



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Meeting Minutes

Title:	New York State Cannabis Control Board Meeting
Time & Date:	January 9, 2025 at 1:00 PM
Location:	SUNY Global Center, Global Classroom, 116 E 55 th St., New York, NY 10022, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Zebro Family Conference Room, 665 Elm Street, Buffalo, NY 14263, and Virtual via Webcast

Attendance

Board Chair:	Tremaine Wright
Board Members Present:	Hope Knight
Board Members Present (virtually):	Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Board Members Present (virtually from a private location due to extraordinary circumstances):	Jessica Garcia, Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins
Board Members Absent:	N/A
Others Present:	Patrick McKeage, Felicia A. B. Reid

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 10, 2024 Board Meeting
- IV. Consideration of Adult-Use Applications for Approval
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Adjourn



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Action Items

Resolution No. 2025-01:	Resolution to Issue Certain Adult-Use Cannabis Licenses.	Passed, Unanimous Vote
----------------------------	--	---------------------------

Notes & Comments

- Chair Wright commented that as they kickoff 2025, they have much to celebrate. She stated that most notably, New York State (“NYS”) cannabis has hit a historic milestone, surpassing \$1 billion in retail cannabis sales. She noted that this is a testament to the strength of their market, the dedication of their licensees, and their commitment to equity and inclusion in this growing industry. She stated that looking ahead, this year promises to be even more impactful. She further stated that from expanding opportunities for equity applicants to strengthening enforcement and fostering market diversity and growth, the Office of Cannabis Management (“OCM” or the “Office”) is ready to build on their success and continue shaping a thriving cannabis industry for all New Yorkers.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, and a second from Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins, the Minutes of the December 10, 2024 Cannabis Control Board (“CCB” or the “Board”) Meeting were approved unanimously.
- Felicia A. B. Reid, Acting Executive Director for OCM, commented that rather than the Office’s usual lengthy CCB report, she is going to direct you all to the good stuff they have recently published, and head over to OCM’s homepage, take a spin through their three recently issued agency reports, the Chief Equity Officer report, the Enforcement report and the Annual OCM report, are all available through links mid-page and through the report link at the bottom. She stated that she especially wanted to congratulate the cannabis businesses across the state, who have despite so many challenges, obstacles and shakeups, rapidly catapulted their young adult-use industry past the \$1 billion mark. She noted that although this number is a feat, she wanted to underscore its new nuance and that unlike other states, New York has achieved this while prioritizing small local businesses and social and economic equity, meaning that economic power is driven by the diversity of many hands, not just the few usual suspects. She stated that she is also glad to see that New York’s Medical Cannabis Program has had a strong year and that patient access and patient care are OCM’s focus, and it is this focus that will order their future steps as they look to support practitioners and patients across the state. She commented that as for 2025, OCM certainly has plans and in the year to come, you can expect OCM to move on several initiatives. She stated that one, building out their customer service team so that the public’s experience of gauging with the agency feels useful, responsive, and transparent. She commented that they will continue to hire up overall, especially in licensing, compliance, enforcement, and legal and that the agency will be welcoming a new and incredible general counsel and a new lead over the two-sided coin of licensing and compliance. She stated that she is currently interviewing for



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

OCM’s next Chief Equity Officer, and that she will shortly announce a new special operations unit to pursue trade practice investigations. She commented that they will also be looking more deeply at the hemp side of their house. She noted that there are some exciting developments happening in the use of hemp, the sustainable resource, and that OCM will be addressing the production and use of hemp and intoxicating products. She stated that she is also looking forward to continuing the process to refine their PLMA and PCA regulations, as well as, structuring out onsite consumption and event regulations. She noted that environmental sustainability in this industry certainly keeps her up at night. She stated that from packaging and the impact of climate change to energy use and emissions, the growth of the industry cannot be at the expense of minding their place in the ecosystem, the literal ecosystem, and she knows they can move forward with both in mind. She stated that having been out in the field to visit their cultivators, processors and retailers, the agency has had its mind on workforce development and onsite worker health and safety. She stated that industries are nothing without people, and they will be continuing partnerships to keep the workforce growing and resilient. She stated that and finally, for their cultivators, she is glad that in New York, cannabis will now be considered a crop for agricultural purposes, lowering some of the costs of production as well as opening other opportunities. She noted that today’s agenda, you will see is a light one and that given how much work went into pulling through the end of the year, OCM is preparing for a full and fierce agenda come February, but they are going to get through what is ready now so that businesses can keep moving forward. She stated that before concluding, she does want to mention the proverbial elephant in the room, that is the injunction currently in place. She stated that she knows this has many folks shook about the implications for the agency, especially relative to Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary (“CAURD”). She stated that the court is still refining the scope of the order, but after attending a hearing earlier this week, she is glad that it appears that the scope of the injunction is far, far narrower than initially presumed. She further stated that OCM will be sure to update the cannabis community in the next week or so with the development and as ever, she is looking forward to what is next.

- Patrick McKeage, Chief Operating Officer for OCM, provided an overview of Resolution No. 2025-01, a Resolution to Issue Certain Adult-Use Cannabis Licenses. Before the Board today, is a cohort of 31 adult-use cannabis licenses which have cleared the multistep review process and are being recommended for approval by the Board. These applications are from the application window that opened on October 4, 2023 and closed for all types of applications on December 18, 2023. The 31 applications include 4 retail dispensaries, 5 microbusinesses, 2 cultivators, 10 distributors and 10 processors. The lower application count for this Board meeting is partly due to the injunction and also coming off of the holiday season. The Office anticipates being able to get back to a more normal level of applications being recommended to the Board at their next month’s Board meeting.
- Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins stated that they have been getting more and more emails, and she is assuming that the rest of the Board has as well, that are people concerned



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

about individuals that they are giving licenses to that have been active in the illicit market. She then asked if an individual has not been arrested, is not in the system for being in the illicit market but is known to have a store that has not been closed, what can they do and how does their review of their applications address bringing to light some of these issues because she is just concerned with how many of these emails she has been getting of people being concerned that they are giving licenses to people who should not get them.

- Patrick McKeage stated that it is definitely something that is looked into during the background check process of the review of their adult-use applications. He stated that you are correct that the information that is able to be obtained does come in all shapes and sizes and sometimes there are complaints that are very robust and their teams are able to go out onsite and observe the illicit activity and those are the locations that typically get in line for the inspections and ultimately padlocking if illicit activity is observed, but then some of the complaints that come in through their tracker online, which he encourages anyone who observes any illicit activity to go in and insert those complaints via the incident report, sometimes there is varying levels of information and a lot of the applications that typically take a little bit longer to review and go through that process, a subset of that end up falling into that bucket of requiring kind of that additional analysis to go and check and see if the activity that is being conducted does warrant the level of denying the application. He further stated that their enforcement team, and their licensing team, which is doing these background checks, it is very much on their radar, and he also encourages any reports you hear, please forward them to the Office and they can look into those specific instances to see if they are conducting illicit activity and further action needs to be taken there.
- Board Member Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins stated great and that she thinks that it is also helpful for people to realize that contacting a board member is important but also reporting on the website is really important too because they can't have eyes everywhere all at once.
- Patrick McKeage stated great point.
- Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney commented that Board Member Gilbert Jenkins, while she has received a couple of emails regarding that, the totality or most of the emails that she has received are more about the process of review of applications and how processor and cultivator applications that are in a queue and how later applications may get approved before them. She then asked for people who are on, could they explain a little bit about the order that applications are reviewed and how their deficiencies are communicated with the applicants and within what timeframe and are they told about the timeframe they have within which they are supposed to respond.
- Patrick McKeage stated that all of their deficiencies that are coming officially from the Office go through the New York Business Express system or the Cannabis Licensing system and it will be an official communication that lists out the deficiencies that are currently missing on the application and that at the bottom of that email, it should specify the essentially due date that the correction is due to be responded to and it is very important that applicants are adhering to that due date. He stated that their regulations, allow an application to become



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

void if an applicant has not responded to a correction within that 30-day due date and it is really important to stay on that. He further stated that in terms of order of review, the queue orders determine the order of review, however, caveating that applications are sometimes like snowflakes, they are all unique and have different aspects to them so if a certain higher up queue application has started the review and is in process, however, there are some factors that are requiring additional information or more, more back and forth that could cause an applicant that is farther down the queue to have moved forward before someone who is higher up on the queue, just depending on the particularities of that particular application.

- Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney asked that if an applicant received an email saying that they needed to be cured, have they communicated to the public at large that they have 30 days to cure that deficiency.
- Patrick McKeage stated correct, and that by and large, in most cases, that is the standard 30 days to cure a deficiency.
- Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney asked do they have that somewhere publicly posted because they are talking about applicants who might not read the regulations, might not go in depth in terms of this. She also asked how they are getting that information to the applicant that it is well known.
- Patrick Mckeage stated that it is in their FAQs, but it is also on that deficiency email that every applicant receives for a correction, and that it should be clearly marked what your due date is to respond.
- Upon a motion from Board Member Hope Knight, and a second from Board Member Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney, Resolution No. 2025-01, a Resolution to Issue Certain Adult-Use Cannabis Licenses, was approved unanimously.

- Members of the public were provided the opportunity to address the CCB during the Public Comment period. Participating individuals must limit their remarks to two minutes and should only be related to specific agenda items. Public Comments are listed in Appendix A.

- The CCB adjourned the meeting.



