

Office of Cannabis Management Control Board Meeting.Jan.9.2025

1

00:00:16.675 --> 00:00:19.775

As we kick off 2025, we have much to celebrate.

2

00:00:20.325 --> 00:00:23.295

Most notably, New York State cannabis has hit

3

00:00:23.375 --> 00:00:24.735

a historic milestone.

4

00:00:25.475 --> 00:00:28.975

We have surpassed \$1 billion in retail cannabis sales.

5

00:00:29.525 --> 00:00:31.735

This is a testament to the strength of our market,

6

00:00:32.315 --> 00:00:34.255

the dedication of our licensees,

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00:00:34.995 --> 00:00:36.655

and our commitment to equity

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00:00:36.715 --> 00:00:38.935

and inclusion in this growing industry.

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00:00:39.405 --> 00:00:41.615

Looking ahead, this hit year promises

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00:00:41.615 --> 00:00:45.135

to be even more impactful from expanding opportunities

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00:00:45.275 --> 00:00:48.215

for equity applicants to strengthening enforcement

12

00:00:48.235 --> 00:00:50.495

and fostering market diversity and growth.

13

00:00:51.035 --> 00:00:53.615

The Office of Cannabis Management is ready

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00:00:53.615 --> 00:00:54.975

to build on our success

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00:00:55.635 --> 00:00:58.655

and continue shaping a thriving cannabis industry

16

00:00:58.955 --> 00:01:03.375

for all New Yorkers for our first order of business.

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00:01:04.355 --> 00:01:05.495

Um, we'll have the review

18

00:01:05.515 --> 00:01:08.095

and approval of the meeting minutes from our

19

00:01:08.335 --> 00:01:11.975

December 10th, 2024 Cannabis Control Board meeting.

20

00:01:13.115 --> 00:01:15.535

May I please have a motion to consider

21

00:01:15.675 --> 00:01:18.975

and approve the December 10th board meeting minutes.

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00:01:21.275 --> 00:01:23.735

So we have a motion. May I get a second? Second.

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00:01:25.655 --> 00:01:27.735

Probably moved in second. Um, are there,

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00:01:27.735 --> 00:01:30.095

is there any discussion from any board members

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00:01:30.095 --> 00:01:32.855

regarding this motion?

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00:01:33.085 --> 00:01:37.335

Hearing none. I'll call for the vote. All in favor?

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00:01:38.315 --> 00:01:41.135

Aye. Aye. Aye. It's unanimous.

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00:01:41.235 --> 00:01:45.615

The motion to approve the December 10th, 2024 board meeting.

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00:01:45.615 --> 00:01:46.655

Minutes carries.

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00:01:47.435 --> 00:01:49.695

Now I'd like to invite to welcome it into,

31

00:01:49.695 --> 00:01:52.295

invite our acting executive director, Felicia, read

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00:01:52.295 --> 00:01:53.655

to please address this body.

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00:01:54.105 --> 00:01:56.295

Thank you Chair Ray. Good afternoon, chair members

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00:01:56.315 --> 00:01:58.735

of the board, the OCM team and my fellow New Yorkers.

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00:01:59.065 --> 00:02:00.255

Happy New Year to you all.

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00:02:00.255 --> 00:02:02.335

And I have to say what a good year it's going to be.

37

00:02:02.835 --> 00:02:04.535

The last six weeks have been busy for the office,

38

00:02:04.555 --> 00:02:06.375  
and I wanna thank all the folks in OCM

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00:02:06.375 --> 00:02:08.095  
who have kept going full throttle

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00:02:08.095 --> 00:02:09.455  
through the hectic holiday time.

41

00:02:09.915 --> 00:02:13.215  
Rather than the office's usual lengthy CCB report, I'm going

42

00:02:13.215 --> 00:02:14.375  
to direct you all to the good stuff.

43

00:02:14.375 --> 00:02:17.455  
We've recently published head over to OCMs homepage

44

00:02:17.455 --> 00:02:19.175  
to take a spin through our three recently

45

00:02:19.175 --> 00:02:20.535  
issued agency reports.

46

00:02:20.915 --> 00:02:23.415  
The Chief equity officer report, the enforcement report

47

00:02:23.415 --> 00:02:25.975  
and the annual OCM report are all available

48

00:02:25.975 --> 00:02:27.175  
through links mid page

49

00:02:27.235 --> 00:02:28.935  
and through the report link at the bottom.

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00:02:29.855 --> 00:02:32.695

I especially want to congratulate the can businesses across

51

00:02:32.695 --> 00:02:35.415

the state who have, despite so many challenges, obstacles

52

00:02:35.415 --> 00:02:38.615

and shakeups, rapidly catapulted our young adult use

53

00:02:38.895 --> 00:02:40.255

industry past the 1 billion mark.

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00:02:40.935 --> 00:02:42.215

Although this number is a feat, I want

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00:02:42.215 --> 00:02:43.695

to underscore its new nuance.

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00:02:44.235 --> 00:02:46.895

Unlike other states, New York has achieved this while

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00:02:46.895 --> 00:02:48.895

prioritizing small local businesses

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00:02:48.995 --> 00:02:50.495

and social and economic equity.

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00:02:50.685 --> 00:02:53.575

Meaning that economic power is driven by the diversity

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00:02:53.635 --> 00:02:56.415

of many hands, not just the few usual suspects.

61

00:02:57.195 --> 00:02:59.405

I'm also glad to see that New York's medical cannabis

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00:02:59.405 --> 00:03:00.965

program has had a strong year.

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00:03:01.315 --> 00:03:04.125

Patient access and patient care are OCMs focus,

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00:03:04.185 --> 00:03:06.325

and it's this focus that will order our future steps

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00:03:06.385 --> 00:03:08.125

as we look to support practitioners

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00:03:08.125 --> 00:03:09.445

and patients across the state.

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00:03:10.185 --> 00:03:13.965

As for 2025, OCM certainly has plans in the year to come.

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00:03:13.965 --> 00:03:16.525

You can expect OCM to move on several initiatives.

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00:03:17.305 --> 00:03:19.565

One, building out our customer service team so

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00:03:19.565 --> 00:03:21.165

that the public's experience of gauging

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00:03:21.165 --> 00:03:23.845

with the agency feels useful, responsive, and transparent.

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00:03:24.345 --> 00:03:26.165

We will continue to hire up overall,

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00:03:26.165 --> 00:03:28.845

especially in licensing, compliance enforcement and legal.

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00:03:29.265 --> 00:03:30.765

The agency will be welcoming a new

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00:03:30.765 --> 00:03:31.845

and incredible general counsel

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00:03:31.945 --> 00:03:33.885

and a new lead over the two-sided coin

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00:03:33.905 --> 00:03:35.365

of licensing and compliance.

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00:03:35.985 --> 00:03:37.285

I'm currently interviewing

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00:03:37.285 --> 00:03:39.045

for OCMs next Chief Equity Officer,

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00:03:39.105 --> 00:03:41.605

and I will shortly announce a new special operations unit

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00:03:42.105 --> 00:03:44.045

to pursue trade practice investigations.

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00:03:44.615 --> 00:03:45.885

We'll also be looking more deeply

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00:03:45.945 --> 00:03:47.165

at the hemp side of our house.

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00:03:47.215 --> 00:03:49.445

There are some exciting developments happening in the use

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00:03:49.445 --> 00:03:50.685

of hemp to sustainable resource.

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00:03:50.985 --> 00:03:53.725

And OCM will be addressing the production and use of hemp

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00:03:53.725 --> 00:03:55.165

and intoxicating products.

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00:03:55.825 --> 00:03:57.765

I'm also looking forward to continuing the process

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00:03:57.865 --> 00:03:59.365

to refine our PLMA

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00:03:59.365 --> 00:04:01.405

and PCA regulations, as well

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00:04:01.405 --> 00:04:04.285

as structuring out onsite consumption and event regulations.

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00:04:04.875 --> 00:04:07.685

Environmental sustainability in this industry certainly

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00:04:07.685 --> 00:04:09.245

keeps me up at night from packaging

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00:04:09.245 --> 00:04:10.525

and the impact of climate change

95

00:04:10.545 --> 00:04:12.165

to energy use and emissions.

96

00:04:12.585 --> 00:04:14.725

The growth of the industry cannot be at the expense

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00:04:14.725 --> 00:04:16.525

of minding our place in the ecosystem,

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00:04:16.665 --> 00:04:17.765

the literal ecosystem.

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00:04:18.065 --> 00:04:20.525

And I know we can move forward with both in mind.

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00:04:21.065 --> 00:04:22.285



Having been out in the field

101

00:04:22.285 --> 00:04:24.045

to visit our cultivators processors

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00:04:24.045 --> 00:04:26.165

and retailers, the agency has had its mind

103

00:04:26.225 --> 00:04:27.325

on workforce development.

104

00:04:27.325 --> 00:04:28.445

And onsite worker health

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00:04:28.445 --> 00:04:31.085

and safety industries are nothing without people,

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00:04:31.185 --> 00:04:32.805

and we'll be continuing partnerships

107

00:04:32.825 --> 00:04:34.765

to keep the workforce growing and resilient.

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00:04:35.265 --> 00:04:38.005

And finally, for our cultivators, I'm glad that in New York,

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00:04:38.285 --> 00:04:39.725

cannabis will now be considered a crop

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00:04:39.725 --> 00:04:42.405

for agricultural purposes, lowering some of the costs

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00:04:42.405 --> 00:04:44.965

of production as well as opening oppor other opportunities.

112

00:04:45.835 --> 00:04:47.925

Today's agenda, you'll see is a light one given

113

00:04:47.925 --> 00:04:50.125

how much work went into pulling through the end of the year.

114

00:04:50.325 --> 00:04:51.605

0 samm was preparing for a full

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00:04:51.605 --> 00:04:53.045

and fierce agenda come February,

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00:04:53.345 --> 00:04:54.965

but we're gonna get through what's ready now so

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00:04:54.965 --> 00:04:56.565

that businesses can keep moving forward.

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00:04:57.145 --> 00:04:59.085

Before concluding, I do wanna mention the

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00:04:59.085 --> 00:05:00.445

proverbial elephant in the room.

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00:05:00.515 --> 00:05:02.405

That is the injunction currently in place.

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00:05:03.045 --> 00:05:05.125

I know this has many folks shook about the implications

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00:05:05.125 --> 00:05:07.285

for the agency, especially relative to card.

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00:05:07.745 --> 00:05:10.125

The court is still refining the scope of the order, but

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00:05:10.125 --> 00:05:12.565

after attending a hearing earlier this week, I am glad

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00:05:12.565 --> 00:05:14.925

that it appears that the scope of the injunction is far,

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00:05:15.105 --> 00:05:17.005

far narrower than initially presumed.

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00:05:17.605 --> 00:05:20.085

OCM will be sure to update the canvas community in the next

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00:05:20.085 --> 00:05:22.125

week or so with the development as ever.

129

00:05:22.305 --> 00:05:23.565

I'm looking forward to what's next.

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00:05:24.455 --> 00:05:28.525

Thank you. Thank you very much for that.

