	Sterman	New York City Cannabis Industry Association	<p>My name is Bruce Sterman.</p> <p>I'm the director of operations for the New York City Cannabis Industry Association, and I have a comment and a question about the testing regarding the what cannabis, what cannabis impairment is in terms of driving.</p> <p>For us, it has been a trope of the prohibitionists that given the articles that I've read, there are no statistics that support it. So I'd like to know what statistics there are that New York State is looking at in order to put forward a public information campaign about.</p> <p>Drunk driving under cannabis, whatever that whatever that turns out to be. I think that we need to know the science of that. It needs to be based on statistics.</p> <p>I'd like to be able to send the articles that I have to the board or to the staff that is looking at doing this public campaign. Thank you.</p>
12.	Linnette	Townsley		<p>My name is Linnette Townsley.</p> <p>Congratulations to the card holders.</p> <p>Congratulations to the team here, the community board, 12 youth committee chair and a secretary for the NAACP Jamaica branch at our public hearing room for the community board.</p> <p>We were shocked to hear that one of our residents saw a tractor trailer.</p> <p>And.</p> <p>They were selling marijuana.</p> <p>So they went to the police and a police was saying it was nothing that they could do about it.</p> <p>But they did realize that whoever was in a tractor trailer, they did have a medicinal license, but not for that location.</p> <p>So I hope that you look at and I'll give you that information maybe to pull their license, because they shouldn't be able to just go anywhere they want.</p>



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				<p>Also on our youth committee, I was shocked to hear the presence on Jamaica Avenue.</p> <p>Some of the young adults have a table marijuana selling it, and the police are standing right there.</p> <p>And the response of the police, well, oh, well, we can't do anything because we can't lock them up or we can't arrest them. I think that goes back to the problem, why we're here now. They should the police should not feel that they can't communicate.</p> <p>You know, say, hey, young king, you know, that's not right. You know, you can't do this.</p> <p>But for them to feel that, they can't say anything.</p> <p>If your committee can work with the police department because this is like an ongoing thing and we want the police to understand and build that relationship that no, start with a conversation, not just locking up. Lastly, I'll say I know we've been having a lot of problems with the bikers and one of the bikers, Leakey, the bike star, has been on America's Got Talent Xtreme and he's very talented, as you can see, most of the bikers.</p> <p>But it is a safety issue.</p> <p>So I'm hoping that we can use maybe some of these bonds that we raise to maybe find land in New York City. As we know, upstate, Long Island, they have bikers.</p> <p>But this is something that is really engaging for our youth. So you can consider that. Thank you.</p>
13.	Jonathan	Whittaker	Lyfted Essentials	<p>How you doing? My name is Jonathan Whittaker out of a Long Island from one of the co-founders with lifted essentials. I just want to congratulate everybody. Everybody pretty much said some of the things I had questions about.</p> <p>But after being incarcerated, having hardships, you know, for marijuana and to be standing here as a licensed owner is due to the power of God. So God bless everybody.</p> <p>Thank you so much. Thank you.</p>
14.	Taniqua	Hunt		<p>We understand that some drastic changes were done to your website. As far as there are only 3 types of licenses available now. Will there be licensing for retail distribution/ private membership based consumption to offset anyone wanting to still operate as a consumption outlet?</p>
15.	Taniqua	Hunt		<p>We understand your website had undergone some drastic changes. As a potential business owner, I'd like to ask if licensing will be open for consumption in any capacity, i.e., lounges, private membership clubs? And if so, when?</p>
16.	Greg	Myers	Myers Security	<p>Battery back up for video and alarm systems at 8 hrs is very expensive and almost always require a backup generator. Some</p>



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				stores in city and most retailers will have a hard time installing a backup generator. I would say 2 hrs back up is more realistic and can be done with UPS backups. Thank You
17.	Aaron	Welch		Hello, My name is Aaron Welch, I am a 100% Disabled Veteran. I am originally from Upstate NY, I have been living in Georgia due to being stationed there during my time in service. I moved back home when I heard that home state finally legalized recreational marijuana. I planned on starting a Micro Business here in the state but have been delayed every month when the board meets and does not release any information about the licensing for micro businesses. I'm sure there are more entrepreneurs in the state other than me that have had to put their dreams on hold due to The Office of Cannabis Management not releasing information within a reasonable amount of time. I do not raise an issue without offering some sort of solution, I believe that the OCM needs to meet more than once a month and produce and actual timeline so people can actually make plans for their business rather than be at the mercy of a government office that only feels the need to do their job once a month.
18.	Todd	Hartman	Exscape, Inc.	Attention Cannabis Control Board, I Todd hartman have been poised and positioned for this opportunity since its inception. Exscape, Inc. a well-established and upstanding company in the smoke shop industry, has been operating in the retail community since 2006. My smoke shop wholesale business Designs By Pyramid, Inc. has been established since 1996. I have been manufacturing for distribution, wholesale and retail businesses this entire time. I have been supporting local, New York State established companies for supplies and products as much as possible throughout the years. If I am selected, I will make the most of this opportunity and follow all the rules and regulations to the letter of the law. I am very disappointed that I am unable to attend this meeting in person as I am currently out of NY state. Sincerely, Todd Hartman Main Office: Warehouse and Distribution Center 18 North Street Oneonta NY 13820 607-267-1000
19.	Louis	Miraglia	The people	Please let Hudson Health Extracts get into the NY MMJ market. It's truly sad that only 10 companies get a piece of the pie. Ny is corrupt. We know it. The OCM is a joke. If they wanted real freedom they would open up rec and medical to non wealthy people as well. But instead they control it so they control the