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Appendix A

NYS Cannabis Control Board 1/9/2025 Meeting – Public Comment

Table with 5 columns: First Name, Last Name, Organization (If Applicable), Public Comment. Row 1: Christian Rivas, Toke Folks, comment about license denial. Row 2: Hugo Rivas, LICC, comment about municipal restrictions.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells followed by a paragraph about business impact. Row 2: 3, Robert, Griffiths, followed by a detailed testimonial from Robert Griffiths regarding his experience at Columbia Care.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells. Row 2: 4. Angelo LaRoche Green Club Inc. Ward and Jeff Row. At one point I told Chip Walker, he was breaking the law in front of four other employees. He simply shrugged his shoulders and continued on about how we betrayed his trust by unionizing. We were only one of 10 registered organizations that hadn't been unionized by local 338. When he fired Radha Chatterjee returning back from maternity leave, he immediately told us in a small, captivated meeting in the break room, she's gone. So it was an obvious chilling effect. At one point he argued with me about what the union just want to say that we never got a raise. Ongoing investigations, \$600 million in revenue.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>community, and for New York City. I just need your help. As time has gone on, I've learned how to be patient and understanding as I see you guys are trying your very best, but I'm at the mercy of losing this location and all of this would've been in vain. Please help just one person. Thank you, Tremaine and the rest of the board. I pray this too shall pass. Thank you for your time.</p>
5.	Vanessa	Yee-Chan	Alta Dispensary	<p>Hello, hello again. I'm Vanessa Yee-Chan, owner of Alta Dispensary. I'm here to make my statement again, urging you not to grant the potential PCA waiver for Curaleaf and ROD at two 10 Lafayette Street. To remind you again, the proposed location is within a thousand feet of two existing dispensaries. Mine, as well as, close to a CAURD licensee. Curaleaf's proposed location is within a short walking distance of three SEE and CAURD licenses that have had their doors open for less than a year. As highlighted in last month's, OCM market analysis, while the number of dispensary locations is increasing, revenue per location has been declining. This trend will likely worsen with the granting of PCA waivers, especially when large chain retailers move into neighborhoods dominated by small businesses, small independent dispensaries. If we were completely sold out of all of our products, I could understand the need for additional locations, but we're nowhere near that point. The demand for cannabis in our area isn't sufficient to support another dispensary, particularly one that bypasses the 1000-foot rule and has the financial resources to outspend and out compete the rest of us. The emerging canvas market is unique in that nearly everyone is entering the industry at the same time, offering similar products sourced from the same brands and distributors. This creates a limited number of ways to stand out, such as store design or undercutting competitors' prices for identical products. However, price wars like this often lead to race to the bottom, which can ultimately harm the market. Curaleaf has a significant advantage due to its vertical integration, enabling them to offer lower prices that could undercut competitors potentially destabilizing the market before the independent</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

				<p>dispensaries have a chance to establish and themselves and grow. This is a challenge that other industries don't face. Liquor stores, for example, don't open all at once in the same area. The market becomes diluted, gradually allowing for healthier competition and more sustainable growth. Legally licensed dispensary like mine are already struggling to compete against illegal and licensed shops selling cannabis, two of which are still operating on either side of my shop. I and other local dispensary owners are protesting Curaleaf application for 210 Lafayette with Community Board 2 as well. We have secured the support of Assembly Member Grace Lee. Thank you very much.</p>
6.	Scheril	Murray Powell, Esq.		<p>Yes, thank you. Good afternoon. My name is Scheril Murray Powell, Esquire. I'm a cannabis agricultural dietary supplement, trade psychedelics and regulatory attorney. I'm also Rastafari. I'm the International First Vice President of the Ethiopian World Federation and the proud president of the Ethiopian World Federation Local 12 Charter. Some of our members are here, members of the Rastafari community as well as members of the EWF. First of all, I want to recognize the efforts of the OCM to clarify with the court, the scope of the injunction. This allowed a lot of people who may not have gotten, any type of review to be reviewed by the Office of Cannabis Management. So I want to make sure that is recognized here today that people are now getting their applications reviewed as a result of that request for further clarification. In addition to that, I am one of the attorneys representing a witness or designated participant in the DEA hearings for the rescheduling of cannabis taking place at DEA headquarters. You know, as a child of a Jamaican immigrant, as a born and raised New Yorker, it gives me a lot of pride to represent Veterans Initiative 22, which is led by a black woman veteran, who is a great mom, served her country. So I want to encourage you all to watch and support, as she gives her testimony. This is a very historic moment and something that we should all be a part of. With regards to you know, proximity protection and distance requirements, I want to make sure that we're</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells, text: 'clear that sometimes discretion is needed. There are individuals who have been harmed, especially in urban areas by distance requirements. Some people who deserve licenses haven't gotten their licenses yet, and it gets increasingly difficult for them to find properties. So I just wanted to make sure that was stated. And thank you so much.' Row 2: '7.', 'Jeffrey', 'Hoffman', text: 'Good afternoon. My name is Jeffrey Hoffman. I'm an attorney here in New York City. I'd like to thank the board in the office on behalf of my clients to whom you've given licenses today. I think at some of the previous board meetings, you've heard me discuss the proximity protection issues and the issues that we're seeing with some licenses that are perhaps improperly voided. You've heard some more about that today, so I won't continue to go into that at this time. I should note, we've talked before about some very important legislation related to medical cannabis that may be coming up in this legislative session. One, a CME bill that would require all medical professionals to take continuing medical education about the endocannabinoid system. Another that would require the state funded, health insurance entities to cover medical cannabis. We believe that these are critical bills that we need to turn into law here in the state of New York. We're going to be having a lobby day in Albany on March 11th related to those bills. So I would encourage anyone in the state of New York that has any care about the medical cannabis situation here in the state to come to Albany with us on March 11th, to have a press conference on the million-dollar staircase, and to also meet with your elected representatives so that we can get those bills turned into law. I believe it's critical that we do that. Additionally, I do like to mention each time, that I work with the Cannabis Justice and Equity Initiative, we are very active in getting workforce development, specifically getting returning citizens jobs in the cannabis industry. We think that is critical to what is going on here. That is equity defined, we believe. The last comment that I would like to make is that we're going to go get some dim sum on 56th Street here after the meeting and if you'd like to join me and'



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				some of the other folks that are going to do that, by all means come and join us. We'll, of course, be smoking out as well. So you're welcome to join us for that. Thank you very much.
8.	Sean	Robinson	Rockaway Moonshot, LLC	Hello, my name is Sean Robinson. I'm the founder of Rockaway Moonshot LLC, license number 24-000151. I'm also the owner operator of Pharma NYC and All Good in the Woods Farm. I have been a legacy and microbusiness operator for nearly 10 years, cultivating over a 1,000 pounds of cannabis, formulating and creating over 30 unique SKUs across both CBD and THC products. I want to start with this. We are grateful for your efforts and appreciate your work given all the circumstances. I would also like to personally thank Chris P at OCM compliance for attempting to get answers for us that are outside of his department. We are trying to move locations due to landlord issues. Our business Rockaway Moonshot applied during the November queue with the queue number of 718. During the August 6th, 2024 CCB board meeting, we were awarded our final retail license, a part of Resolution No. 24-86. At that time, we paid our \$7,500 licensing fee. Only licensed entities are able to complete the amendment survey, which we completed on December 2nd, and was used to request the change of location further signifying our fully licensed status. The clarification of Judge Graff on the preliminary injunction specifically states, the preliminary injunction does not enjoy respondents of any of the following acts, processing any amendment requests, location approval requests or any processing already licensed entities regardless of CAURD provisional, non-provisional status, whose license were approved prior to the court's issuance of preliminary junction. We specifically fall into the category of licenses that were approved prior to the court's issuance a preliminary injunction August 24th versus December 24 th and this request is specifically an.
9.	Evelyn	Zapata	New York Cannabis Times	Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Evelyn Zapata, CEO of the New York Cannabis Times. I'm a December queue Applicant, 50010214146. I started