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00:05:28.945 --> 00:05:31.565

Um, now I'd like to move us forward on

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00:05:31.565 --> 00:05:34.325

to our first resolution and the only resolution

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00:05:34.325 --> 00:05:37.085

before us today, may I please have a re, uh, motion

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00:05:37.225 --> 00:05:41.885

to consider resolution number 2025 dash oh one consideration

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00:05:41.885 --> 00:05:43.765

of adult use cannabis licenses.

136

00:05:45.265 --> 00:05:48.565

So moved. Have a motion. May I get a second? I'll second.

137

00:05:49.375 --> 00:05:53.925

Thank you. Um, I'll please ask, um, Mr. McKee

138

00:05:53.925 --> 00:05:56.605

to provide an overview of this resolution. Thanks.

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00:05:57.575 --> 00:05:58.725

Thank, thank you Madam Chair.

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00:05:58.825 --> 00:06:00.365

Uh, before the board today is a cohort

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00:06:00.625 --> 00:06:03.085

of 31 adult use cannabis licenses,

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00:06:03.175 --> 00:06:05.085

which have cleared the multi-step review process

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00:06:05.185 --> 00:06:07.165

and are being recommended for approval by the board.

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00:06:07.455 --> 00:06:09.365

These applications are from the application window

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00:06:09.365 --> 00:06:11.725

that opened on October 4th, enclosed for all types

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00:06:11.725 --> 00:06:14.605

of applications on December 18th, 2023.

147

00:06:15.425 --> 00:06:18.525

The, uh, 31 applications include four retail dispensaries,

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00:06:18.595 --> 00:06:21.605

five micro businesses, two cultivators, 10 distributors,

149

00:06:21.625 --> 00:06:22.725

and 10 processors.

150

00:06:23.265 --> 00:06:26.445

Um, as partly explained by, uh, executive director Felicia,

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00:06:26.545 --> 00:06:27.845

the lower application count

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00:06:27.865 --> 00:06:30.845

for this board meeting is partly due to, uh, the injunction

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00:06:31.225 --> 00:06:33.165

and also, uh, coming off of the holiday season,

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00:06:33.865 --> 00:06:35.645

the office anticipates being able to get back

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00:06:35.645 --> 00:06:37.805

to a more normal level of applications being recommended

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00:06:37.805 --> 00:06:41.085

to the board at, at our next, uh, month, uh, board meeting.

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00:06:41.945 --> 00:06:43.925

Uh, as always, I wanna thank the licensing staff

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00:06:43.925 --> 00:06:46.245

for the hard work and diligence to make this, uh, possible

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00:06:46.245 --> 00:06:48.365

and get through these applications as quickly as possible.

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00:06:48.735 --> 00:06:49.765

Thank you, and happy to answer

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00:06:49.765 --> 00:06:50.845

any questions the board may have.

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00:06:51.535 --> 00:06:53.965

Thank you. Pat, are there any questions

163

00:06:53.965 --> 00:06:54.965  
or comments from the board?

164

00:06:55.525 --> 00:06:56.805  
I, I just have a quick question.

165

00:06:57.225 --> 00:07:00.525  
Um, we've been getting more and more emails.

166

00:07:00.785 --> 00:07:03.085  
Uh, I'm, I'm assuming that the rest of the board has

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00:07:03.085 --> 00:07:05.765  
as well, um, uh, that are people

168

00:07:06.355 --> 00:07:09.565  
concerned about individuals that were giving licenses to

169

00:07:09.915 --> 00:07:12.885  
that have been active in the illicit market.

170

00:07:13.545 --> 00:07:15.885  
And I'm just curious if,

171

00:07:16.225 --> 00:07:19.925  
if a individual has not been, um,

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00:07:21.325 --> 00:07:22.685  
arrested, so is not in the system

173

00:07:22.785 --> 00:07:24.325  
for being in the illicit market,

174

00:07:24.705 --> 00:07:28.965  
but is known to have a store that hasn't been closed, right?

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00:07:30.195 --> 00:07:33.365

What can we do and how does our review

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00:07:33.425 --> 00:07:37.725

of their applications, uh, address, um,

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00:07:38.525 --> 00:07:40.085

bringing to light some of these issues?

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00:07:40.085 --> 00:07:42.285

Because I'm, I'm just concerned with how many

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00:07:42.285 --> 00:07:43.885

of these emails I've been getting of, of,

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00:07:43.985 --> 00:07:46.125

of people being concerned that we're giving licenses

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00:07:46.125 --> 00:07:47.125

to people who shouldn't get them.

182

00:07:49.825 --> 00:07:51.935

Thank, thank you. Board member, uh, Gilbert Jenkins.

183

00:07:51.935 --> 00:07:53.015

That's a, that's a great question.

184

00:07:53.395 --> 00:07:55.415

Um, and definitely something that is looked into, uh,

185

00:07:55.415 --> 00:07:57.975

during the background check process of, of the review

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00:07:58.035 --> 00:07:59.535

of our adult use applications.

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00:08:00.115 --> 00:08:03.735

Uh, you are correct that the, um, information that is able

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00:08:03.735 --> 00:08:05.975

to be obtained does come in, in, in, uh,

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00:08:05.975 --> 00:08:07.055

all shapes and sizes.

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00:08:07.515 --> 00:08:09.695

You know, sometimes, uh, there are complaints

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00:08:10.005 --> 00:08:11.215

that are very robust

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00:08:11.515 --> 00:08:14.615

and, uh, our, our teams are able to go out on site

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00:08:14.795 --> 00:08:16.175

and observe the illicit activity.

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00:08:16.235 --> 00:08:18.295

And, and those are the, um, locations

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00:08:18.295 --> 00:08:20.535

that typically get in line for the inspections

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00:08:20.535 --> 00:08:22.295

and ultimately pad locking if, uh,

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00:08:22.485 --> 00:08:24.295

illicit activity is observed.

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00:08:25.075 --> 00:08:27.175

Um, but then some of the complaints that come in

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00:08:27.175 --> 00:08:29.335

through our, our, our tracker, um, online,

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00:08:29.585 --> 00:08:30.855



which I encourage anyone who,

201

00:08:30.875 --> 00:08:33.095

who observes any illicit activity to go in and,

202

00:08:33.095 --> 00:08:36.415

and in insert the, those complaints via the incident report.

203

00:08:37.075 --> 00:08:38.335

Um, sometimes, you know,

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00:08:38.335 --> 00:08:40.415

there's varying levels of, of information.

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00:08:40.755 --> 00:08:43.095

And so, uh, a lot of the applications that,

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00:08:43.095 --> 00:08:45.495

that typically take a little bit longer to review

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00:08:45.495 --> 00:08:48.135

and go through that process, um, a subset of

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00:08:48.135 --> 00:08:50.855

that end up falling into that bucket of requiring kind of

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00:08:50.855 --> 00:08:54.375

that additional analysis, um, to, to go and check

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00:08:54.395 --> 00:08:56.085

and see if the activity

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00:08:56.085 --> 00:08:58.645

that is being conducted does warrant the level of,

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00:08:58.645 --> 00:08:59.965

of denying the application.

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00:09:00.585 --> 00:09:02.885

Um, and so I, I know our enforcement team, um,

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00:09:02.885 --> 00:09:04.325

and our licensing team, which is,

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00:09:04.345 --> 00:09:06.525

is doing these background checks, uh,

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00:09:06.705 --> 00:09:07.725

is very much on their radar.

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00:09:07.865 --> 00:09:09.845

And I also encourage, um, you know, any,

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00:09:09.905 --> 00:09:12.485

any reports you hear, please forward them to the office

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00:09:12.485 --> 00:09:15.005

and we can look into those, uh, specific instances

220

00:09:15.145 --> 00:09:17.045

to see if, if they, you know, are,

221

00:09:17.705 --> 00:09:19.485

are conducting illicit activity, um,

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00:09:19.485 --> 00:09:20.965

and further action needs to be taken there.

223

00:09:23.085 --> 00:09:25.975

Yeah, great. And I think that it's also helpful for people

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00:09:25.995 --> 00:09:28.735

to realize that contacting a board member is important,

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00:09:28.755 --> 00:09:32.735

but also reporting on the website is really important too.

226

00:09:33.055 --> 00:09:34.855

'cause we can't have eyes everywhere all at once.

227

00:09:37.195 --> 00:09:39.025

Great point. Thank you.

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00:09:40.445 --> 00:09:42.385

Are there any other questions or comments?

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00:09:44.555 --> 00:09:48.105

Madam Chair, Carrie Nut? Yes. Apologize for the delay.

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00:09:48.485 --> 00:09:52.265

So, um, um, board Senator Gilbert Jenkins,

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00:09:52.265 --> 00:09:54.785

while I have received a couple of emails regarding that,

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00:09:55.445 --> 00:09:57.185

the totality or most of the emails

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00:09:57.185 --> 00:10:00.225

that I receive are more about the process

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00:10:00.605 --> 00:10:05.225

of review applications and how, um, processor

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00:10:05.225 --> 00:10:07.465

and cultivator applications that are in a queue

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00:10:07.725 --> 00:10:10.905

and how later applications may get approved before them.

237

00:10:12.065 --> 00:10:13.985

That you probably are getting these questions too,

238

00:10:14.245 --> 00:10:15.945  
and the staff is getting these questions.

239

00:10:16.125 --> 00:10:17.745  
But for people who are on,

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00:10:18.035 --> 00:10:20.745  
could you explain a little bit about the order

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00:10:21.215 --> 00:10:23.545  
that applications are reviewed

242

00:10:24.165 --> 00:10:27.825  
and how their, um, deficiencies are communicated

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00:10:27.825 --> 00:10:31.465  
with the applicants and, and within what timeframe

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00:10:31.485 --> 00:10:34.105  
and are they told about the timeframe they have within

245

00:10:34.105 --> 00:10:35.305  
which they're supposed to respond?

246

00:10:38.825 --> 00:10:40.895  
Thank you, crystal. Great, great, great question.

247

00:10:41.395 --> 00:10:43.575  
Um, and so all of our deficiencies

248

00:10:43.575 --> 00:10:46.015  
that are coming officially from the office, uh, go

249

00:10:46.015 --> 00:10:48.175  
through the New York Business Express system

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00:10:48.275 --> 00:10:49.895

or the cannabis licensing system.

251

00:10:50.395 --> 00:10:52.415

And so it it'll be an official communication

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00:10:52.605 --> 00:10:54.175

that lists out the deficiencies

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00:10:54.205 --> 00:10:56.495

that are currently missing on the application.

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00:10:56.835 --> 00:11:00.335

And at the bottom of that email, it should specify the, uh,

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00:11:00.335 --> 00:11:03.775

essentially due date that the correction, um, is,

256

00:11:03.775 --> 00:11:04.895

is due to be responded to.

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00:11:05.515 --> 00:11:08.895

Um, and it's very important that applicants, uh, are,

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00:11:08.915 --> 00:11:10.375

are adhering to that due date.

259

00:11:10.915 --> 00:11:14.655

Um, our regulations, uh, allow an application

260

00:11:14.655 --> 00:11:18.135

to become void if, uh, an applicant has not responded

261

00:11:18.135 --> 00:11:21.135

to a correction within that 30 day due due date.

262

00:11:21.555 --> 00:11:24.295

And so, um, really important to, to stay on that.

263

00:11:24.795 --> 00:11:27.455

And in terms of, um, order of review, uh, the,

264

00:11:27.455 --> 00:11:29.495

the queue orders determine the order of review.