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				stream of cash. Real freedom would be eliminating the red tape and let people run their businesses. Ny is not free...
20.	Russell	Scibetti		The ocm should implement the court order to let Hudson Health extracts open as a medical provider
21.	Kelly	Greenland	Keystone State Testing of NY	While we greatly appreciate the attention to detail and thoroughness demonstrated by the OCM, we believe it would behoove the program to have additional personnel overseeing the laboratories. Currently with the limited staff reviewing the laboratories it provides no redundancies in the event an organization may believe there is a bias. Currently if an issue isn't in line with one regulator's opinion of the regulations, the laboratory is forced to comply with their opinion, with the only option then left is pursue legal intervention, which isn't in the best interest of the program. Case in point - in the regulations there is a section for laboratory directors to have less educational experience, provided they have relevant real-world experience. These individuals are the highest positions within the scientific side of the business. However, when laboratories have expressed difficulties hiring technicians fulfilling the requirements in the regulations there has been significant pushback in asking if the relevant real-world experience caveat be applied to that position as well. I believe penalizing individuals who chose to do trade schools or were unable to attend university and instead worked their way into lab positions with relevant experience unnecessarily burdens the laboratory. As the laboratories are also unable to hire individuals directly out of college as they do not meet the requirements.
22.	Mark	Buzzetto	SMMB	I don't expect a full disclosure on what's happening with the current NY lawsuit regarding the Michigan man. But I know I and other applicants would like some type of timeline concerning the five areas affected by this lawsuit.. I just feel so in the dark. I'm sure others feel the same. Thank you, Mark Buzzetto.
23.	Bryan	Whalen	CAURD applicant	I'm a caurd applicant I frond T of board tomorrow
24.	John	Kelly		Both my wife and myself have been NYS MMJ patients for 2 years. I am witnessing the influx of corporations and out of state "carpetbaggers" into our state looking for profits from New York's patients as our medical and recreational markets develop. Hudson Health extracts, a LOCAL company, has been trying to obtain a license since 2015. Let's put New York residents and companies first and approve their license! We can have 4 more locations to serve residents of this state!



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25.	Marilyn	Mcgrath		Please do your very best to make these options available to medical patients. I have SLE (lupus) and was previously addicted to narcotics. These cannabis medications are literally saving my life but we should not have to fight for access to them.
26.	Carl	Franzen		Please allow Hudson Health Extracts to move forward by opening four retail locations to expand patient access to medical cannabis.
27.	Chris	John		Please work to expand the medical program from patients.
28.	Daron	Driscoll	Kiley's Deli	The city of Elmira was overlooked in this process we have a large minority population that was unfairly targeted for marijuana this town has two prisons that was maintained throughout the war on drugs we couldn't get jobs there so we should have been considered when giving out licenses in the southern tier so that we could create jobs here there is a need for new businesses here therefore the board should give extra licenses for city of Elmira 3 licenses for the southern tier was not enough . Furthermore this process of deciding if we are picked as a caurd applicant is two slow we should be told ASAP who is chosen so that the rest of us can move on with life if we are not chosen you have taken \$2000 from us and we have to put our lives on hold for almost a yr just to be told no ,it's unfair and a waste of our time if we are not picked we should be told so that we can make other plans and move on with life. Thank you for your time
29.	Timothy	Mitchell		To start registering new ROs, the MRTA requires the following: "with the chief equity officer the board shall register additional registered organizations to provide services to unserved and underserved areas of the state...those additional registered organizations shall be reflective of the demographics of the state, be representative of communities disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition, and be culturally, linguistically, and medically competent to serve unserved and underserved areas of the state. The board shall actively promote racial, ethnic, and gender diversity when registering additional registered organizations." Related to existing ROs' "up to four additional retail locations": "[such] registered organization may have an additional four dispensing sites; provided, however, that the first two additional dispensing sites shall be located in underserved or unserved geographic locations, as determined by the board. The board shall ensure that such registered organizations and dispensing sites are geographically distributed across the state and that their ownership reflects the demographics of the state." Medical patients' expanded and improved access (adding new retail locations as well as registering new ROs fully in line with