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>selling weed in 1989, only weed. And for something temporary lasted 30 years. I have been tied up. I have been slammed against gates. I have guns put on my head by the NYPD three four precinct. I am the epitome of CAURD. I am the epitome of SEE. I am the epitome of every social equity program throughout the 50 United States. There is no reason why I should be slapped in the face by OCM issuing licenses to cocaine dealers, gun charges, fraud charges, crack dealers, heroin dealers, and leaving the weed dealer of 30 years on the St. Nick and 184, still waiting for her license. I have stopped selling weed. I have stopped feeding myself with a side job of selling weed, vapes and any other illegal thing I can think of because I put it an application. My dad died waiting for me to apply to the microbusiness license. My aunt died. My best friend died the night before the first dispensary opened in New York State, ready, groomed just to tell his story on how he quit sniffing dope with weed because of myself. Now my mom died, a slow and painful death, which only gave her some type of comfort through our so she could leave peacefully. I'm still waiting. And now I have a group of CAURD lobbying against anymore licenses in the December queue. If this type of stuff happens in the street, that means you're digging into my pocket. You are digging into my food. Tremaine, the last time I got an eviction, I sold weed. I don't care about the time. I sold weed and it's all sold there. But I am 54 years old. I'm not standing in a corner, but I could definitely put a couple in front of dispensaries right now. Thank you.</p>
10.	Beck	Hickey	Zen and Mary	<p>Hi, my name is Beck Hickey. I'm a retail applicant and founder of Zen and Mary, which will be a cannabis friendly hotel with onsite retail in the Hudson Valley. It's going to be beautiful. I have spent the last three years working my butt off learning, listening, reading regs, sending in comments. I've built a solid network here. I have a tight business plan and I'm set up for success. I've hustled to find funding. Do you know how hard it is to convince a white man with money that you can build something that's never been built before? I'm finally getting traction on that. And the</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells followed by a long text block. Row 2: 11., Justin, Deluca, followed by a text block starting with 'Hi, my name is Justin DeLuca...'.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 5 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells followed by a long text block. Row 2: 12., Paul, Steinbruckner, S&S Cultivation, followed by a long text block.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 5 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells followed by text about financial burden. Row 2: 13, Dr., Greg, Daniel, and text about cannabis process.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				time. Thank you very much for your troubles. I appreciate you.
14.	Michael	Gomez	Bacha Products	Michael Gomez, one of the owners of Bacha Products, NY, license number 24-000204. I just want to keep it sweet and simple. I just want y'all to consider the December queues. A lot of great growers, a lot of great people are in that. We got a license. You know what I'm saying. And we got lucky. But a lot of great people that are going to bring great quality cannabis to the State of New York are in the December queue and we need y'all to consider that.
15.	Berkay	Sebat		Hey, how's it going? I'm Berkay. I'm the CAURD licensee that's at the other side of Vanessa's store. So, as you know, our proximity protection is, they're trying to violate it. Curaleaf is trying to violate it. They're a multi-billion-dollar entity. They're a registered organization and they're probably going to destroy me and Vanessa's business. Now, I don't understand how these proximity protection waivers are being given out because there's a clear process for how all the regulations come from every single state entity. It gets proposed. There's a public comment period, people comment on it and then afterwards it gets legislated. That's hasn't happened with these PCAs. We don't know how they're being given out. There's no transparency. We don't know why they're being given out. What data and what decisions are being made. I've been a CAURD licensee since like the second round. I've seen the CCB in particular and OCM go through so many lawsuits and just lose every single time because they keep making decisions like this. And this is the exact same thing that's going to happen again, I guarantee you, with the amount of PCAs that are being given out to these multi-billion-dollar companies, you're going to get Article 78, you're going to go to court, there's going to be another injunction, and you're going to lose again. And it just keeps happening time after time after time. So can we please have a process on how this is being considered and put it through the regular channels of how laws are made in the state of New York instead of you guys just deciding to give out PCAs based on some things that nobody knows about. There's no clear standards or how it happens or why it happens. And I really don't think you need a



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells. Row 2: 16, Sandra, McKee, Curaleaf between me and Vanessa store. Like they're a billion-dollar company. If it was another small business that could be like kind of understanding. But that is not a small business. They're just here to wipe us out and they're not here to provide a service to the community. They're not here to do anything other than make money for their shareholders. So please, please be considered of small businesses when you're giving out these PCAs. It's tough as it is right now with the wintertime. Just, just please. Thank you.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 3 rows. Row 1: Cannabis Company would not make a worthy recipient of a license to operate a cannabis dispensary in our district. Thank you. Row 2: 17. Randolph Crossdae. Greetings and blessed love to all. I'd like to commend the cannabis board for their efforts. Row 3: 18. Michael Whyte. Please, yes. Greetings everyone. Yeah man. Give thanks.



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>sacramental, right, religious rights to use herb, which was the plant of renowned, which in the scripture is the, you know, not just, but the king of all herbs in terms of the healing of the nations as a bird said. And after prohibition, 1937 became illegal and then all of a sudden his, thunder lightning jail, birth aid been, I mean, imprisonment and incarceration and families suffer and so on and so forth. So in that said, no, it's, legal. So of course first things first should be the people who suffer and pay the consequences and should have the right to, you know, get licensed and have the right for their sacramental rights officially. You know, so I'm just asking for justice. With justice we can resolve balance the scale of justice, what we requested for these few words, me give thanks.</p>
19.	Joan	Boyle	CB6 Manhattan	<p>Yes. Hi. I'm a community member of Community Board 6 and I just want to make sure I let you know how intense we feel about this and how much we appreciate our community board for standing up to protect us from what we feel is a predatory business with a name meant to appeal to children in his business and we object wholeheartedly. I want you to understand how huge the community reaction is on the east side and east side where all the storefronts are vacant. A longstanding business that has served the community for decades was pushed out by big bucks. And I hope you realize the nuance that goes on in the communities that the siting activity is looking at. Thank you very much.</p>
20.	Ann	Seligman	CB6 Manhattan	<p>Hi. I am a member of Manhattan Community Board 6 but I'm speaking today as an individual. I want to express my strong opposition to an application, as you just heard, that the board received. Flyntstoned is not on the agenda here and that perhaps is because Mike Flynn's notification to municipalities says the business will be located in Nassau County. So in fact, the proposed location is Second Avenue and 44th Street in New York counties. We are not anti-cannabis, but there were many discrepancies in his application to the community board, including a statement that there was an executed lease when there was not. He's now actually being sued for defamation by the current tenant for making false statements about the tenant's payment history. In addition to CB 6, Manhattan Community Board 2 and Brooklyn Community Board 1, have both passed</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 3 rows. Row 1: Empty cells, text about objections to operator setting. Row 2: 21, Dan, Kogan, text about license application and queue. Row 3: 22, Erin, Thurmond, text about microbusiness application.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells for ID, Name, Title, and Organization; text for David Feder's statement. Row 2: 23, David, Feder, Weed Law; text for David Feder's statement.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells for ID, Name, Title, and a long text block starting with 'anything yet, and it's unfortunate...'. Row 2: ID '24.', Name 'David', Title 'Hooper', and a text block starting with 'Good afternoon. My name is David Hooper, owner of Monty's Dispensary...'



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 3 rows. Row 1: Empty cells, text: 'forefront. I hope that continues even as these lawsuits and the power that we try to derail that. And to my fellow CAURD members still waiting, hold on. Be strong.' Row 2: 25, Coss, Marte, text: 'Thank you for the opportunity to speak here. I really appreciate it. I appreciate Evelyn for making everybody think that I'm rich...' Row 3: 26, Matthew, Robinson, text: 'Hello everybody. My name is Matthew Robinson. I'm a open and operating licensed dispensary owner in upstate New York, in Albany.'



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells followed by a long text paragraph. Row 2: 27, Harris, Peskin, followed by a text paragraph starting with 'My name's Harris Peskin...'.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells. Row 2: 28, Max, Freed, [Text about mass email and provisional license].



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells. Row 2: 29, David, Nicponski, [Text about market analysis and licensing challenges]



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells, text: 'they need to compete successfully and reach their potential customers...' Row 2: '30.', 'Vito', 'Uneberg', text: 'Hey, good afternoon. My name's Vito Uneberg. I spoke back here a couple months back...'



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 5 columns: ID, Name, Last Name, Business Name, and Statement. Row 31: Walter Iwachiw, Wee4justice3. Row 32: Starland Joseph, Loudest LLC.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

33.	Mark	Hayes	Brown Butter New York	<p>Good afternoon, Chair. Thank you CCB and the OCM. I'm Mark Hayes, also known as Chef Mark. I am the proud owner of Brown Butter New York, located in South Hampton, New York. Quick brief summarization of what I appreciate you guys doing and allowing us to be able to do as legacy New York Natives. Born and raised in the Bronx. Grandmother sold weed, uncle sold weed, taught me how to sell weed at 13, they're currently dead. I chose to use the wellness aspect of marijuana, which suppresses my PTSD and my anxiety of a confusion that I experience every day as a black man to escape utilizing weed. I spent seven years in prison for selling weed. Turned my selling to a restaurant, came home and now I teach formerly incarcerated individuals the soft skills of hospitality upon reentry into society. I also have the opportunity to teach them that the latest vegetable, which is cannabis you can go into this, infusion of education. I'm currently not allowed to utilize my license in South Hampton because the town is not corresponding with the state and stating that I have an illegal license and I cannot commence deliveries while I sit on \$40,000 worth of product and pay \$21,000 worth of rent for the last 13 months. I went to prison. I served my time. I've been reprimanded and was very, very reluctant to go about pursuing this license in order to get a wave shock of PTSD again, because I'm like, what well, what am I doing? Am I doing it wrong? Am I doing it right? I've done everything that was supposed to. This is not supposed to be the end result. I only ask today that there be more support from the OCM and the CCB. You guys are doing an amazing job, but there are things out here that we don't have the answers to, and we have a lot of confusion on how to continue to combat. Thank you.</p>
34.	Shlomo	Weinstock		<p>Hi. Just checking in. Wanna shout out the women actually, controlling and running cannabis in New York. So shout out and Happy New Year. Take care.</p>
35.	Ellington	Keys	Greens on Demand	<p>Hello, my name is Ellington Keys. I'm an applicant in the December queue. I attended my first OCM meeting in March, 2024, where my hair wasn't much longer than board member John Kagia's. My hair is a visual representation of how long I have been waiting. This was in June, so shortly after March. I feel like there's an invisible barrier between the licensed applicants and the OCM as I have as much</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>information as to when I may receive my license, as I did in December 2023, when I submitted my application. Today, I hope to bring down the invisible barrier between us. We all come from very different backgrounds, yet at the core, we are all very much the same. And I want the same things. For example, you like myself, want to be able to take care and provide for your families. You want your family and loved ones to be happy and healthy. You want to be successful at your careers and professions. You like myself, want to be recognized for the hard work you do. With these core similarities, I hope that I can endure myself to the board today. I'm one of the most qualified applicants the OCM will come across. I check every requirement for a license and more. I'm a minority, have a cannabis conviction, built a delivery service on the legacy market that was better than anything that is available on the legal market. Owned and operated multiple successful businesses, including nightclubs and restaurants and meatpacking district and the Hamptons. I have a cannabis retail specialist certification from BMCC, created a marketing deck, interior design concepts for our store engaged architects and contractors to do renovations, gained employment at three of the best licensed cannabis retail stores in the city where I'm currently a bud tender. I hope I don't have to wait another 13 months for my license, but if I do, my hair will be much longer, which will make for a funny picture when I finally do receive my license.</p>
36.	Lara	Rasmussen		<p>Thank you, Board Member Ms. Knight, and Chair Ms. Wright, and the board members for doing this today. I was reached out for the process of my license two 2003 1865 and was asked to provide the fingerprinting a month ago, which was completed. However, since then, I've been contacting them every single day calling the hotline. Absolutely no correspondence except the default response. This license is beyond me, the town supervisor, the town I'm flying in and the business owners are all excited about the license because I will be revitalizing the town. It's a small town and it'll be creating jobs and help other businesses. It will provide a vitality and prosperity for this town. We can definitely use your help and greatly appreciate the offer.</p>



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: 37, Justin, Deluca, [Text]. Row 2: 38, Kimberly, Barret, Alpha LLC, [Text].