265

00:11:29.765 --> 00:11:31.295

However, you know, caveating

266

00:11:31.295 --> 00:11:33.775

that applications are sometimes like snowflakes.

267

00:11:33.875 --> 00:11:35.655

So, uh, you know, they're all unique

268

00:11:35.675 --> 00:11:38.175

and have, have different, um, different aspects to them.

269

00:11:38.355 --> 00:11:42.455

So if, if a a, a certain higher up queue application

270

00:11:43.275 --> 00:11:45.015

has started the review and is in process,

271

00:11:45.015 --> 00:11:46.375

however, there's some factors

272

00:11:46.375 --> 00:11:49.535

that are requiring additional information or more, more back

273

00:11:49.535 --> 00:11:52.695

and forth that could cause a, a applicant

274

00:11:52.695 --> 00:11:54.565

that is farther down the queue to have, you know,

275

00:11:54.565 --> 00:11:57.445

moved forward before someone who's higher up on the queue,

276

00:11:57.705 --> 00:12:00.405

uh, just depending on the, the particularities of that,

277

00:12:00.435 --> 00:12:01.845

that particular application.

278

00:12:06.125 --> 00:12:07.425

So I hope, hope that answers your question.

279

00:12:07.785 --> 00:12:09.225

I have a, I have a follow up question.

280

00:12:09.285 --> 00:12:12.385

So, if a applicant received an email saying that they had

281

00:12:13.175 --> 00:12:18.105

that report and there was no s\*\*t they needed to be,

282

00:12:18.895 --> 00:12:21.585

they had to be communicated the public at large,

283

00:12:21.585 --> 00:12:23.985

that they have 30 days to cure that deficiency.

284

00:12:25.855 --> 00:12:27.305

Correct? By

285

00:12:27.305 --> 00:12:29.185

and large, in most cases, that's, that's the,

286

00:12:29.185 --> 00:12:31.585

the standard 30 days to cure a deficiency. Correct.

287

00:12:31.725 --> 00:12:34.425

And we have, I I do we have that somewhere there,

288

00:12:34.425 --> 00:12:35.505  
somewhere publicly posted

289

00:12:35.505 --> 00:12:37.065  
because we we're talking about applicants

290

00:12:37.065 --> 00:12:39.905  
who might not reach the regulations might not go

291

00:12:39.905 --> 00:12:40.985  
in depth in terms of this.

292

00:12:41.205 --> 00:12:44.225  
So how can we getting that information to the applicant

293

00:12:44.375 --> 00:12:45.505  
that it is well known?

294

00:12:47.245 --> 00:12:49.395  
Great question. I, I do believe it's in our FAQs,

295

00:12:49.395 --> 00:12:52.515  
but it's also, um, on that deficiency email

296

00:12:52.665 --> 00:12:55.595  
that every applicant receives for a, for a correction,

297

00:12:55.775 --> 00:12:57.835  
it should be clearly marked what your, uh,

298

00:12:58.095 --> 00:12:59.315  
due date is to respond.

299

00:13:02.215 --> 00:13:02.645  
Thank you.

300

00:13:07.195 --> 00:13:08.945



Thank you. Are there, um,

301

00:13:09.045 --> 00:13:13.545  
any more questions, comments?

302

00:13:13.895 --> 00:13:17.545  
Okay. Hearing none, I'll call for the vote. Ms.

303

00:13:17.845 --> 00:13:19.585  
Uh, Dr. Gilbert Jenkins.

304

00:13:20.205 --> 00:13:23.225  
Aye. Ms. Knight? Aye. Ms. Garcia?

305

00:13:23.925 --> 00:13:26.705  
Aye. Ms. Rodriguez Dabney Aye.

306

00:13:27.445 --> 00:13:28.945  
And I vote in the affirmative as well.

307

00:13:29.285 --> 00:13:33.665  
The motion to approve resolution number 2025 dash oh one

308

00:13:34.345 --> 00:13:37.105  
consideration of adult use cannabis licenses carries.

309

00:13:38.815 --> 00:13:42.945  
Next, I'd like to, um, ask our EIF Reed

310

00:13:42.945 --> 00:13:44.465  
for a brief update from the Office

311

00:13:44.465 --> 00:13:45.865  
of Cannabis Management, please.

312

00:13:46.675 --> 00:13:47.985  
We're actually gonna uphold

313  
00:13:47.985 --> 00:13:50.225  
That item 'cause I gave the whole outlay

314  
00:13:50.245 --> 00:13:52.665  
and we have all the reports on the, on the website,

315  
00:13:52.805 --> 00:13:53.985  
so we're good for now.

316  
00:13:54.205 --> 00:13:55.945  
All right. So thank You very much. That's

317  
00:13:55.945 --> 00:13:58.225  
Gonna help us tremendously, um,

318  
00:13:58.655 --> 00:14:02.345  
because we have at least, I don't know, 40 people.

319  
00:14:02.925 --> 00:14:04.465  
So, um, for our next sort of business,

320  
00:14:04.465 --> 00:14:06.985  
we're gonna be providing the public an opportunity

321  
00:14:07.085 --> 00:14:08.265  
to address the board.

322  
00:14:08.845 --> 00:14:10.905  
So remember, we don't answer any questions.

323  
00:14:11.525 --> 00:14:13.025  
You are given two minutes.

324  
00:14:13.445 --> 00:14:16.745  
We ask you to, um, come forward, share your thoughts,

325  
00:14:16.845 --> 00:14:17.905

be respectful of others,

326

00:14:18.165 --> 00:14:22.065  
and to maintain the two minute limit.

327

00:14:22.845 --> 00:14:25.985  
Um, if you have submitted your comments electronically,

328

00:14:26.595 --> 00:14:27.825  
those will be captured

329

00:14:28.485 --> 00:14:31.305  
and they will be included in today's meeting minutes

330

00:14:31.925 --> 00:14:33.425  
and posted on our website.

331

00:14:33.485 --> 00:14:35.145  
So with that, let's please begin.

332

00:14:35.605 --> 00:14:37.505  
The first person we're gonna hear from,

333

00:14:37.525 --> 00:14:40.865  
and I believe we're gonna be using this microphone, um,

334

00:14:40.865 --> 00:14:43.545  
and I ask that after I call your name, just please come up

335

00:14:43.565 --> 00:14:46.265  
so that we have two people standing in queue so

336

00:14:46.265 --> 00:14:48.545  
that we can keep it moving, Robert

337

00:14:49.325 --> 00:14:51.805  
and to can't, I'm sorry.

338

00:14:52.025 --> 00:14:55.285

And Paul Belgian, it looks almost like,

339

00:14:55.345 --> 00:14:57.325

and then Chris, Chris Etz.

340

00:14:59.395 --> 00:15:03.065

So we have Robert Paul, then Chris, are they here?

341

00:15:03.525 --> 00:15:06.545

Yes, I'm here, but I didn't. Okay.

342

00:15:09.735 --> 00:15:12.865

What about Chris? Yep. There you go.

343

00:15:12.965 --> 00:15:17.425

No, um, Christian Rivas, Hugo Rivas.

344

00:15:17.655 --> 00:15:18.905

Then Robert Griffith.

345

00:15:20.045 --> 00:15:23.625

Are you all here to speak behind you? Okay.

346

00:15:23.625 --> 00:15:26.745

Please come to the mic. So we have Christian,

347

00:15:26.815 --> 00:15:28.225

then Hugo, then Robert.

348

00:15:33.375 --> 00:15:36.225

Good afternoon to the OCM. Oh, good afternoon.

349

00:15:36.225 --> 00:15:37.345

Thank you to the OCM members

350

00:15:37.445 --> 00:15:38.705

for your work and your time today.

351

00:15:39.565 --> 00:15:41.625

I'm Christian Reba from TOC Folks Inc.

352

00:15:42.445 --> 00:15:47.025

Uh, application number 0-C-M-P-R-0-C dash 2023 dash

353

00:15:47.255 --> 00:15:48.745

0 0 4 6.

354

00:15:49.325 --> 00:15:52.025

And I'm requesting a review of the denial

355

00:15:52.045 --> 00:15:54.145

of our adult use processor tier three license.

356

00:15:54.985 --> 00:15:58.425

I received a deficiency notice on July 11th outlining three

357

00:15:58.425 --> 00:16:00.825

issues, um, missing lie peace agreement,

358

00:16:01.105 --> 00:16:03.025

fingerprints and TPI.

359

00:16:03.565 --> 00:16:06.545

We resolved the LPA and fingerprints right away.

360

00:16:07.005 --> 00:16:10.305

The TPI had already been completed under another

361

00:16:10.305 --> 00:16:12.785

application, so I requested its transfer

362

00:16:12.785 --> 00:16:16.105

or removal, sorry, uh, to my current application.

363

00:16:17.185 --> 00:16:18.845

Uh, I provided the necessary DOC

364

00:16:19.085 --> 00:16:20.285

documentation and asked for guidance.

365

00:16:20.405 --> 00:16:21.765

I had to proceed. But

366

00:16:21.765 --> 00:16:23.645

after my last communication on August 8th

367

00:16:23.645 --> 00:16:25.485

and ninth, I received no response.

368

00:16:26.345 --> 00:16:29.285

And later a denial. I've since hired

369

00:16:30.125 --> 00:16:32.165

attorney Jeffrey Hoffman, who has sent proof of,

370

00:16:32.165 --> 00:16:35.245

of all our communication and completion of all requirements.

371

00:16:35.755 --> 00:16:38.485

Despite this, the denial incorrectly states the LPA

372

00:16:38.485 --> 00:16:40.285

fingerprints and TPI, were not submitted.

373

00:16:40.785 --> 00:16:42.605

We have clear evidence to the contrary,

374

00:16:43.625 --> 00:16:46.045

the situation is causing a significant financial strain

375

00:16:46.045 --> 00:16:47.645

and putting my business at risk.

376

00:16:47.905 --> 00:16:50.365

I'm asking for your help to resolve the issue. Thank you.

377

00:16:50.535 --> 00:16:52.805

Thank you, Hugo.

378

00:16:53.285 --> 00:16:55.805

Followed by Robert Griffiths, then Angelo Laroche.

379

00:16:59.845 --> 00:17:03.355

Hello, hello everyone.

380

00:17:03.805 --> 00:17:06.435

Thank you for, um, all your help and all your hard work.

381

00:17:07.385 --> 00:17:09.245

Um, I'm here today, um,

382

00:17:09.565 --> 00:17:11.245

representing the Long Island Cannabis Coalition.

383

00:17:11.905 --> 00:17:15.485

Um, we just wanna address a few issues. Um, at Long Island.

384

00:17:15.585 --> 00:17:16.845

Uh, again, we're having a lot

385

00:17:16.845 --> 00:17:18.045

of issues with the municipalities.

386

00:17:18.675 --> 00:17:20.845

They're, um, giving us a lot of, uh,

387

00:17:20.885 --> 00:17:22.765

restrictions and and such.

388

00:17:22.765 --> 00:17:26.245

In order for us to open, we have only four opted in.

389

00:17:26.665 --> 00:17:28.525

So we are here today just to kind of ask, you know,

390

00:17:28.795 --> 00:17:30.125

just give us some help out there.