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				the equity aims focused on thus far) hinges entirely on the Cannabis Control Board and Chief Equity Officer Damian Fagon defining “unserved” and “underserved” areas of the state to even begin this process. What is the status of this process? Are studies needed, and if so, are they already under way? If these would be subjected to 1 or more rounds of public comment, when can we expect these definitions to be presented to us? Unless these definitions are ready to be rolled out, there’s going to be a delay before the next steps can be taken, pushing many patients’ hopes for easier access even farther into the future. Can the CCB and Mr. Fagon PLEASE get moving on this??
30.	Timothy	Mitchell		If this Office is unwilling to expand patient access via medical only dispensaries, whether through registering new Registered Organizations (ROs) or allowing current ROs to open up to four more retail locations, please allow us to make medical purchases at CAURDs and future AU locations. Allowing patients access to only 38 retail locations compared to up to 150 locations for non-patients as part of the CAURD program does nothing in the service of public health, safety, and equity - things this office prides itself on for being THE focus - for current medical patients or those who have not been able to become patients. It is time to deliver for medical patients!
31.	Timothy	Mitchell		The 12/20 Stipulation and Order of Settlement required the DOH to issue registration to Hudson Health Extracts (HHE) as an RO and for OCM to approve cultivation and retail dispensary locations so they could commence operations. Has the OCM been in contact with HHE to bring them online? Has the OCM determined what areas HHE should focus on for unserved and underserved areas of the state, or are they able to pick their initial four locations?
32.	Timothy	Mitchell		In the Responses to Public Comment for 1st Round of Medical Regulations, it was noted that commenters expressed a wish to access additional preparations (i.e. chocolates, drinks), as well as waxy concentrates at medical dispensaries.. The OCM response was that some of the examples mentioned were already technically approved under current regulations, made no comment on the request for concentrates, and noted that no changes were made to the regulations in response. In stark contrast , concentrates were/are included in the Adult Use regulations currently in a public comment period. Patients have been vocal in their interest for concentrates, for years prior to the MRTA’s passage, and we were always told that we’d need to wait for the MRTA to pass for us to have access to a wider variety of products. It is a reasonable expectation for patients to want these products and the refusal to allow



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				concentrates to medical patients, even when public comments specifically requested this, but immediately allow it for Adult Use customers seems cruel and arbitrary. It appears the Board will be approving the new Final Medical Regulations during this meeting, and concentrates are still not included as an approved format. If patients cannot access concentrates at medical dispensaries, they will have two options - go to an AU store, pay AU taxes (which will also be marked up because of NY's THC tax) that their card status should shield them from, or we can go to our legacy/gray market sources for much cheaper and in many instances better products. If this office is serious about the "health concerns" about sourcing our medicine from non-regulated sources, it seems a simple solution to simply offer these products to us as well and as soon as humanly possible.
33.	Taniqua	Hunt		Is the lawsuit a direct result of all the cannabis restrictive requirements, and what are you doing to remedy this to open licensing for consumption locations?
34.	Corazon	Valiente		I am in the mentorship program that OCM is offering with SUNY Morrisville. Last night was our first class and on one of the slides was some information on how taxation plans to work. They stated 9% state excise tax, a 4% local excise tax as well as these figures: .03 per mg on edibles \$.05/mg flower and \$.08/mg concentrate. Comment/question - are these figures open to being modified or are these hardset already. Is there a sheet/page that can show that breakdown of how the tax will translate to the consumer and how it will look on my end? Another comment: curious about the lgbtqia+ community who is involved in ocm and/or the mentorship program. Was disappointed to hear that the community was not included when surveying for the applications. (I'm a black transmas person and am interested very much in building community at the intersection of legal cannabis and underserved persons from within the queer population. I hope they will be considered in future applications.
35.	Robert	Gearhart	Keystone State Testing	Low limit of detection on terpene analysis is going to lower terpene results on product labels by a large amounts.
36.	Corazon	Valiente		Hi, Corazon Valiente again - another comment/question I thought of: is there room for adjusting the time that NY residents (21+) will be able to homegrow? How did 18 months get chosen from the opening of the first store get picked? --#2 - beyond the sheriff's department issuing summonses, are there alternatives for the -illegal- stores that have popped up? Is there something for those who are operating them to instead of shut down get help in converting to legal?



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37.	Daniel	Cammarota		<p>Hi, as a medical cannabis patient I've noticed that the OCM has some strange rules and regulations regarding cannabis in New York. One of them being that strains need to be listed with abbreviations instead of the actual names. This makes it difficult and confusing for patients looking for information about what they are buying. Another concern of mine is the lack of concentrates, and also that medical patients have to pay taxes on recreational cannabis purchases when in many other states patients either don't pay taxes on recreation purchases or get a discount. We also need terpenes testing for our cannabis. Studies show that terpenes are one of the most important piece of information when selecting a strain of cannabis that fits your needs. The entourage effect is very real. Thank you for reading this, please make some positive changes in light of all the information you have.</p>