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 5 columns and 2 rows. Row 1: Empty cells followed by a long text paragraph. Row 2: 39, Sean, Robinson, Rockaway Moonshot LLC, followed by a long text paragraph.



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>The clarification from Judge Graff on the preliminary injunction states, "The preliminary injunction does not enjoin respondents from any of the following acts: Processing any amendment requests, location approval requests, or other processing of already licensed entities (regardless of CAURD provisional, non-provisional status) whose licenses were approved prior to this Court's issuance of the preliminary junction. We specifically fall into the category of "licenses that were approved prior to the Court's issuance of the preliminary injunction" (August 2024 vs. December 2024), and this request is specifically an "amendment request." On January 7, OCM stated in an email to my wife that they weren't processing proximity protection requests due to the injunction. I understand the preliminary injunction is causing a lot of confusion as to who can move forward with request processing, however our situation is very clearly allowed to be processed. I hope someone can explain to why they are incorrectly interpreting the preliminary injunction. Given this information, we request our location change request undergo immediate processing, as the preliminary injunction does not impact our situation. We request OCM to Please schedule another meeting ASAP and review proximity location moves so those SEE applicants who have paid for licenses so we can begin to use our license and open our businesses.</p>
40.	Harry	Peskin	ESG Law	<p>My client's microbusiness application has been pending for over a year with no status updates. The OCM phone number does not direct us to the OCM agents to discuss our case and instead refers us to email. When communicating via email the agent in charge of our case is not responsive. How can we progress the application?</p>
41.	Dany	Kogan		<p>Hello my name is dany kogan OCMRETL2023-000650 i was placed on the November queue because i aplayed for my retail license dispensary on October 22 2023 and i submit a lease and had control of a location and notified the community board 7 September 2 2023 , based on the OGS report in May 8 ,2024 which was 8 months ago on PAGE 10 it clearly saying ocm paused it's review of the November queue in March 2024 and moved on to the December queue PAGE 11 ogs report saying again ocm reports on the</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>reviewing the first 600 application in the November queue and then ocm moved on to the December queue (they should have never done that) Not telling anyone from the November queue who got a lease like my self for example and continuing paying rent. OGS report on may 8 2024 saying ocm issuing 450 provisional licenses to retail dispensary from December queue and 110 microbusiness license from the December queue total 560 retail dispensary and microbusiness license application all from December queue.</p> <p>Today 8 months later we don't know the real number of how many application ocm went over from the December queue and I'm still wating from November queue</p> <p>Please add my submitted location that i been emailing ocm for my Manhattan location to be given proximity protection on the map it is over 1000 feet away from another license dispensary over 500 feet from any schools and over 200 feet away from house of worship.also since ocm skipped me in may 2024 and went to the December queue i do not want to lose this location since I all ready lost my first location waiting 14 month. Thank you for all your help</p> <p>Dan kogan OCMRETL2023-000650 347-325-3126</p>
42.	Joshua	Tepperberg	The J Suite NYC	<p>Qualified applicants should be reviewed regardless of which queue they are on. Those of us that were in the CCTM deserve to have our applications reviewed. NYS/. OCM spent money on interviewing us and training us. It would be a travesty to not give us a chance to put that knowledge to use.</p> <p>Also, the MRTA does say that applications should be open to all at the same time, If that is so, then both landowners/lease holders and non- landowner/ lease holders should all be able to apply at the same time. It is unfair to let only those with leases and only those that could afford the leases or lied about having one move forward in the licensing process.</p>
43.	adam	shalit		<p>how do you intend to provide end to end tracking of the grow to sale lifecycle other than what is available currently? how will that method of seed to sale asset tracking be conducted such that no tampering of the data is going to occur and can be accessed by appropriate parties? lastly, when you do have your</p>



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>best method of asset tracking available for deployment into the NY Cannabis marketplace and it has been deployed into the licensed cannabis organizations inventory asset tracking and data collection system as a way to enforce tax and revenue enforcement controls, how will you enable first movers in the market place for the development of new and innovative asset tracking systems to participate without any burden? in other words, when you have your asset tracking system in place for how you track seed to sale activities and have a system of reporting that licensees are using, how will you be on the forefront of this type of technical aspect without making it a burden for innovators and developers to contribute to this new and evolving marketplace. finally, ill end it with a statement, new york is the state that everyone has a strong ideology of like the old saying goes if you can make it here (in new york) you can make it anywhere, it is beyond important to show other states that we new yorkers are the leader in this area of business and are a force to be recognized as such - doing so will enable us to give the federal government more effective foresight to their policy making, new york is not just a place where cannabis is sold, it is also that the first real scale test of concept.</p>
44.	Antonio	Paul		<p>If CAURD applicants submit falsified tax documents, what would happen to the CAURD applicant and their business that is running?</p>
45.	Christopher	Wilson	Real Boss Kids	<p>We attended the in person meeting and we're told how to apply for the 1st round of MRTA funding aimed at youth. We were told at the OCM meeting in Rochester back in Oct. that there were going to be some problems with the platform. That being said we attended the next online virtual walk through of the process. Where again we were told of the pitfalls in the system. Everything from getting vendor IDs, which you need 2 to just getting the system to accept your information; was a major problem. Not just in real access and functionality This would be a normal complaint, except they told us ahead of time 1 or 2 things might go wrong not every single thing to the letter. We hired a top tier grant writer who has written for</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>after school programs in 5 county's here in upstate NY and she found the system cumbersome and problematic.</p> <p>We got to the final day and we're getting the last of our information together and I told her to submit what we have as we were instructed. Its OK we are partners with the USDA STEAM CAMP and we have people to help us fill in any blanks if needed.</p> <p>Neeless to say after struggling for months to get our proven youth experience funded for the 1st time here in NY.</p> <p>Buffering then more buffering, my grant writer started from scratch 7 times because of a lack of ability to save while doing work on other screens on the same device.</p> <p>Emails sent back as undeliverable and the list goes on.</p> <p>We have checked every box possible and when it came time to have a chance for fair review, we were denied.</p> <p>I am a non service related veteran who started this non profit 2 years ago with money out of his own pocket, specifically to work with the state and the youth in need in our community.</p> <p>Power house team with track record check Veteran check Prior impacted individual check Disabled person check Minority owned business, check.</p> <p>How do we get the honest and fair chance ro submit for consideratiin for this 1st round ?</p> <p>We have international support and local support Now we need the state to do the right thing.</p> <p>Admit that the systrm is flawed like they said it was and give ,Real Boss Kids a chance to show you and NY what we can do with a little community support and actual working access.</p>
46.	Stephen	Di Renno	MISTER NICE GUY HOLISTIC WELLNESS LLC	Please allow provisional retail December applicants to be considered for licensing, along with the entire December Queue.
47.	Sami	Abdelazim	Hemp Geek LLC	Hello, I am the owner of Hemp Geek retail shop we used to have 3 shops and 9 employees for years since 2019 but once these new hemp laws hit over 1 year time we lost so much business from 1.5 million a