391

00:17:32.115 --> 00:17:33.305

We've been putting in a lot of work

392

00:17:33.445 --> 00:17:35.265

and, um, we would appreciate that.

393

00:17:35.885 --> 00:17:38.305

The second one is the thousand foot rule

394

00:17:38.985 --> 00:17:40.105

situation that's going on now.

395

00:17:40.845 --> 00:17:43.625

Um, it's hurting some of us, some of our licensees, some

396

00:17:43.625 --> 00:17:44.905

of our members in our coalition.

397

00:17:45.455 --> 00:17:47.505

That decision is kind of, um, hurting them.

398

00:17:47.885 --> 00:17:50.525

We feel like a thousand feet is more than enough

399

00:17:51.065 --> 00:17:52.765

for other business to be a part.

400

00:17:53.605 --> 00:17:54.845



Anything less than that has been.

401

00:17:55.425 --> 00:17:57.325

And it has been shown even in another state

402

00:17:57.325 --> 00:17:59.085

that it affects other businesses.

403

00:17:59.585 --> 00:18:02.285

And, um, and, and it's, and it is actually happening now.

404

00:18:02.705 --> 00:18:05.285

So we would appreciate if that, you know, if that

405

00:18:06.125 --> 00:18:08.405

situation doesn't occur because it's really,

406

00:18:08.405 --> 00:18:10.845

really hurting the, the dispensaries out there.

407

00:18:11.345 --> 00:18:13.805

So please, um, listen to the dispensary, listen

408

00:18:13.805 --> 00:18:15.685

to the owners, because they're going through it.

409

00:18:15.745 --> 00:18:17.405

Not everybody's, um, a full profit

410

00:18:18.025 --> 00:18:19.125

and, um, they're going through.

411

00:18:19.185 --> 00:18:20.645

So please listen to that.

412

00:18:21.175 --> 00:18:23.485

Again, long Island, we're putting a lot of work out there.

413

00:18:23.625 --> 00:18:26.805

We just asking for the help and, um, and the support.

414

00:18:27.185 --> 00:18:28.725

And that's it. Thank you very much.

415

00:18:29.095 --> 00:18:31.285

Thank you. Robert Griffiths.

416

00:18:31.685 --> 00:18:34.885

Angelo laroche, and Vanessa Yan.

417

00:18:37.235 --> 00:18:39.045

Good afternoon. My name is Robert Griffiths.

418

00:18:39.045 --> 00:18:41.805

I'm a budtender, uh, currently at an organization

419

00:18:41.805 --> 00:18:45.445

that holds one of the 25, um, nonprofit licenses.

420

00:18:45.445 --> 00:18:47.405

So I'm really proud to work at a,

421

00:18:47.405 --> 00:18:48.965

an establishment that does that.

422

00:18:49.475 --> 00:18:52.565

It's 51 of the percent of the proceeds. Uh, but I'm here to

423

00:18:53.105 --> 00:18:54.685

Ask you, speaking to the mic, 'cause this tape.

424

00:18:55.175 --> 00:18:58.045

Understood. Uh, to get to my point, I'm here

425

00:18:58.045 --> 00:18:59.165

to talk about Columbia Care.

426

00:18:59.205 --> 00:19:00.445

I worked there for three and a half years.

427

00:19:00.445 --> 00:19:01.885

They're doing business as the cannabis.

428

00:19:01.885 --> 00:19:04.085

They're one of the 10 registered organizations.

429

00:19:04.625 --> 00:19:06.885

In August, they admitted to the wrongful firing

430

00:19:06.885 --> 00:19:07.885

of Raha Chatterjee.

431

00:19:08.145 --> 00:19:09.885

Uh, she was offered her job back,

432

00:19:09.885 --> 00:19:11.165

but she declined the offer.

433

00:19:11.865 --> 00:19:16.085

Um, immediately on August 1st, 2023, um,

434

00:19:17.265 --> 00:19:19.285

all references to Radha Chatterjee's discharge

435

00:19:19.285 --> 00:19:21.045

Disciplines Final warning.

436

00:19:21.585 --> 00:19:23.685

Um, everything was removed from their record.

437

00:19:24.065 --> 00:19:27.245

Uh, this was signed by Katie Hendrick, um, and was

438

00:19:27.445 --> 00:19:28.965  
provided to me by the NLRB.

439

00:19:29.925 --> 00:19:33.375  
I also have an affidavit two affidavits.

440

00:19:33.375 --> 00:19:35.015  
The first one is attached to the first one,

441

00:19:35.435 --> 00:19:37.295  
and the second affidavit is still in progress.

442

00:19:38.425 --> 00:19:41.245  
And then very quickly, I just must say for a long time,

443

00:19:41.445 --> 00:19:42.645  
Columbia Care Head General manager

444

00:19:42.645 --> 00:19:44.285  
and head pharmacist, Douglas Chip Walker,

445

00:19:44.435 --> 00:19:47.365  
with the assistance of general Katie Man, Katie Shadowings,

446

00:19:47.365 --> 00:19:49.165  
they kept Brooklyn and Manhattan locations

447

00:19:49.275 --> 00:19:50.525  
very toxic environments.

448

00:19:50.915 --> 00:19:52.405  
Chip would often tell me he would have

449

00:19:52.405 --> 00:19:53.685  
to do things he didn't want to do

450

00:19:53.745 --> 00:19:55.165

and that his actions weren't personal.

451

00:19:55.685 --> 00:19:59.365

I informed the head of HR Kelly Cramp Collins when she

452

00:19:59.405 --> 00:20:00.445

showed up unexpectedly.

453

00:20:00.545 --> 00:20:03.565

We had anti-labor visits from Cherise Ward and Jeff Row.

454

00:20:04.225 --> 00:20:05.645

At one point I told Chip Walker,

455

00:20:05.745 --> 00:20:08.245

he was breaking the law in front of four other employees.

456

00:20:08.265 --> 00:20:09.685

He simply shrugged his shoulders

457

00:20:09.945 --> 00:20:11.685

and continued on about

458

00:20:11.705 --> 00:20:14.605

how we be hate betrayed his trust By unionizing,

459

00:20:15.425 --> 00:20:17.685

we were the only ones to only one

460

00:20:17.805 --> 00:20:21.205

of 10 registered organizations that hadn't been unionized

461

00:20:21.205 --> 00:20:22.365

by local 3 3 8.

462

00:20:23.385 --> 00:20:27.325

Um, when he fired WA Chatter g returning back from paternal

463

00:20:27.325 --> 00:20:28.885  
paternity leave, uh,

464

00:20:29.145 --> 00:20:32.485  
he immediately told us in a small captivated meeting in the

465

00:20:32.485 --> 00:20:33.725  
break room, she's gone.

466

00:20:34.705 --> 00:20:36.725  
Um, so it was an obvious chilling effect.

467

00:20:37.105 --> 00:20:39.605  
At one point he argued with me about what the union

468

00:20:40.675 --> 00:20:42.285  
just wanna say that we never got a raise.

469

00:20:42.715 --> 00:20:47.045  
Ongoing investigations, \$600 million in revenue. You,

470

00:20:47.225 --> 00:20:48.285  
You, yes, you can.

471

00:20:48.495 --> 00:20:50.485  
Thank you. I'll include it.

472

00:20:52.985 --> 00:20:56.225  
Angelo Laroche, Vanessa Yan, Cheryl Murray Powell.

473

00:20:59.355 --> 00:21:00.985  
Hello Board and Cannabis Community.

474

00:21:01.005 --> 00:21:03.105  
My name is Angelo laroche and I'm a CEO

475

00:21:03.105 --> 00:21:04.385

and founder of Green Club Inc.

476

00:21:04.535 --> 00:21:07.345

Application O-C-M-M-I-C-R

477

00:21:07.605 --> 00:21:10.145

2 3 0 0 0 6 2 4.

478

00:21:10.745 --> 00:21:12.825

A microbusiness license from the November queue

479

00:21:13.215 --> 00:21:16.185

that was officially licensed as a provisional, uh,

480

00:21:16.365 --> 00:21:18.825

two months ago, we were provisionally licensed

481

00:21:18.825 --> 00:21:21.825

because of a card applicant that popped up on the map.

482

00:21:21.835 --> 00:21:23.385

After we submitted our application,

483

00:21:24.125 --> 00:21:26.345

we then submitted our location change via

484

00:21:26.365 --> 00:21:27.785

the location amendment survey.

485

00:21:28.335 --> 00:21:29.745

This was almost two months ago,

486

00:21:29.845 --> 00:21:31.585

and we haven't heard back from the OCM.

487

00:21:32.005 --> 00:21:33.545

We are working on our welcome packet,

488

00:21:33.725 --> 00:21:35.985  
but it means nothing without confirmation

489

00:21:36.005 --> 00:21:37.065  
of the address change.

490

00:21:37.655 --> 00:21:39.705  
I've sent the OCM dozens of emails and calls

491

00:21:39.765 --> 00:21:41.385  
and have not heard a single response.

492

00:21:42.335 --> 00:21:43.945  
It's a vacuum with no end.

493

00:21:44.205 --> 00:21:45.785  
My new landlord has been amazing

494

00:21:45.845 --> 00:21:47.745  
and not predatory like my first one,

495

00:21:48.205 --> 00:21:50.105  
but he's officially fed up of hearing.

496

00:21:50.385 --> 00:21:53.345  
I don't know, at this point, I'm afraid I can't afford

497

00:21:53.345 --> 00:21:55.985  
to lose hundreds of thousands with no end in sight.

498

00:21:56.675 --> 00:21:59.095  
We just need one person to accept my location change,

499

00:21:59.505 --> 00:22:01.375  
which already meets all of the criteria

500

00:22:02.035 --> 00:22:04.415



and has been approved by the board, the community board,

501

00:22:04.715 --> 00:22:05.735

so that I can proceed.

502

00:22:06.115 --> 00:22:08.735

If not, my entire deck of cards will crumble

503

00:22:09.195 --> 00:22:11.415

and I'll be paying for this debt for the rest of my life.

504

00:22:11.715 --> 00:22:14.455

As an African American who grew up in Canarsie, Brooklyn

505

00:22:14.455 --> 00:22:17.295

with no parents, I stayed focused, got out of the hood,

506

00:22:17.295 --> 00:22:20.135

graduated college, and even received my master's

507

00:22:20.135 --> 00:22:21.295

from Cornell University.

508

00:22:21.825 --> 00:22:23.695

Every dollar I've ever gr um,

509

00:22:24.195 --> 00:22:26.295

gotten has gone towards this endeavor.

510

00:22:26.935 --> 00:22:28.055

I want to do this for my people

511

00:22:28.115 --> 00:22:29.615

and be an example of the community.

512

00:22:30.115 --> 00:22:32.175

And for New York City, I just need your help.

513

00:22:32.675 --> 00:22:34.695

As time has gone on, I've learned how to be patient

514

00:22:34.715 --> 00:22:36.935

and understanding as I see you guys are trying your very

515

00:22:36.935 --> 00:22:40.295

best, but I'm at the mercy of losing this location

516

00:22:40.555 --> 00:22:42.055

and all of this would've been in vain.

517

00:22:42.475 --> 00:22:44.495

Please help just one person.

518

00:22:44.705 --> 00:22:46.415

Thank you Tremaine and the rest of the board.

