



Office of Cannabis Management

KATHY HOCHUL

Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT

Cannabis Control Board Chair

JESSICA GARCIA

Board Member

HOPE KNIGHT

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:	November 27, 2023 at 1:00PM
Location:	Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, 28 Liberty St., 55 th Floor, New York, NY 10005, SUNY Morrisville, Bicknell Hall, Room 212, 80 Eaton St., Morrisville, NY 13408, 181 Ellicott St., Buffalo, NY 14203, and Virtual via Webcast

Attendance

Board Chair:	Tremaine Wright
Board Members Present:	Jessica Garcia, Hope Knight
Board Members Present (virtually):	Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, Adam W. Perry
Board Members Absent:	N/A
Others Present:	Chris Alexander, Linda Baldwin

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Consideration of Settlement Agreement for Fiore and Coalition for Access to Regulated & Safe Cannabis Litigation
- III. Adjourn

Action Item

Resolution No. 2023-45:	Resolution to Approve a Settlement Agreement in Lawsuits Brought by Carmine Fiore, et al, and the Coalition for Access to Regulated & Safe Cannabis.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
--------------------------------	--	------------------------



Office of Cannabis Management

Notes & Comments

- Chair Wright stated that since August 7th, the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) has been enjoined from processing or issuing Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary (CAURD) licenses and some 436 provisional licensees have had their business planning and roll out halted to a dense stop, and New York State Cannabis licensees throughout the supply chain have similarly been impacted by the delay of the retail roll out. She noted that the CAURD program stands as the first time any state cannabis program has led with directing opportunity to those who are most impacted by outdated cannabis policies including convictions for a cannabis offense and it is also the engine that New York State is relying upon to push product that their cultivators have grown into the marketplace. She commented that through CAURD, they have an opportunity to reach communities across the State that want safe tested and responsibly grown cannabis and to realize the goal of opening their New York State cannabis market with businesses and participants reflective of the diversity that makes New York State great.
- Linda Baldwin, General Counsel for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2023-45, a Resolution to Approve a Settlement Agreement in Lawsuits brought by Carmine Fiore, et al, and the Coalition for Access to Regulated & Safe Cannabis. The parties wish to enter into a Settlement Agreement and Stipulation of Dismissal to resolve the action without further litigation.
 - On or about August 2, 2023, Carmine Fiore, William Norgard, Steve Mejia and Dominic Spaccio filed suit against OCM, OCM's Executive Director Chris Alexander, the Cannabis Control Board, and Chairwoman Tremaine Wright (individually as Fiore and OCM respectively; collectively as the Parties) in the New York State Supreme Court of Albany County entitled Carmine Fiore, et al v. New York State Cannabis Control Board, et al.
 - On or About March 16, 2023, the Coalition for Access to Regulated & Safe Cannabis, filed suit against OCM, OCM's Executive Director Chris Alexander, the Cannabis Control Board, and Chairwoman Tremaine Wright in the New York State Supreme Court of Albany County entitled Coalition for Access to Regulated & Safe Cannabis v. New York State Cannabis Control Board, et al.
- Chair Wright asked what people should expect as they move forward now that they have just voted to approve this settlement.
- Linda Baldwin commented that there will be communication going out to the CAURD provisional licensees explaining the importance of this step and what to expect, but essentially nothing can happen until the court approves these agreements. She further commented that then once that happens, the injunction that has been in place will be lifted, if that happens, the injunction will be lifted and the CAURD program that has been stalled will be able to move forward.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Hope Knight, and a second from Board Member Jessica Garcia, Resolution No. 2023-45, a Resolution to Approve a Settlement Agreement in Lawsuits brought by Carmine Fiore, et al, and the Coalition for Access to Regulated & Safe Cannabis, was approved unanimously.
- The Board adjourned the meeting.