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 1 row. The rightmost cell contains a detailed testimonial about the impact of hemp regulations on a business.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>and I'm hoping to help it change. I can answer any questions or concerns being on the front retail end I have all the knowledge of how the regulations effect the NY citizens and the NY hemp retail small businesses.</p> <p>Thanks for your time and consideration, Sami Abdelazim HempGeek@icloud.com 6072221339</p>
48.	Karolina	Chiesa	Euphoric Vape LLC	<p>What's going to happen to people like me that are still waiting for their provisional license in order to find a location?? We are minority women own business and have been waiting for two years now.</p>
49.	Evelyn	Zapata	New York Cannabis Times Corp.	<p>MSO's got licenses before Weed dealers, cocaine & crack dealers got licenses before Weed dealers, Gun charges, licensed, got a weed misdemeanor in Ohio, yes, they get a license before a weed dealer, Credit card fraud gets you a license before a weed dealers from & since the 80s. Since 1977, 22 grams of MJ was allowed. I have sold weed off the corner of manhattan in Washington heights for 30 winters. I have 4 arrest 2 I took to trial and beat. 2 for smoking, All cases under 22 grams. All were illegal arrest. I have been home invaded for weed. Fought for dear life lost a tooth due to a pistol whip. I am the epitome of all the fake social equity programs you have rolled out. I am owed damages from NY states discrepancies, since 1989 that I stood in a corner You have yet to remove these cases from my record. I am a SEE applicant; That you have yet to SEE or acknowledge..A SEE applicant that has yet to be SEEN or approved. A SEE applicant that stopped selling weed. Just to be SEEN by OCM & CCB. I've SEEM Fagon give out licenses for the mere action of putting him on a podcast. I demand my license. I'm not asking. Im demanding my license application to be SEEN. Before I say no to any type of settlement of a given license thru litigation and demand my tears since 1989 to be paid in full to the second power in a lump sum. What I've lost since entering the legal industry waiting for a license that suited me..is priceless. My dad my mom my aunt my friends and Ogs, to death waiting on my license. I write this PUBLICLY in the hopes that you SEE my SEE application #500 #1021 #4146. Put your glasses on so that you can SEE that the bigotry created called</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				the NY Cannabis Industry Sucks it has over looked the very same people you copped from while illegal.
50.	Larry	Z		I am a December queue applicant who followed all the rules as far as the application process goes. While some of the other non-provisional applicants have been going through a tough time recently, I, someone who was wrongly arrested for cannabis, have been suffering for 20 years now, along with my family. We did what we were told, applied the right way, paid our fees and have waited long enough. Please allow the review of the December Queue to continue and give out the licenses. Thank you
51.	Michael	Warholic	Township Valley Farm	Concerning resolution board votes for change of location or adding location , how long will be the wait for OCM-micr-24-000089 to have added micro location come up for a CCB vote. A OCM Email from 10/2/24 granted proximity location was approved by licensing yet over 90 days still no input as to why no vote.
52.	Michael	McGregor	Soft Power Sweets	Hello Control Board. Thank you for all your tireless work. I co-founded Soft Power Sweets and feel blessed to be sold across the state and be expanding our line into different product types. We have a type 2 processor license and in order to grow our business need to change to a type 1 which would allow us to make our own rosins. This process has been opened for cultivators who experienced the same growth problems we are having but the portal to give us processors the same opportunity has not been opened. We implore you to give us the ability to hire more local Hudson Valley residents and provide all New Yorkers with the award winning cannabis products they are so hungry to consume. Thank you, Mike
53.	Amy	Chin	Calm Better Days	Please do not get rid of the December Queue. I am a SEE applicant and advocate would like my chance at a retail dispensary. Please also review the proximity protection when RO's enter, it is unfair and protect the MRTA. Everyone is watching to see how NY does w this roll out. Let's be an example!
54.	JOE	ALVZ	THE BROOKLYN GREEN	I am a provisional approved licensee seeking assistance with opening my portal on the OCM system. Despite multiple attempts to contact OCM, I have not received a response, and I am unable to get through via phone.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>As a business owner who has been paying rent since May 2023, I am deeply concerned about the lack of communication and guidance. I need urgent clarification on whether I should proceed with my operations or halt them.</p> <p>This delay is causing financial strain, and I would greatly appreciate any help or direction on this matter. Thank you for your time and attention.</p> <p>Good day.</p>
55.	Diplomatic	Centre		<p>There is an application to open a FlynnStoned Cannabis store at the Diplomat Centre building at 820 Second Avenue, NYC 1 block from the United Nations and in the heart of the United Nations community.</p> <p>Permanent Mission of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations 820 Second Avenue, 12th Floor New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations 820 Second Avenue, 4th Floor. New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations, 820 Second Avenue, 9th Floor New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations, 820 Second Avenue, 19th Floor, New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to the United Nations, 820 Second Avenue, Suite 13A New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of the Republic of Madagascar to the United Nations 820 Second Avenue, Suite 800 New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to the United Nations, 820 Second Avenue, Suite 17A New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations, 820 Second Avenue, Suite 17B (17th Floor), New York, NY 10017</p> <p>Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations, 820 Second Avenue, 8th Floor</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 1 row. The rightmost cell contains a detailed text block regarding UN missions and a cannabis megastore proposal.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>of thousands of domestic and international visitors to the United Nations each year. During the month of September when the United Nations General Assembly is in session, the surrounding sidewalks and streets are closed and the store would likely not be permitted to operate.</p> <p>Community Board 6 reviewed the application from Mr. Flynn and his 2 partners (Mr. Flynn initially stated that he had no partners) and there were numerous statements made which were contradictory and shown to be false. The community spoke at the hearing and vehemently opposed the application for a variety of reasons including that there are schools, churches, and a homeless shelter within 2 blocks of 820 Second Avenue. Community Board 6 voted unanimously to reject Mr. Flynn's application and we request that CCB also reject the application. Thank you for considering these remarks.</p>
56.	Reshma	Patel	Manhattan Community Board 6	<p>While I support the presence of legal cannabis shops, I strongly urge you not to approve this particular location. The applicant, Mike Flynn, was disrespectful and arrogant when he attended a Manhattan Community Board 6 meeting. He appeared at the community board meeting without adequately preparing documents, and despite saying they would be submitted that evening, they were not. The applicant was also unclear on who the partners are in this business, presented information falsely and failed to appear at the follow-up meeting.</p> <p>Additionally, schools may not fall directly within the restricted zone, but they are still within 500 feet of this site. It is common to see groups of young children regularly passing through this block.</p> <p>There are already two legal cannabis dispensaries within walking distance. What our community truly needs is not another cannabis store, but a place where we can buy Mother's Day cards, holiday wrapping paper, children's books, and unique gifts. Amreen's Hallmark, the current tenant, provides these essential services but is being forced out due to higher rent offers from this cannabis business.</p> <p>Approving this license would mean the loss of one of the few remaining locally owned retail shops, which are vital to the character and diversity of our neighborhood. Furthermore, the behavior of this applicant at Manhattan Community Board meetings has shown that the applicant will not be a good</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				member of our community. Please consider the broader impact on the community before making your decision on the cannabis license for 820 Second Avenue.
57.	Nick	R		If a licensee signed a conditional lease tied to their original license application but now wishes to change the associated address, would this be considered a new application or an amendment? Additionally, would such a change release them from obligations under the conditional lease, and what steps are required for the address change?
58.	Verner	Rasmussen		I have been contacting the OCM by email at AULicensing@ocm.ny.gov and hotline, who has also been sending message regarding my application, however, absolutely no actual response was provided except the default response. I was contacted about a fingerprinting request and that was it. Also, did not receive a TPI link either. What can I do at this point because nothing seems to be working.
59.	Matthew	Cucinella	NYC Wildflowers	The December queue warrants thorough review, just like every other application period. There should be no restrictions on the number of licenses reviewed. Each applicant has invested significant time, money, and personal resources to submit their applications. Denying these applications a proper review would be an injustice to law-abiding citizens who aspire to open businesses, support their families, and contribute to their communities.
60.	Justin	Germain		Good afternoon I was provisionally approved in October. I submitted everything needed shortly after and was told by OCM everything is in and that I would be called at the next board meeting. It's January and I still don't see my name on the list. Despite the injunction, I'm supposed to still be called as it does not apply to me. Judge Graff passed a clarification on 12/24 of who it does not apply to and I meet each and every criteria yet I still don't see my name on the list. What is going on? I've been paying rent for a location and am unable to move forward with the process.
61.	William	Vega	Brooklyn CB1	The Committe's findings on Altitude NY LLC, which the complete board voted 31 no, 0 yes and 1 in abstention. Altitude NY LLC, DBA Altitude NY LLC, 807 Manhattan Ave. (Retail Dispensary) The applicant failed to provide our committee with the requested petition signatures of