519

00:22:46.775 --> 00:22:48.815

I pray this too. Shall pass. Thank you for your time.

520

00:22:49.145 --> 00:22:49.575

Thank you.

521

00:22:55.445 --> 00:23:00.135

Vanessa Yan, Cheryl Murray Powell, then Jeffrey Hoffman.

522

00:23:01.805 --> 00:23:03.075

Hello, hello again.

523

00:23:03.095 --> 00:23:05.475

I'm Vanessa Yuan, owner of Alta Dispensary.

524

00:23:05.855 --> 00:23:08.195

I'm here to make my statement again, urging you not

525

00:23:08.195 --> 00:23:10.635

to grant the potential PCA waiver for Cure EAF

526

00:23:10.635 --> 00:23:12.955

and ROD at two 10 Lafayette Street.

527

00:23:13.215 --> 00:23:15.435

To remind you again, the proposed location is within a

528

00:23:15.595 --> 00:23:17.435

thousand feet of two existing dispensaries.

529

00:23:17.905 --> 00:23:19.395

Mine, as well as, uh, close

530

00:23:19.395 --> 00:23:22.715

to a card licensee Pure Leaf's proposed location is within a

531

00:23:22.715 --> 00:23:24.395

short walking distance of three C

532

00:23:24.395 --> 00:23:26.275

and card licenses that have had their doors open

533

00:23:26.295 --> 00:23:28.835

for less than a year, as highlighted in last month's,

534

00:23:28.835 --> 00:23:30.555

both CM market analysis, while the number

535

00:23:30.555 --> 00:23:32.275

of dispensary locations is increasing,

536

00:23:32.545 --> 00:23:34.715

revenue per location has been declining.

537

00:23:34.945 --> 00:23:37.195

This trend will likely worsen with the granting

538

00:23:37.195 --> 00:23:38.435  
of PCA waivers,

539

00:23:38.435 --> 00:23:41.075  
especially when large chain retailers move into

540

00:23:41.075 --> 00:23:43.275  
neighborhoods dominated by small businesses,

541

00:23:43.445 --> 00:23:44.795  
small independent dispensaries.

542

00:23:45.105 --> 00:23:47.205  
If we were completely sold out of all of our products,

543

00:23:47.245 --> 00:23:49.765  
I could understand the need for additional locations,

544

00:23:49.765 --> 00:23:51.125  
but we're nowhere near that point.

545

00:23:51.625 --> 00:23:54.205  
The demand for cannabis in our area isn't sufficient

546

00:23:54.205 --> 00:23:56.765  
to support another dispensary, particularly one

547

00:23:56.765 --> 00:23:58.605  
that bypasses the 1000 foot rule

548

00:23:58.605 --> 00:24:01.605  
and has the financial resources to outspend

549

00:24:01.625 --> 00:24:03.685  
and out, uh, compete the rest of us.

550

00:24:03.825 --> 00:24:05.765

The emerging canvas market is unique in

551

00:24:05.765 --> 00:24:08.005

that nearly everyone is entering the industry at the same

552

00:24:08.005 --> 00:24:10.605

time, offering similar products sourced from the

553

00:24:10.605 --> 00:24:11.725

same brands and distributors.

554

00:24:11.875 --> 00:24:14.245

This creates a limited number of ways to stand out, such

555

00:24:14.245 --> 00:24:16.405

as store design or undercutting competitors' prices

556

00:24:16.545 --> 00:24:17.725

for identical products.

557

00:24:17.725 --> 00:24:20.445

However, price wars like this often lead to race

558

00:24:20.465 --> 00:24:23.005

to the bottom, which can ultimately harm the market.

559

00:24:23.265 --> 00:24:25.125

Cur Leap has a significant advantage due

560

00:24:25.125 --> 00:24:27.205

to its vertical integration, enabling them

561

00:24:27.205 --> 00:24:29.645

to offer lower prices that could undercook, um,

562

00:24:29.645 --> 00:24:32.605

competitors potentially destabilizing the market

563

00:24:32.605 --> 00:24:35.085

before the Indi Independent dispensaries have a chance

564

00:24:35.085 --> 00:24:36.605

to establish and say selves and grow.

565

00:24:36.795 --> 00:24:38.845

This is a challenge that other industries don't face.

566

00:24:38.865 --> 00:24:40.165

Liquor stores, for example,

567

00:24:40.175 --> 00:24:41.925

don't open all at once in the same area.

568

00:24:42.425 --> 00:24:44.605

The market becomes diluted, gradually allowing

569

00:24:44.605 --> 00:24:47.325

for healthier competition and more sustainable growth.

570

00:24:47.515 --> 00:24:50.525

Legally licensed Suspenses like mine are already struggling

571

00:24:50.525 --> 00:24:51.525

to compete against illegal

572

00:24:51.585 --> 00:24:53.765

and licensed shops selling cannabis, two

573

00:24:53.765 --> 00:24:55.885

of which are still operating on either side of my shop.

574

00:24:56.605 --> 00:24:59.125

I and other local dispensary owners are protesting Curle

575

00:24:59.205 --> 00:25:00.645

application for two 10 Lafayette

576

00:25:00.715 --> 00:25:01.965  
with Communion Board two as well.

577

00:25:02.025 --> 00:25:05.405  
We have secured the support of Assembly Member Gracely.

578

00:25:05.455 --> 00:25:06.455  
Thank you very much.

579

00:25:11.785 --> 00:25:14.725  
Cheryl Murray Powell, followed by Jeff Hoffman,

580

00:25:14.725 --> 00:25:16.045  
then Sean Robinson.

581

00:25:16.425 --> 00:25:17.685  
Yes, thank you. Good afternoon.

582

00:25:18.265 --> 00:25:20.845  
Um, my name is Cheryl Murray Powell, Esquire.

583

00:25:20.985 --> 00:25:23.805  
I'm a cannabis agricultural dietary supplement,

584

00:25:23.895 --> 00:25:26.845  
trade psychedelics and regulatory attorney.

585

00:25:27.345 --> 00:25:30.045  
Um, I'm also Rastafari, uh,

586

00:25:30.265 --> 00:25:32.365  
I'm the International First Vice President

587

00:25:32.385 --> 00:25:34.005  
of the Ethiopian World Federation

588  
00:25:34.005 --> 00:25:35.405  
and the proud president

589  
00:25:35.665 --> 00:25:38.245  
of the Ethiopian World Federation Local 12 Charter.

590  
00:25:38.315 --> 00:25:39.805  
Some of our members are here, members

591  
00:25:39.825 --> 00:25:42.725  
of the Rastafari community as well as members

592  
00:25:42.865 --> 00:25:45.125  
of the E-D-E-E-W-F.

593  
00:25:45.745 --> 00:25:49.165  
Um, first of all, I I wanna recognize the efforts of the OCM

594  
00:25:49.225 --> 00:25:52.885  
to clarify, um, with the court, um,

595  
00:25:53.145 --> 00:25:54.325  
the, the scope of the injunction.

596  
00:25:55.065 --> 00:25:58.365  
Um, this allowed a lot of people who may not have gotten,

597  
00:25:58.585 --> 00:26:01.645  
uh, any type of review to be reviewed by the Office

598  
00:26:01.665 --> 00:26:02.765  
of Cannabis Management.

599  
00:26:02.765 --> 00:26:06.165  
So I wanna make sure that is recognized here today, that,

600  
00:26:06.225 --> 00:26:08.805



um, people are now getting their applications reviewed

601

00:26:08.825 --> 00:26:12.165

as a result of that request for further clarification.

602

00:26:13.055 --> 00:26:18.035

Um, in addition to that, um, I am, uh, one

603

00:26:18.035 --> 00:26:20.435

of the attorneys representing a witness

604

00:26:20.575 --> 00:26:24.915

or designated participant in the, uh, DEA hearings

605

00:26:24.915 --> 00:26:27.035

for the rescheduling of cannabis taking place

606

00:26:27.135 --> 00:26:28.355

at DEA headquarters.

607

00:26:29.215 --> 00:26:33.795

Um, you know, as a, you know, as a, as a child

608

00:26:33.795 --> 00:26:36.275

of a Jamaican immigrant, as a born

609

00:26:36.355 --> 00:26:39.035

and raised New Yorker, uh, it gives me a lot of pride

610

00:26:39.055 --> 00:26:43.485

to represent Veterans Initiative 22, um, which is led by a,

611

00:26:43.545 --> 00:26:47.405

uh, black woman veteran, um, who is a great mom,

612

00:26:47.785 --> 00:26:48.805

uh, served her country.

613

00:26:49.305 --> 00:26:51.285

So I wanna encourage you all to watch

614

00:26:51.465 --> 00:26:54.725

and support, um, as she gives her testimony.

615

00:26:54.755 --> 00:26:56.325

This is a very historic moment

616

00:26:56.705 --> 00:26:59.485

and something that, um, we should all be a part of.

617

00:27:00.185 --> 00:27:04.365

Um, with regards to, um, you know, proximity, protection

618

00:27:04.385 --> 00:27:08.205

and distance requirements, um, I wanna make sure that, um,

619

00:27:08.575 --> 00:27:11.845

we're clear that, uh, sometimes discretion is needed.

620

00:27:12.305 --> 00:27:15.605

Um, there are individuals who have been harmed,

621

00:27:15.605 --> 00:27:18.445

especially in urban areas by distance requirements.

622

00:27:18.865 --> 00:27:19.965

Um, some people

623

00:27:20.025 --> 00:27:23.125

who deserve licenses haven't gotten their licenses yet,

624

00:27:23.385 --> 00:27:25.965

and it gets increasingly, uh, difficult for them

625

00:27:25.985 --> 00:27:27.005

to find properties.

626

00:27:27.505 --> 00:27:29.125

So I just wanted to make sure that was stated.

627

00:27:29.305 --> 00:27:30.305

And thank you so much,

628

00:27:32.515 --> 00:27:34.885

Jeffrey Hoffman, Sean Robinson,

629

00:27:34.985 --> 00:27:38.805

Evelyn S. Good

630

00:27:38.805 --> 00:27:39.805

Afternoon. My name is

631

00:27:39.805 --> 00:27:40.765

Jeffrey Hoffman.

632

00:27:40.785 --> 00:27:42.325

I'm an attorney here in New York City.

633

00:27:42.665 --> 00:27:45.045

I'd like to thank the board in the office on behalf

634

00:27:45.045 --> 00:27:47.445

of my clients to whom you've given licenses today.

635

00:27:48.205 --> 00:27:50.205

I think at some of the previous board meetings,

636

00:27:50.205 --> 00:27:53.245

you've heard me discuss the proximity protection issues

637

00:27:53.745 --> 00:27:56.205

and the issues that we're seeing with some licenses

638

00:27:56.205 --> 00:27:58.485  
that are perhaps improperly voided.

639

00:27:58.485 --> 00:28:01.365  
You've heard some more about that today, so I won't continue

640

00:28:01.365 --> 00:28:03.085  
to go into that at this time.

641

00:28:03.705 --> 00:28:06.205  
Um, I should note, uh, we've talked, talked

642

00:28:06.205 --> 00:28:09.445  
before about some very important legislation related

643

00:28:09.465 --> 00:28:11.325  
to medical cannabis that may be coming up

644

00:28:11.585 --> 00:28:12.765  
in this legislative session.

645

00:28:13.385 --> 00:28:16.365  
One, A CME bill that would require all medical professionals

646

00:28:16.425 --> 00:28:18.765  
to take continuing medical education about the

647

00:28:18.765 --> 00:28:19.925  
endocannabinoid system.

648

00:28:20.235 --> 00:28:23.805  
Another that would require the state funded, uh,

649

00:28:23.805 --> 00:28:27.045  
health insurance entities to cover medical cannabis.

650

00:28:27.185 --> 00:28:30.765

We believe that these are critical, uh, bills that we need

651

00:28:30.765 --> 00:28:32.485

to turn into law here in the state of New York.

652

00:28:32.735 --> 00:28:36.925

We're gonna be having a lobby day in Albany on March 11th

653

00:28:37.475 --> 00:28:39.125

related to those bills.

654

00:28:39.185 --> 00:28:41.805

So I would encourage anyone in the state of New York

655

00:28:41.835 --> 00:28:44.885

that has any care about the medical cannabis

656

00:28:45.845 --> 00:28:48.045

situation here in the state to come to Albany

657

00:28:48.045 --> 00:28:49.525

with us on March 11th,

658

00:28:49.985 --> 00:28:52.805

to have a press conference on the million dollar staircase,

659

00:28:53.105 --> 00:28:55.925

and to also meet with your elected representatives so

660

00:28:55.925 --> 00:28:58.445

that we can get those bills turned into law.

661

00:28:58.485 --> 00:29:00.685

I believe it's critical, um, that we do that.

662

00:29:01.465 --> 00:29:04.045

Uh, additionally, I do like to mention each time, um,

663  
00:29:04.045 --> 00:29:05.885  
that I work with the Cannabis Justice

664  
00:29:06.065 --> 00:29:07.205  
and Equity Initiative,

665  
00:29:07.585 --> 00:29:10.645  
we are very active in getting workforce development,

666  
00:29:11.365 --> 00:29:13.805  
specifically getting returning citizens

667  
00:29:14.315 --> 00:29:16.165  
jobs in the cannabis industry.

668  
00:29:16.165 --> 00:29:18.485  
We think that is critical to what is going on here.

669  
00:29:18.515 --> 00:29:21.805  
That is, is equity defined, we believe.

670  
00:29:22.105 --> 00:29:24.365  
Uh, the last comment that I would like to make is

671  
00:29:24.365 --> 00:29:26.765  
that we're gonna go get some dim sum on 56th Street

672  
00:29:26.765 --> 00:29:27.965  
here after the meeting.

673  
00:29:28.025 --> 00:29:29.285  
And if you'd like to join me

674  
00:29:29.285 --> 00:29:30.765  
and some of the other folks that are gonna do that,

675  
00:29:31.105 --> 00:29:32.245

by all means come and join us.

676

00:29:32.245 --> 00:29:33.605

We'll, of course, be smoking out as well.

677

00:29:33.705 --> 00:29:34.885

So you're, you're welcome

678

00:29:34.885 --> 00:29:36.285

to join us for that. Thank you very much.

679

00:29:36.695 --> 00:29:38.885

Thank you. Sean Robinson.

680

00:29:39.105 --> 00:29:41.645

Evelyn Zapata, followed by Be Hickey.

681

00:29:45.045 --> 00:29:46.875

Hello, my name is Sean Robinson.

682

00:29:46.935 --> 00:29:49.875

I'm the founder of Rockaway Moonshot, LLC,

683

00:29:50.185 --> 00:29:55.035

license number 24 dash 0 0 0 1 5 1.

684

00:29:55.495 --> 00:29:58.075

I'm also the owner operator of Farm NYC

685

00:29:58.175 --> 00:29:59.875

and all good in the Woods Farm.

686

00:30:01.795 --> 00:30:03.995

I have been a legacy and micro business operator

687

00:30:04.015 --> 00:30:07.395

for nearly 10 years, cultivating over a thousand pounds

688

00:30:07.395 --> 00:30:08.755  
of cannabis, formulating

689

00:30:08.775 --> 00:30:12.235  
and creating over 30 unique skews across both CBD

690

00:30:12.235 --> 00:30:13.515  
and THC products.

691

00:30:14.675 --> 00:30:17.355  
I want to start with this. We are grateful for your efforts

692

00:30:17.575 --> 00:30:20.715  
and appreciate your work given all the circumstances.

693

00:30:21.075 --> 00:30:24.115  
I would also like to personally thank Chris P at OCM

694

00:30:24.115 --> 00:30:27.235  
compliance for attempting to get answers for us that we are

695

00:30:27.265 --> 00:30:28.755  
outside of his department.

696

00:30:30.455 --> 00:30:33.555  
We are trying to move locations due to landlord issues.

697

00:30:34.215 --> 00:30:36.395  
Our business Rockaway Moonshot applied

698

00:30:36.855 --> 00:30:39.395  
during the November queue with the November

699

00:30:39.545 --> 00:30:41.355  
with the queue number of seven 18.

700

00:30:41.895 --> 00:30:45.715



During the August 6th, 2024 CC board meeting,

701

00:30:46.175 --> 00:30:49.115

we were awarded our final retail license, a part

702

00:30:49.115 --> 00:30:51.835

of resolution number 204 dash 86.

703

00:30:52.455 --> 00:30:56.555

At that time, we paid our \$7,500 licensing fee.

704

00:30:58.515 --> 00:31:00.305

Early licensed entities are able

705

00:31:00.305 --> 00:31:02.025

to complete the amendment survey,

706

00:31:02.275 --> 00:31:04.265

which we completed on December 2nd,

707

00:31:04.845 --> 00:31:06.745

and was used to request the change

708

00:31:06.745 --> 00:31:10.465

of location further signifying our fully licensed status.

709

00:31:11.765 --> 00:31:14.425

The clarification of Judge Graff on the preliminary

710

00:31:14.425 --> 00:31:17.905

injunction specifically states the preliminary injunction

711

00:31:18.175 --> 00:31:21.105

does not enjoy respondents of any of the following acts,

712

00:31:21.635 --> 00:31:23.385

processing any amendment requests,

713

00:31:23.865 --> 00:31:25.185

location approval requests

714

00:31:25.445 --> 00:31:28.785

or NO processing already licensed entities regardless

715

00:31:28.805 --> 00:31:30.665

of card provisional, non-provisional status,

716

00:31:30.955 --> 00:31:33.545

whose license were approved prior to the court's insurance

717

00:31:33.565 --> 00:31:34.745

of preliminary junction.

718

00:31:36.005 --> 00:31:39.025

We specifically fall into the category of licenses

719

00:31:39.025 --> 00:31:41.345

that were approved prior to the court's issuance.

720

00:31:41.425 --> 00:31:45.185

A preliminary injunction August 24th versus December 24th.

721

00:31:45.485 --> 00:31:47.425

And this request is specifically an

722

00:31:49.075 --> 00:31:50.865

Would you like to submit your, your written

723

00:31:52.685 --> 00:31:53.875

thank Thank you,

724

00:31:57.695 --> 00:31:58.875

Evelyn Zapata.

725

00:31:59.675 --> 00:32:01.675

Beck Hickey. Alan Cordera.

726

00:32:04.815 --> 00:32:08.265

Good afternoon everyone. Can you hear me please?

727

00:32:08.285 --> 00:32:10.785

You get to the mic though. Good afternoon everyone.

728

00:32:10.785 --> 00:32:12.425

My name is Evelyn Zapata, CEO

729

00:32:12.425 --> 00:32:13.505

of the New York Cannabis Times.

730

00:32:14.085 --> 00:32:18.865

I'm December Q Applicant, 510 21 41 46.

731

00:32:20.185 --> 00:32:24.345

I started selling weed in 1989, only weed.

732

00:32:24.925 --> 00:32:27.625

And for something temporary lasted 30 years.

733

00:32:28.305 --> 00:32:30.985

I have been tied up. I have been slammed against gates.

734

00:32:31.225 --> 00:32:35.385

I have guns put on my head by an NYPD three four precinct.

735

00:32:35.945 --> 00:32:37.945

I am the epitome of card.

736

00:32:38.345 --> 00:32:41.685

I am the epitome of CI am the epitome

737

00:32:41.705 --> 00:32:44.405

of every social equity program throughout

738

00:32:44.405 --> 00:32:45.445  
the 50 United States.

739

00:32:45.855 --> 00:32:49.085  
There is no reason why I should be slapped in the face By

740

00:32:49.245 --> 00:32:53.725  
OCM issuing licenses to cocaine dealers, gun charges,

741

00:32:54.335 --> 00:32:57.925  
fraud charges, crack dealers, heroin dealers,

742

00:32:58.225 --> 00:33:01.125  
and leaving the weed dealer of 30 years on the St.

743

00:33:01.125 --> 00:33:03.525  
Nick 180 4, still waiting for her license.

744

00:33:04.365 --> 00:33:05.765  
I have stopped selling weed.

745

00:33:06.605 --> 00:33:09.485  
I have stopped feeding myself with a side job

746

00:33:09.505 --> 00:33:11.125  
of selling weed vapes

747

00:33:11.225 --> 00:33:13.445  
and any other illegal thing I can think of

748

00:33:13.675 --> 00:33:15.525  
because I put it an application.

749

00:33:16.305 --> 00:33:19.405  
My dad died waiting for me to apply

750

00:33:19.465 --> 00:33:20.925

to the micro business license.

751

00:33:21.745 --> 00:33:25.085

My aunt died. My best friend died the night

752

00:33:25.625 --> 00:33:28.765

before the first dispensary opened in New York State,

753

00:33:29.015 --> 00:33:32.045

ready groomed just to tell his story on

754

00:33:32.065 --> 00:33:36.095

how he quit sniffing dope with weed

755

00:33:36.205 --> 00:33:37.735

because of myself.

756

00:33:38.635 --> 00:33:40.655

Now my mom died a slow

757

00:33:40.655 --> 00:33:44.175

and painful death, which only gave her some type of comfort

758

00:33:44.175 --> 00:33:47.135

through our so she could leave peacefully.

759

00:33:47.595 --> 00:33:52.035

I'm still waiting. And now I have a group of card

760

00:33:53.595 --> 00:33:57.755

lobbying against any more licenses

761

00:33:57.755 --> 00:33:58.795

in the December queue.

762

00:34:00.285 --> 00:34:02.665

If this type of stuff happens in the street,

763  
00:34:02.665 --> 00:34:04.385  
that means you're digging into my pocket.

764  
00:34:04.685 --> 00:34:06.505  
You are digging into my food. Tremaine.

765  
00:34:06.505 --> 00:34:10.215  
The last time I got an eviction, I sold weed.

766  
00:34:10.615 --> 00:34:12.935  
I don't care about the time I sold weed

767  
00:34:12.935 --> 00:34:14.175  
and it's all sold there.

768  
00:34:15.115 --> 00:34:16.855  
But I am 54 years old.

769  
00:34:17.975 --> 00:34:19.235  
I'm not standing in a corner,

770  
00:34:19.295 --> 00:34:21.675  
but I could definitely put a couple in front

771  
00:34:21.675 --> 00:34:22.955  
of dispensaries right now.

772  
00:34:23.365 --> 00:34:24.395  
Thank you. Thank you.