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>support from residents and businesses in the 500 Ft radius of 807 Manhattan Avenue. The neighbors of 807 Manhattan Avenue do not want the Cannabis store and have presented to CB1 District Office over 500 petitions signatures, over 20 emails and dozens in person testimonies, all in opposition. The applicant failed to outreach to the adjacent building residents, local school and its community at large. The applicant has a pattern for not outreaching to communities and collecting signatures, as I witnessed at Manhattan CB2 Cannabis Committee meeting. Mike Flynn, the operational partner, represents Flynnstoned as well. They are a corporation with over 30 cannabis licenses in their possession. Attached are Manhattan's CB2 and CB6 opposition reports to OCM. The applicant failed to address the safety concerns of the adjacent building residents regarding the shared basement door between the retail and residential components of 807 Manhattan Avenue. The Greenpoint Savings Bank is a Landmark building, and the applicant wants to operate the state's largest Cannabis dispensary there. The neighbors of 807 Manhattan Avenue do not want Greenpoint Savings Bank to be known as a Giant Weed Shop. It is in our opinion; Altitude NY LLC has failed to convince the committee they would be a responsible neighborhood business, and we recommend OCM not to approve/process their Cannabis license application. Vote: 0-Yes, 3 for no approval (Committee recommends OCM - NOT TO APPROVE the application).</p>
62.	Alexandria	Alcala	Dizzpensary	<p>Esteemed Control Board, I am a SEE non-provisional applicant that was awarded a provisional license. I am unable to find another viable location because the board and OCM did not demonstrate which sites had proximity protection before I applied. This new lawsuit and injunction have given us the hope that we may be able to reclaim our original site with a waiver. I was pulling FOILS for Notice's to the municipality in which I</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>applied throughout the application process and nothing ever came up in our vicinity in the clerk's office until January 8, 2024. I am a minority woman from a CDI that worked as a patient care specialist in New York City at the most compliant medical dispensary in Manhattan to learn my craft, my partner who is also a woman has been in the regulated industry for over 10 years, and our other partner was one of the first medical patients in the program and is managing a med/rec dispensary now. We did everything right, learned everything compliantly, approached the town Mayor, Planning Department, Code Compliance Director, everyone. We poured our life-savings into this and this opportunity was ripped from us. It has been impossible to find viable real-estate especially since we depleted our capital to this original space. Please consider giving waivers to people in our position. Thank you so much. Looking forward to a just remediation.</p>
63.	Timothy	Fried	Storytellers New York LLC	<p>Hello, my question is: As per update from judge on 12/24/2024 regarding Injunction i do not think i am part of the injunction. It clearly says that: The Court held that the preliminary injunction does NOT enjoin the OCM Respondents from: (Section 4) "Processing any amendment requests, location approval requests, or other processing of already licensed entities (regardless of CAURD, provisional, or non-provisional status) whose licenses were approved prior to this Court's issuance of the preliminary injunction." I am paying \$400 a day securing my location and i am not getting any response from OCM why my application is not being processed. PLEASE HELP WITH THIS MATTER. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE !! Timothy Fried.</p>
64.	Daron	Driscoll	Cotton mouth Dispensary	<p>I am currently in the process of getting my adult use cannabis Dispensary Licenses and was stop the day injunction was submitted. To be clear I was told by ocm I would have my license if I submitted a last document and all of sudden an injunction is place. I need clarity and action to take place.</p>
65.	Kimberly	Barrett	Alphina LLC	<p>Good afternoon OCM and CCB, Thank you for providing me the opportunity to speak today. My name is Kimberly Barrett and I am the founder of Alphina LLC, which applied for a Type 1 AU processor license, OCMPROC-2023-000223 as well as an AU</p>



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>distributor license, OCMDIST-2023-000282. AlphaIna’s processor application is ranked number 156 in the December queue.</p> <p>Since 2023 members of OCM met with New Yorkers throughout the state to promote our adult-use cannabis program and encourage a NY-driven cannabis market. OCM educated us about the market and the licensing process and encouraged social and economic equity applicants and smaller entrepreneurs like me to apply for adult-use cannabis licenses. OCM advocated for folks to enroll in its Mentorship and Training Program to learn a curriculum it established. Through all this, OCM laid a path towards licensure for New Yorkers - I’ve been walking that path since minute one but it’s been expensive, damaging, and frustrating.</p> <p>I have met every suggestion set by the OCM that could bring me closer to my dream of owning and operating a licensed cannabis processor. I completed the mentorship program. I forewent money and opportunities in other states to remain committed to the OCM’s goal of a NY-dedicated cannabis market. I spent savings that I’ll never recoup to secure real estate and licensing assistance to apply for a license. I have also been extremely patient, telling myself that my time for licensure will come. So you can imagine how puzzled I was to see that five Type 1 processors licenses have been awarded to non-SEE entities ranked higher or later than my position of 156. My application has not even been reviewed and folks after me are receiving their license. How is this possible?</p> <p>I am asking OCM to provide insight as to how it actually reviews applications in the queue because it doesn’t seem to be based on the actual queue numbers. Please let me, and others like me, understand where we stand so we can make informed decisions about the future of our businesses in New York State.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to speak today. I look forward to your response and to taking the next steps together.</p>
66.	Ryan	ODonaghy	DabLab LLC	<p>As of the time of the writing of this email, there will only be 31 licenses up for approval at today's meeting. This mismanagement at this agency is astounding, and you should all be ashamed of what you have achieved, which is nothing short of a dismal</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 1 row. The rightmost cell contains a long paragraph of text starting with 'failure. While the (prospective) market is worth several BILLION dollars in revenue...'.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				prohibition on cannabis- the answer is a plain and resounding no. These current license holders who have eclipsed over \$100 million in revenue should be forced to pay back their fair share into the communal effort to increase the diversity of the market. Those who are leading the pack are stifling fair and equal opportunities for others. When Flynnstoned Cannabis Company announced that it was receiving approval to open a SECOND location when my microbusiness application has not even been reviewed is simply a slap in the face and an example of the favoritism, elitism, and lack of true adherence to the stated MRTA. In their community involvement, Flynnstoned and companies like them who have eclipsed \$100 million in sales should be a pillar in the community, but instead they are interested in expanding their (already large) market share. This is in direct opposition to the stated purpose of the MRTA, which says that all people who have been disproportionately affected by previous laws should have an equal opportunity. With that being said, any company like Flynnstoned that successfully receives a SECOND location license before my microbusiness license will be met with immediate legal action from my attorney, as well as a group of several hundred others who are in the same position as I find myself in today. I trust you will use your best judgement.
67.	Michael (Ras MikeyDan)	Whyte Ethiopian baptismal name Tewolde Birhan	Stones Builders Refused LLC	Acknowledging the fact that Rastafari sacramental rights was violated. To correct the abuse to the Rastafari community (the war on 🌿 Herb) from 1937 the year of prohibition. Now is the opportunity to balance the scale of justice, and to do what the Office of Cannibs Management (OCM) was created to do.
68.	George	Brown	Tudor City Association, Inc.	We, the Tudor City Association (TCA), are writing to formally oppose the proposed cannabis dispensary at 820 2nd Avenue (the former Hallmark store location). It is not clear to us whether this issue will be discussed at the meeting today. Out of an abundance of caution, we herewith submit our opposition to the proposed location. Manhattan Community Board 6 has also passed a resolution opposing this application. https://airtable.com/appgK5bKw7rWMRJEh/shrrsHSVp9yX9GALs/tblztcUPiopggeJAc/viwmVlfxvJvQgYabU/reclpcn2hjf84tB5V/fld66g40FckvbQxS7/attPmyFh6



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>TFCYXBb6)</p> <p>While we are not casting any judgment on cannabis or its legality, we have serious concerns about the appropriateness of this location for such a business, particularly given its size and proximity to key community elements. We believe that the Cannabis Control Board’s role is critical in assessing the fitness of a proposed use prior to endorsing the application before the appropriate committee, and we hope that you consider our feedback when rendering your judgment regarding this proposal.</p> <p>The proposed site is surrounded by numerous consulates and embassies, making it a sensitive area with heightened security and diplomatic presence. Moreover, two schools are located directly across the street from the dispensary, creating concerns about the exposure of young students to such an establishment.</p> <p>Tudor City is a residential neighborhood, known for its diplomatic, family-friendly environment, and we strongly believe that a business of this type and scale does not align with the character or needs of our community. We urge you to consider the unique dynamics of our area and the potential negative impacts this dispensary could have.</p> <p>We respectfully ask that you deny the application for this location to be used as a cannabis dispensary.</p> <p>Sincerely, George Brown President Tudor City Association, Inc.</p>
69.	Susan	Kirwan	Tudor City Associatio	<p>I don't know if the proposed cannabis store on 44th and second avenue is on your agenda for this evening but on behalf of my entire building in Tudor City of 140 apartments we strongly object to having it in our neighborhood. As I am sure you know, this is a family neighborhood which includes the UN, UNICEF, 5 schools, 5 churches and is a Landmarked neighborhood. We all would so appreciate it if you turned this request down. Thank you all for your help.</p>
70.	Mario	Messina	29th Street Association	<p>The 29th Street Association Objects the New License to Operate a Cannabis Retail Dispensary for Celes Walters in Partnership with Mike Flynn dba Flynnstoned Cannabis Company at 820 2nd Avenue: We are in support of the November 13, 2024, Community Board Six (CB6) resolution submitted on</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 1 row. The rightmost cell contains a detailed text block starting with 'November 14, 2024 to the New York State Cannabis Control Board (CCB) opposing the proposed siting of a cannabis shop at 820 2nd Avenue...' and ending with 'Therefore, the 29th Street Association firmly objects the new license to operate a Cannabis Retail'.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>Dispensary for Celes Walters in partnership with Mike Flynn dba Flynnstoned Cannabis Company at 820 2nd Avenue.</p> <p>For the board of directors and the 1,377 member of the association, Mario G. Messina President www.29streetassociation.org</p>
71.	Jay	Chemelli	Jungle Bear Exotics LLC	<p>Why is there no way to enter my physical location to my existing application? I am a micro business in the December que and am frustrated that I can't submit my location info. I have been spending good money for many months to secure it and just want to be able get it on the proximity map. Also what is going on with the micros in the Dec que.. are things going forward?</p>
72.	Rehan	Khan	kims donut 161 corp	<p>Whay is going ok with December rollout? i was told that my application would be reviewed and it seems it had not. My mother submitted a December application with a location that she has been holding since the application time that does not not have any dispensary locations nearby. She is a Korean immigrant and was unable to attend due to a back injury. She wants to find out what is going on and has not recieved any correspondence from the OCM regarding this other than automated messages. Is December Queue even being looked at? if so then why have we not recieved anything from the OCM at all about the Application?</p>
73.	Iggy	Kanchik	Indistro, LLC	<p>Dear OCM, My name is Iggy Kanchik and I am the owner of Indistro, LLC a non-provisional applicant on the November queue (OCMRETL-2023-001335). My comment is specifically related to how this process has unfolded and how much hardship this has placed upon me and my family. When I originally applied for a Non-Provisional License with OCM I already had local approval of my location from my Community Board and at that time the Board was not aware of another location within 1,000 feet of mine. Because it was stressed by OCM that applicants needed Community Board Approval prior to the Application Deadline I believed that my position in the area was relatively safe. After-all I had received community board approval for my location only a few days before the application deadline, it seemed clear my location was safe. As a result I</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>have continued to pay rent on a Commercial Space which I seriously underutilizing because I want it to be available as a dispensary. I have also forgone other business opportunities to make sure I have capital available and in doing so have lost huge opportunities. As a result I have seen my earnings diminish and have needlessly spent money on Rent on a location which I still don't know whether or not is viable.</p> <p>To make matters worse I have repeatedly tried to get clarity from OCM but have just been sent in circles. My question is simple - There is a CAURD Applicant within 1,000 feet of me that I am certain applied later in time than I did. How is this process going to be handled? Should I continue to maintain my location? Please contact me as soon as possible, this is extremely important to me and my family.</p> <p>Thank you, Iggy Kanchik</p>
74.	Marwan	Dabis	Marwan Dabis	<p>Hello my name is Marwan Dabis . I applied for the license in December 2023. I still have not heard about the next step. Please help my email is marwandabis@gmail.com</p>
75.	Carlos	Rodriguez	King Kong	<p>my micro licenseQueue is 1595 application number OCMRETL-2023-000800. I was temporarily approved, however i have not yet received the final approval letter or license certificate. Is there any information for applicants such as myself or where can we follow up on the process. Everywhere leads me to a dead end.</p>
76.	Ann	Seligman	Member of Manhattan Community Board Six, but not speaking on its behalf	<p>I am a member of Manhattan CBSix, but speaking as an individual, and want to express strong opposition to an application the board received.</p> <p>Flynnstoned is not on the agenda here, perhaps because Mike Flynn's notification to municipalities says the business will be located in Nassau County, though the proposed location is 2nd Ave. & 44th St in New York County!</p> <p>We are not anti-Cannabis but there were many discrepancies in his application to the CB, including a statement that there was an executed lease, when there was not. He is now being sued for defamation by the current tenant for making false statements about the tenant's payment history. Beyond CB Six, MNCB2 and Brooklyn CB1 have both passed resolutions of objection to this operator, citing similar and additional apprehensions. All have concerns</p>