773  
00:34:26.355 --> 00:34:26.775  
Hickey

774  
00:34:31.025 --> 00:34:33.005  
Hickey, Alan Cordero,

775  
00:34:33.785 --> 00:34:36.525

and I believe this says Isha Vega.

776

00:34:37.915 --> 00:34:41.035

So Beck, Alan Misha.

777

00:34:42.815 --> 00:34:44.235

Hi, my name is Beck Hickey.

778

00:34:44.295 --> 00:34:46.595

I'm a retail applicant and founder of Zen

779

00:34:46.595 --> 00:34:49.275

and Mary, which will be a cannabis friendly hotel

780

00:34:49.305 --> 00:34:51.195

with onsite retail in the Hudson Valley.

781

00:34:51.705 --> 00:34:54.395

It's gonna be beautiful. I have spent the last three years

782

00:34:54.635 --> 00:34:57.955

working my butt off learning, listening, reading regs,

783

00:34:57.985 --> 00:34:58.995

sending in comments.

784

00:34:59.665 --> 00:35:01.355

I've built a solid network here.

785

00:35:01.715 --> 00:35:04.395

I have a tight business plan and I'm set up for success.

786

00:35:04.905 --> 00:35:06.195

I've hustled to find funding.

787

00:35:06.895 --> 00:35:08.915

Do you know how hard it is to convince a white man

788  
00:35:08.915 --> 00:35:10.315  
with money that you can build something

789  
00:35:10.315 --> 00:35:11.515  
that's never been built before?

790  
00:35:12.655 --> 00:35:14.315  
I'm finally getting traction on that.

791  
00:35:14.415 --> 00:35:16.755  
And the last thing they ask me is, where is your license?

792  
00:35:18.135 --> 00:35:19.435  
I'm sitting on the December queue.

793  
00:35:19.925 --> 00:35:23.345  
There has been a lot of talk in these meetings from people

794  
00:35:23.345 --> 00:35:25.145  
that I have championed along the lines

795  
00:35:25.635 --> 00:35:27.025  
about limiting licenses.

796  
00:35:27.045 --> 00:35:29.305  
People are signing letters, paying lobbyists,

797  
00:35:29.445 --> 00:35:32.545  
and putting pressure on you to and the governor to do that.

798  
00:35:32.975 --> 00:35:35.145  
They say the December Q will flood the market

799  
00:35:35.205 --> 00:35:37.065  
and destroy the value of existing licenses.

800  
00:35:38.265 --> 00:35:39.645



The MRTA requires

801

00:35:39.645 --> 00:35:42.205

that social equity be prioritized throughout the process.

802

00:35:42.795 --> 00:35:46.205

That didn't happen. You repeatedly promised social equity

803

00:35:46.205 --> 00:35:48.805

applicants that property would not be required to apply

804

00:35:48.805 --> 00:35:51.405

for retail and then change the rules at the last minute.

805

00:35:51.795 --> 00:35:54.685

What that did was prioritize those with the means

806

00:35:54.745 --> 00:35:56.965

to hold property for a year or longer.

807

00:35:57.805 --> 00:35:59.085

I wanted to apply in November.

808

00:35:59.365 --> 00:36:01.205

I was ready, but I didn't have that luxury.

809

00:36:01.845 --> 00:36:04.605

I can't risk lu, I can't risk bankrupting my

810

00:36:04.605 --> 00:36:05.765

son's future for a lottery.

811

00:36:06.505 --> 00:36:08.885

And although I haven't laid out cash for a year's worth

812

00:36:08.885 --> 00:36:11.245

of rent, I have invested my entire life into this.

813

00:36:11.995 --> 00:36:14.205

Each round of licenses you set up a quota

814

00:36:14.585 --> 00:36:15.805

and then blew straight through it.

815

00:36:16.345 --> 00:36:18.805

You reviewed everyone in the card app card list.

816

00:36:18.945 --> 00:36:20.605

You reviewed everyone in November

817

00:36:21.825 --> 00:36:23.645

and now all those people wanna slam

818

00:36:23.645 --> 00:36:24.725

the doors behind themselves.

819

00:36:25.305 --> 00:36:28.005

The December queue deserves the same consideration everyone

820

00:36:28.005 --> 00:36:30.085

else received with the November queue.

821

00:36:30.105 --> 00:36:32.845

You've awarded dozens of licenses to individuals

822

00:36:33.025 --> 00:36:35.605

who never had any intention of operating here in New York.

823

00:36:36.035 --> 00:36:37.725

They don't know the first thing about New York.

824

00:36:37.835 --> 00:36:40.885

They're selling these licenses now for \$600,000 each.

825

00:36:41.585 --> 00:36:43.645

So yeah, I think we should flood the market

826

00:36:43.745 --> 00:36:45.485  
and destroy the value of the licenses

827

00:36:45.485 --> 00:36:47.765  
because I'm more focused on the value of my business.

828

00:36:48.135 --> 00:36:48.605  
Thank you.

829

00:36:55.425 --> 00:36:59.555  
Alan Cordero, followed by Misha Vega. And then

830

00:37:03.975 --> 00:37:05.875  
Oh, we submitted on, Oh, sorry.

831

00:37:05.885 --> 00:37:07.355  
Thank you. Sorry.

832

00:37:09.035 --> 00:37:13.315  
Misha Vega. I believe I'm saying that correctly.

833

00:37:14.885 --> 00:37:19.805  
Asha products NY at Gmail. Is that, is that you?

834

00:37:22.845 --> 00:37:26.385  
Oh, it's not him. Okay, then we'll move

835

00:37:26.445 --> 00:37:28.065  
to Justin DeLuca.

836

00:37:28.985 --> 00:37:31.795  
Paul Stein Bruckner Bruckner and Dr.

837

00:37:31.825 --> 00:37:33.675  
Greg who are out in Buffalo, I believe

838

00:37:41.055 --> 00:37:43.875  
is Justin DeLuca Present to

839

00:37:43.875 --> 00:37:44.875  
The chairs. Sorry.

840

00:37:44.875 --> 00:37:46.795  
Walk to the chair. Have a seat. Go

841

00:37:46.795 --> 00:37:47.795  
Ahead. Okay.

842

00:37:47.795 --> 00:37:48.025

843

00:37:52.135 --> 00:37:54.835  
Hi, my name is DeLuca from Mechanical Magazine.

844

00:37:55.375 --> 00:37:58.595  
Uh, I am many across the state are deeply disappointed.

845

00:37:58.905 --> 00:38:02.155  
Appropriately, small number of licenses granted today,

846

00:38:02.935 --> 00:38:05.355  
and also that no other applications are moving forward.

847

00:38:06.055 --> 00:38:07.435  
The state needs to do better

848

00:38:08.185 --> 00:38:09.795  
from Western and upstate New York.

849

00:38:09.855 --> 00:38:11.955  
We have many p PC

850

00:38:11.955 --> 00:38:15.235  
and a proximity waiver requests that have set idle

851

00:38:15.255 --> 00:38:17.635  
for both the 1000 input,

852

00:38:17.635 --> 00:38:21.555  
but, um, many way past the time that they were supposed

853

00:38:21.555 --> 00:38:24.795  
to be required or approved by the board sub.

854

00:38:25.335 --> 00:38:27.475  
Um, the board granted waivers in November,

855

00:38:27.775 --> 00:38:30.315  
but it seems to be ignoring all the others not having

856

00:38:30.595 --> 00:38:32.275  
considered any in December meeting

857

00:38:32.575 --> 00:38:36.195  
or this board meeting with very explanation,

858

00:38:37.145 --> 00:38:40.475  
this serious violation of the regulations and subjects.

859

00:38:40.475 --> 00:38:42.075  
The office to more lawsuit.

860

00:38:42.805 --> 00:38:46.585  
Please grant these, anyone with a pending PC

861

00:38:46.585 --> 00:38:49.985  
and a issue of any kind, please contact Canuck Magazine

862

00:38:50.225 --> 00:38:51.425  
'cause I'm doing a story on this

863

00:38:51.445 --> 00:38:54.425  
and have resource dustin at

864  
00:38:55.365 --> 00:38:57.015  
com work for that.

865  
00:38:57.555 --> 00:38:59.495  
As for the most recent and clarified injunction,

866  
00:38:59.635 --> 00:39:02.295  
it appears the office is both reading it too broadly

867  
00:39:02.395 --> 00:39:03.735  
and is dramatically slow.

868  
00:39:03.735 --> 00:39:05.975  
Processing of applications that are not covered

869  
00:39:06.035 --> 00:39:08.055  
by the injunction is clarified by the court.

870  
00:39:08.735 --> 00:39:10.685  
Since the court limited and clarified the injunction

871  
00:39:10.705 --> 00:39:13.005  
to allow much broader processing office,

872  
00:39:13.765 --> 00:39:15.745  
we don't understand why recent communications

873  
00:39:15.765 --> 00:39:17.225  
to applicants from the office appear

874  
00:39:17.225 --> 00:39:18.745  
to suggest the office continues

875  
00:39:18.745 --> 00:39:21.625  
to take an erroneously overbroad view of the injunction.

876

00:39:22.255 --> 00:39:25.225

There's tons of entrepreneurs out there and they,

877

00:39:25.245 --> 00:39:27.745

and basically be given an opportunity

878

00:39:27.925 --> 00:39:28.985

to provide this market.

879

00:39:32.045 --> 00:39:34.675

Thank you Justin. And may I ask if you can submit your

880

00:39:34.675 --> 00:39:36.355

written testimony, because it was a little

881

00:39:36.355 --> 00:39:37.795

difficult for us to hear you.

882

00:39:38.695 --> 00:39:42.955

And if the next speaker, Paul can please come to the mic

883

00:39:42.975 --> 00:39:44.355

and just make sure to speak more

884

00:39:44.675 --> 00:39:45.835

directly into the microphone.

885

00:39:53.485 --> 00:39:55.465

Here's good. Yes.

886

00:39:56.215 --> 00:39:59.385

Beautiful. Hi, I am Paul Steinbrener, co-owner

887

00:39:59.385 --> 00:40:00.705

of SNS Cultivation.

888

00:40:01.005 --> 00:40:03.945  
Uh, we're a cultivation tier one, uh,

889  
00:40:03.945 --> 00:40:06.185  
indoor cultivation tier one applicant, uh,

890  
00:40:06.185 --> 00:40:09.705  
from the December, 2023 Q, executed

891  
00:40:09.705 --> 00:40:11.145  
and maintain a lease for over a year.

892  
00:40:11.245 --> 00:40:13.585  
Now at the requirement of your office to apply

893  
00:40:14.125 --> 00:40:16.905  
it has caused serious or favorable financial harm.

894  
00:40:17.315 --> 00:40:21.025  
Today you only awarded a mere 31 licenses giving the excuse

895  
00:40:21.025 --> 00:40:22.425  
that the low number is due

896  
00:40:22.425 --> 00:40:24.185  
to the injunction and holiday season.

897  
00:40:24.415 --> 00:40:27.385  
Well, our license type was not affected by the injunction,

898  
00:40:27.765 --> 00:40:29.825  
so I don't know why that excuse applies to us.