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>about transparency, community outreach, location suitability and security. Mike Flynn brags about how many licenses he has, typically with opaque partnerships about which he gives shifting answers, but is in any case clearly against CCB's desire to promote small businesses.</p> <p>The business being displaced has served the neighborhood for decades and has strong community support. Time is of the essence if we want to save it. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
77.	Max	Freed	FRMIDA LLC d/b/a Zuuld	<p>As spoken: I'm Dr. Freed, there's not enough time but details and policy proposals will be in my comments. This is all about the advisory board letter on its way to you which is advocating license caps and a supply side licensing moratorium.</p> <p>-OCM seems to be unhappy that this board wisely rejected their attempt to set policy from below and wag the dog into imposing license quotas. Now OCM's enlisted the advisory board which has blatant conflicts of interest. Not only did active supply licensees not recuse themselves or abstain, they were specifically praised as sources of wisdom on the question of whether they should have to face real competition.</p> <p>-if you're an applicant who feels you've been treated unfairly, get in touch with me. I want to hear about your problems. Come take a card or email me at zuuldlab@gmail.com, Z U U L D L A B @ gmail.com. Maybe speaking together it's more likely we will be heard.</p> <p>-By standing in the way of supply licensing, OCM and this board would be making themselves responsible for the inevitable fires, explosions, injuries, and deaths from back alley butane extraction in our communities. When someone is killed in an explosion, do you want to be able to say you did everything you could to support safe processing, or will you have to justify standing in the way?</p> <p>-Processing plays a keystone role in the market, it doesn't matter how much flower is grown and how many stores open if there aren't enough processors to package and label, never mind formulating the products people want.</p> <p>-Expecting 150 tier 1 processors to supply a \$6b marketplace by 2030 is expecting every one of those licensees to grow to a minimum of \$10m in revenue</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 1 row. The rightmost cell contains text discussing market competition, regulation, and safety concerns.



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				necessary for microbusinesses to grow their own flower. (1/n)
78.	Max	Freed	FRMIDA LLC d/b/a Zuuld	<p>(2/n)</p> <p>By creating a new license category with virtual cultivation, you could in regulation take an estimate of the allowed cultivation by a micro and multiply by two thirds, then set this as the amount of flower a micro is allowed to toll process or purchase. This would unlock a great deal of processing capacity for farmers and allow much more diversity of product, while cultivating a generation of microprocessors who can start the scaling needed to supply the market's formulation needs and premium products that are truly desirable. There's still an incentive to cultivate, if you want to license these micros to cultivate as well, since they'll get more flower and throughput with the full amount instead of just two thirds of it.</p> <p>The reason I'm writing so much here is not just to complaint about my specific problems. The issue here is providing enough processing capacity for the market to function at all, for anyone, producers and consumers alike, by providing the formulation and packaging and labeling needed for all the flower grown to actually be sold in stores. It doesn't seem to have dawned on OCM the scale of operations and facilities that will be necessary to supply the claimed \$6-7 billion dollars in annual revenue by 2030. The needed size of buildings just isn't being built anywhere in the state, just to take the most basic infrastructure element.</p> <p>Two things are most obvious. First, this system clearly wasn't designed to accommodate my personal specific needs as a business, there are just so many ways this process has been difficult for us to overcome. I've hired regulatory consultants with extensive experience in other markets that have legalized, and even with them on my side we've been having difficulties managing the changing wins of this regulatory environment. Second, none of the challenges I'm facing or the structure created here overall seem to have been measured against events in other jurisdictions – while those other jurisdictions keep getting mentioned, strange and inexplicable conclusions seem to be getting drawn from them. Not having Tier 1 processors as the most emphasized and prioritized class of licensees is so backwards it seems ready to sabotage the endeavor of legal NY cannabis</p>



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>itself. How will cannabis get to market? Do you think angry farmers want to find out sufficient processors aren't licensed? These farmers don't have sufficient storage, they won't be set up to do packaging and labeling, they can't extract, they'll have grown tons of flower and have nothing legal to do with it. Do you think they'll like learning that there's no way to differentiate their products because there are only a handful of large processors churning out the same undifferentiated (probably distilled) product? That each farmer is inconsequentially small to these huge processors? That the processors can charge extortionate toll processing rates because they're the only game in town, because OCM is intentionally and systematically protecting the processors from competition? Processors are the license category with the least SEE category members in NY, and by restricting the supply of processors you're setting everyone else up to be held over a barrel by the handful allowed to exist. To take one nearby example, Vermont, which also has not used license quotas, the best going rate recently for toll processing was for the processor to take half the farmer's crop in a cashless deal for processing, packaging, and labeling of basic tinctures. Processors already have structural market power and you're enhancing that by protecting them from competition.</p> <p>I'm not just complaining on my own behalf, although of course many of these suggestions would help me. More importantly, I'm raising these issues on behalf of everyone who can't or won't be able to do business because there isn't processing in the middle.</p>
79.	Max	Freed	FRMIDA LLC d/b/a Zuuld	<p>(3/n)</p> <p>The whole market could more or less grind to a halt, simply fail to meet optimistic projections, or be largely abandoned by customers as in California if it can't produce the correct products because of a processing shortage. Why even legalize if you're not going to allow products to be made? Restricting processing is starting to sound like another permutation of prohibition, with the same results as our prohibitionist past: enthusiasts and hustlers in the illicit market doing an end run around rules that attempt to hold back market forces.</p> <p>Speaking of which – on numerous occasions, most notably at the December 13 CAB meeting, high level OCM officials have referenced overlicensing as a key,</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

				<p>fundamental driver of noncompliance, diversion, manipulated lab results, and other misbehavior. However, historical experience in other markets shows the relationship between license numbers and misbehavior isn't so clean and linear, and specific examples show underlicensing simply isn't a working policy lever to ensure compliance. Once upon a time, Canada had only four licensed testing labs in the country. Three of them were engaging in the classic testing lab misbehavior of goosing THC results to unrealistically high values. In the end what controls misbehavior is supervision and enforcement, measures like archiving a double sample for followup testing, on site inspection, and all the not particularly exciting but crucial regulatory functions we need spun up. Restrictions on the quantity of licenses issued just don't have much of a relationship with compliance. I'm pretty sure I've heard California mentioned by OCM in the past as an example of overlicensing leading to market problems. California certainly has problems, far too many to get into here, but the biggest one has nothing to do with license quantity – it's that customers aren't being sufficiently won over from the booming illicit market. There are many reasons for that: high taxes, inferior products, a robust history of illicit manufacture and clubby connoisseur culture, and the influence on policymaking of large firms with money to burn and their self-interested advice that they can take care of all the supply, and that it's better to prevent smaller but more experienced operators from working in the market at all. (Sound familiar?) To this day, the concentrates in even the most highly regarded adult use retail stores in California just aren't very good – because the best ones are distributed to those connoisseurs through illicit networks before they ever hit the legal market. None of this has anything to do with the number of licenses issued in California, if anything they may be a symptom of not enough licensing, particularly in the critical processing sector, leading to exasperation on the part of the legacy producers who can work at the top end of the market. Whether that top end is in the legal or illicit side doesn't seem to matter that much to them. How much does it matter to OCM and CCB? The typical cultivation and processing experts who are most capable of producing premium products were producing long before legalization. They are, if I can</p>
--	--	--	--	--



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>be frank, typically various shades of libertarian maniacs. People like that are very uninterested in working for a salary for a huge company blind to what's important and often unwilling to listen to their own experts- the Canopy Growths of the world, whose main skill seems to be in burning billions of dollars in capital. People like that know what their skills are worth and how important they are. Rather than sign on with a huge firm for a paycheck, they expect equity commensurate with the value of their skills. They aren't working for registered organizations, they are trying to get processors and microbusinesses off the ground. Wherever they go to work, customers will follow, because cannabis is not an undifferentiated lump of commodity, and 28% of the market will not remain in distillate of trim and leaves forever.</p>
80.	Max	Freed	FRMIDA LLC d/b/a Zuuld	<p>(4/n) Why would OCM and CCB want to keep those people on the illicit side? I've heard over and over again about bringing legacy in from the shadows, and it is absolutely contradicted by these repeated pushes to impose quotas. It's true that issuing more licenses will make some people lose money. But who? The people who will lose money are the ones who are going full tilt on producing bad products customers don't want. Protecting those people and products can't cripple the illicit market or make customers satisfied with consuming trash forever, it only pushes customers and producers away from the legal market. It's outrageous for OCM to intentionally protect inferior products to shield businesspeople who are knowingly producing as much bad flower as possible, as fast as they can manage. Just like the outrage is building against the state for knowingly allowing flower full of bacteria and mold to be sold, so too will there be greater outrage as the public learns that OCM is going out of its way to ensure every gram of terrible flower and inferior extract finds a customer. In trying to impose quotas now OCM is essentially arguing that if they allow the experienced winemakers and brewers and craft distillers in, it will hurt the balance sheet of the guy with the factory pumping out a million gallons of boxed wine a year. Yes, it will hurt the "boxed wine at full throttle" guy to face competition from better products. That's a good thing. People do buy boxed wine, there's a market for it, but it's just not possible to</p>



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 1 row. The rightmost cell contains a detailed text block discussing cannabis market challenges, including alcohol demand, illicit market incentives, and safety risks from hash extraction.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 5 columns: ID (81), Name (Max), Status (Freed), Company (FRMIDA LLC d/b/a Zuuld), and Description (5/n February 2024 - Multiple explosions and fire in los angeles, One person in critical condition, a building destroyed and a charred dead body found in the smoldering rubble. https://hightimes.com/news/one-dead-in-fire-at-los-angeles-clandestine-cannabis-extraction-lab/ "If states move too slowly to legalize, however, they risk ending up with more illegal hash-oil extraction operations. Because these aren't supervised at all, they're much more dangerous. In 2017 the DEA's El Paso office identified 260 illegal extraction labs across the country, about one-third in residential locations. Fires or explosions were reported in more than 10 percent of them." https://www.politico.com/story/2019/02/18/marijuana-factories-explosions-safety-issues-1155850 "In states like California and Colorado, where marijuana use is legal, state-licensed producers of hash oil use sophisticated systems that can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. But those seeking to make hash oil at home don't have to spend that much. YouTube videos demonstrate how to strip the psychoactive THC compounds from marijuana using a PVC pipe, a coffee filter and a \$4 can of butane. Production is surging on the black market - especially in California, where the legal market is still dwarfed by an underground network that supplies users across the country." "Child-safety advocate Sue Webber-Brown estimates more than 40 adults and three children were injured from hash-oil lab explosions in the state in 2016 - far higher than the official DEA tally of 16 injuries. Even so, the DEA reports that at least 19 people have been killed and 126 people injured by hash-oil fires in California since 2014." https://www.reuters.com/article/world/exploding-danger-us-marijuana-oil-labs-pose-deadly-destructive-hazard-idUSKCN1T51IS/ If this board were to agree with OCM and actively stand in the way of more tier 1 processing licensing with a moratorium or any form of quota or cap on license numbers, that transforms any future mayhem from hydrocarbon gas misadventures in New York from just a tragedy to the direct responsibility of the board and OCM. We know prohibition isn't effective, we know scolding consumers to not want the things



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>they want isn't effective. Why are we still in such danger of going down that road? At every CCB meeting you have a roomful of people begging to be allowed to take on risk, with full awareness of the consequences for their finances. Thousands more wait in the queues. Why would you choose to protect a select group of people chosen by a roll of the dice, in order to allow them to rake in gains of oligarchic capitalism but protect them from risk? That risk doesn't disappear, it is merely transferred from the balance sheets of current licensees into the lungs of the people inhaling benzene-contaminated illicit hash and to the families in their homes who might not know a DIY enthusiast has tired of waiting for the market to provide butane hash and is using the increasingly cheap flower to make his own, hard at work in the apartment below.</p> <p>By strangling tier 1 processing licensing, which already began with the last minute surprise refusal to accept provisional applications, the OCM and CCB would be rolling the dice along with every DIY extractor in the state hoping that they won't cause a fire or explosion. When an explosion does happen, god forbid when someone is burned or killed, would you rather tell the press and governor that you did everything in your power to stop that from happening, or would you rather have to justify the fact that you personally stood in the way of responsible operators, keeping them from producing in a safe, controlled, regulated, and accountable manner? That you did it all to protect 150 early entrants? That your plan was for every single one of those 150 new enterprises to scale up to the point that they are doing \$10-20 million in revenue annually in five years?</p>
82.	Max	Freed	FRMIDA LLC d/b/a Zuuld	<p>(6/7) That's what is implied by only issuing 150 tier 1 licenses and expecting the market to reach \$6 billion annual revenue by 2030, assuming half the market is flower and half extracted products. Canada has never capped licensing or used quotas, and a full five years into legalization, two separate distributors have just recently told my business partner they will buy all the hash he can make. There is still a shortage there. Even if you just do 150, you're talking about not finishing license issuance until mid-2026. A processor licensed in the middle of 2026 would take a minimum of six months to actually build out, since hardly</p>



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
Hope Knight
Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
Acting Executive Director

Table with 4 columns and 1 row. The rightmost cell contains text regarding licensing strategy and recommendations.



BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				<p>the provisional license rug pull to change their applications back to processing and place them at the start of the new reopened processing queue, ahead of new applicants to this queue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Abandon licensing quotas generally as a regulatory concept. -Refrain from ever issuing PCA waivers of proximity protection which would impact retailers that have been open less than a year. -For all future PCA waivers, replicate the model of the NY SLA and dig into the revenue and profit figures of the impacted existing dispensaries to determine whether local demand is being met. This will reduce anxiety amongst retailers which is driving them to push for license quotas. -In general, avoid any action that restricts licensed cannabis supply and trade until the legal market is dominating the illicit market. -Advocate vigorously against legislative efforts to cap THC concentrations, which are a soft return to prohibitionism. -Abandon the idea that a planned economy is capable of responding appropriately and promptly to changing market conditions. -Abandon the idea that distillate from trim and leaves should be a quarter of all revenue into the indefinite future. -Abandon the idea that processors are always massive companies, a self-fulfilling prophecy.
83.	Max	Freed	FRMIDA LLC d/b/a Zuuld	<p>(7/7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Abandon efforts to stabilize a bad situation and sell 100% of production of products that are incapable of competing with real quality. -Advise counsel in the recent Article 78 injunction to argue vigorously that non-retail microbusiness applicants have no requirement for municipal notification and should not be enjoined along with provisional retailers. -Redouble efforts to restore trust with the legacy producers who can operate at the highest levels of quality, including a public apology for keeping them out of the market. -Abandon charging what the market will bear as a regulatory strategy. -Consider any future licensing targets in light of the fact that in NY state alone there are ~70,000 active alcohol licenses.



Office of Cannabis Management

BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Garcia
 Hope Knight
 Crystal Rodriguez-Dabney
 Jennifer Gilbert Jenkins

KATHY HOCHUL
 Governor

TREMAINE WRIGHT
 Cannabis Control Board Chair

FELICIA A.B. REID
 Acting Executive Director

				My sincere thanks for your time and attention, I know you're busy trying to make this work.
84.	Laurel	Burge	Ras mitch LLC	For the Rastafari community, Cannabis known as Ganja amongst Rastafarians, is also used by the Saddhus (a religious ascetic, or any holy person in Hinduism who has renounced the worldly life) is our Holy Sacrament. The production and consumption is a spiritual process. The fact that for decades we have been denied access to our faith based practices is tantamount to a human rights violation and an infringement on our religious freedom. The NY OCM has the opportunity to right the wrongs of the past and be on the right side of history...and Justice. During the 1970's, 80's, and 90's, simple acts such as playing soccer in the park or going to a party would lead to persecution, beatings, incarceration, or sometimes death. Some members of our community are still too traumatized to speak of it. Seeing every other demographic move forward with Cannabis Licenses, when our Rastafari community applications sit untouched is retraumatizing and triggering. It doesn't seem fair that our faith based beliefs are not respected in the same ways as others. We have played by the rules, filled out our applications, and paid our application fees. Let me know when we will get relief. Let me know when we will get justice
85.	Jason	Stowell	Excelsior Genetics, LLC	All Cannabis Compliance Training and Mentorship program participants should have the reaffirmed guarantee by the Office and CCB that their applications will be reviewed - Regardless of application "queue." The Office reports at every CCB board meeting on "market" data," which is mainly from MO license holders shipping their products into NY - Microbusiness applicants are not threat to corporate cannabis so please, stop stalling so the MOs can capture as much market share as possible, and start expediting the review of real NY small business owner applications- Please use your "market data" to allow the review of applicants where there is not market saturation, or even an accessible market for that matter.