899  
00:40:30.725 --> 00:40:32.465  
Um, you have

900  
00:40:32.465 --> 00:40:35.545  
however, demonstrated clear bias against our particular



901

00:40:35.675 --> 00:40:36.745  
facet of the industry.

902

00:40:37.285 --> 00:40:39.385  
And I'm gonna give you a couple examples right now.

903

00:40:40.125 --> 00:40:44.185  
One of them is in the organic blooms for

904

00:40:44.185 --> 00:40:45.665  
of the Organics Blooms case.

905

00:40:45.685 --> 00:40:48.865  
An affirmation by Patrick McKee at the end states that

906

00:40:49.805 --> 00:40:52.385  
as such the injunction would be financially ruined as

907

00:40:52.405 --> 00:40:53.985  
for applicants and licensees.

908

00:41:01.165 --> 00:41:03.065  
And then in the, um,

909

00:41:06.565 --> 00:41:09.265  
In the ags response to the injunction, it states that,

910

00:41:09.495 --> 00:41:11.745  
however, according to response initial review,

911

00:41:12.115 --> 00:41:13.865  
there are nearly 150 card

912

00:41:13.865 --> 00:41:15.585  
and November Q provisional licensees

913

00:41:15.605 --> 00:41:17.145  
who are presently carrying the burden

914  
00:41:17.145 --> 00:41:18.385  
of maintaining a location.

915  
00:41:18.715 --> 00:41:20.625  
These are just two of many of the instances.

916  
00:41:20.885 --> 00:41:24.505  
The office has publicly noted that applicants

917  
00:41:24.505 --> 00:41:27.585  
and licensees are carrying a serious financial burden

918  
00:41:27.945 --> 00:41:29.025  
o over holding a lease.

919  
00:41:29.365 --> 00:41:31.385  
And that you guys are concerned about that.

920  
00:41:31.385 --> 00:41:34.045  
However, there's never been a concern extended

921  
00:41:34.185 --> 00:41:36.725  
to the cultivators that are in the same position.

922  
00:41:37.115 --> 00:41:40.165  
This demonstrates a clear bias for your concern

923  
00:41:40.165 --> 00:41:41.245  
of financial burden.

924  
00:41:41.505 --> 00:41:43.045  
And this needs to be acknowledged

925  
00:41:43.305 --> 00:41:46.445  
and fixed immediately over years too long.

926

00:41:46.445 --> 00:41:48.365

You guys need to do better. We deserve better.

927

00:41:48.385 --> 00:41:51.805

And you all work for US constituents of New York State.

928

00:41:52.135 --> 00:41:53.135

Thank you very much.

929

00:41:54.535 --> 00:41:58.285

Thank you Dr. Greg Daniel? Yes.

930

00:41:58.505 --> 00:42:00.885

And be followed by Franklin Crocker.

931

00:42:02.985 --> 00:42:05.595

Good afternoon. Yeah, I'd like to thank the board

932

00:42:05.595 --> 00:42:07.475

and the cannabis Commission for all

933

00:42:07.475 --> 00:42:10.315

that you're doing here, cannabis New York State.

934

00:42:11.335 --> 00:42:12.635

But what I'd like to say is

935

00:42:12.635 --> 00:42:14.715

that you've fallen short of the mark.

936

00:42:15.505 --> 00:42:17.725

Um, I've been, uh, dealing

937

00:42:17.755 --> 00:42:19.965

with cannabis licenses since 2015.

938

00:42:20.905 --> 00:42:24.525  
Uh, we, we submitted an application back then, uh,

939  
00:42:24.635 --> 00:42:26.165  
when Governor Cuomo was governor.

940  
00:42:26.165 --> 00:42:29.165  
Then we finished second in the roco.

941  
00:42:30.085 --> 00:42:33.165  
I have obtained, uh, medical licenses in the state

942  
00:42:33.165 --> 00:42:36.965  
of Maryland and I've advised cannabis applicants in multiple

943  
00:42:36.965 --> 00:42:39.445  
states here in New York State.

944  
00:42:39.905 --> 00:42:42.765  
Uh, the process is convoluted at best.

945  
00:42:43.415 --> 00:42:46.605  
Every time we've, uh, reached out to, uh, the,

946  
00:42:46.785 --> 00:42:49.765  
the commission to understand what application lies.

947  
00:42:49.895 --> 00:42:52.685  
We've gotten a different opinion depending on

948  
00:42:52.685 --> 00:42:55.245  
who we have spoken to from time to time.

949  
00:42:55.245 --> 00:42:56.845  
We've told there have been deficiencies,

950  
00:42:56.895 --> 00:42:58.685  
we've satisfied these deficiencies.

951

00:42:58.825 --> 00:43:02.045

And once we've submitted by the time the next, uh,

952

00:43:02.045 --> 00:43:04.285

meeting comes around, we are told again

953

00:43:04.355 --> 00:43:07.045

that there is another set of deficiencies.

954

00:43:07.725 --> 00:43:09.805

I think there's some inequities in this process,

955

00:43:09.985 --> 00:43:12.005

and I'm asking that this be investigated

956

00:43:12.235 --> 00:43:16.165

because I think if this becomes public the way this is being

957

00:43:16.165 --> 00:43:19.445

managed, I think this will create another firestorm in

958

00:43:19.445 --> 00:43:21.965

New York state with regards to cannabis.

959

00:43:22.705 --> 00:43:25.445

We have a system that can provide cannabis

960

00:43:26.105 --> 00:43:28.725

to individuals in low income communities

961

00:43:29.105 --> 00:43:32.565

and associated with medical care in these communities.

962

00:43:32.985 --> 00:43:35.885

And we think that it could provide a significant upside

963

00:43:36.265 --> 00:43:38.005  
for New York State with regards to

964  
00:43:38.005 --> 00:43:39.365  
how cannabis is dispensed.

965  
00:43:39.785 --> 00:43:41.445  
And this is being sidelined

966  
00:43:41.555 --> 00:43:44.125  
because of, uh, inequities in the process.

967  
00:43:44.745 --> 00:43:49.005  
So I'm asking today that our application be reviewed

968  
00:43:49.425 --> 00:43:50.765  
and some answer be

969  
00:43:51.005 --> 00:43:53.405  
provided to us that is equitable at this time.

970  
00:43:53.735 --> 00:43:56.365  
Thank you very much for your troubles. I appreciate you.

971  
00:43:57.535 --> 00:44:01.815  
Thank you. And Franklin Crocker, um,

972  
00:44:01.945 --> 00:44:03.775  
Madam Chair, hes decided not to speak.

973  
00:44:03.835 --> 00:44:06.455  
So that's all for Buffalo. Alright, thank you.

974  
00:44:06.635 --> 00:44:09.335  
So we'll go to our next page here in New York City,

975  
00:44:09.715 --> 00:44:13.855  
we have Michael Gonzalez, um, Barat Saba

976

00:44:13.875 --> 00:44:15.055  
and Sandra McKee.

977

00:44:15.155 --> 00:44:20.095  
Is Michael here? Gomez? Gomez, yes. Sorry.

978

00:44:24.265 --> 00:44:26.635  
Followed by Barris

979

00:44:27.815 --> 00:44:30.475  
Bur it is sloppy man.

980

00:44:30.655 --> 00:44:33.605  
I'm sorry. And then Sandra McKee. I need

981

00:44:33.975 --> 00:44:34.975  
Hello? Hello? Hello.

982

00:44:34.975 --> 00:44:35.325

983

00:44:38.525 --> 00:44:41.525  
I have three pages, so you might be on the next

984

00:44:41.555 --> 00:44:42.565  
page. Okay.

985

00:44:42.905 --> 00:44:46.205  
We got, um, Michael Gomez, uh, one of the owners

986

00:44:46.205 --> 00:44:48.645  
of Bacha products, uh, ny uh,

987

00:44:48.645 --> 00:44:52.325  
license number 24 dash 0 0 2 0 4.

988

00:44:53.005 --> 00:44:54.565

I just want to keep it sweet and simple.

989

00:44:54.765 --> 00:44:56.805

I just want y'all to consider the December Qs.

990

00:44:56.965 --> 00:44:59.005

A lot of great growers, a lot of great people are in that,

991

00:44:59.305 --> 00:45:00.925

uh, we got a license, you know what I'm saying?

992

00:45:00.925 --> 00:45:02.325

And we got lucky. Um,

993

00:45:02.385 --> 00:45:04.445

but a lot of great people that are gonna great bring great

994

00:45:04.445 --> 00:45:05.925

quality cannabis to the state

995

00:45:05.925 --> 00:45:08.085

of New York are in the December queue

996

00:45:08.105 --> 00:45:09.685

and we need y'all to consider that.

997

00:45:09.695 --> 00:45:10.695

Thank you.

998

00:45:13.385 --> 00:45:15.625

Saba Mrsat? Yes. Hey,

999

00:45:15.625 --> 00:45:16.625

How's it going? I'm Burke.

1000

00:45:16.625 --> 00:45:18.345

Uh, I'm the card licensee



1001

00:45:18.345 --> 00:45:20.025

that's at the other side of Vanessa's store.

1002

00:45:20.205 --> 00:45:22.545

So, as you know, our proximity protection is,

1003

00:45:23.015 --> 00:45:24.225

they're trying to violate it.

1004

00:45:24.485 --> 00:45:27.145

Um, a curle is trying to violate it.

1005

00:45:27.145 --> 00:45:29.065

They're a multi-billion dollar entity.

1006

00:45:29.065 --> 00:45:30.345

They're a registered organization

1007

00:45:30.405 --> 00:45:32.105

and they're probably gonna destroy

1008

00:45:32.165 --> 00:45:33.225

me and Vanessa's business.

1009

00:45:33.925 --> 00:45:35.465

Now, I don't understand

1010

00:45:35.525 --> 00:45:38.745

how these proximity protection waivers are being given out

1011

00:45:38.895 --> 00:45:41.585

because there's a clear process for

1012

00:45:41.605 --> 00:45:44.625

how all the regulations come from every single state entity.

1013

00:45:45.005 --> 00:45:47.425

It gets proposed. There's a public comment period,

1014

00:45:47.425 --> 00:45:51.625

people comment on it and then afterwards it gets legislated.

1015

00:45:52.045 --> 00:45:54.185

That's hasn't happened with these PCAs.

1016

00:45:54.285 --> 00:45:56.465

We don't know how they're being given out.

1017

00:45:56.465 --> 00:45:57.505

There's no transparency.

1018

00:45:57.645 --> 00:45:59.065

We don't know why they're being given out.

1019

00:45:59.065 --> 00:46:00.785

What data and what decisions are being made.

1020

00:46:01.335 --> 00:46:04.185

I've been a card licensee since like the second round.

1021

00:46:04.775 --> 00:46:06.985

I've seen the CCB in particular

1022

00:46:06.985 --> 00:46:08.905

and OCM go through so many lawsuits

1023

00:46:08.905 --> 00:46:10.385

and just lose every single time

1024

00:46:10.385 --> 00:46:12.145

because they keep making decisions like this.

1025

00:46:12.565 --> 00:46:14.625

And this is the exact same thing that's gonna happen again,

1026

00:46:14.705 --> 00:46:16.625

I guarantee you, with the amount of PCAs

1027

00:46:16.625 --> 00:46:18.625

that are being given out to these multi-billion dollar

1028

00:46:18.985 --> 00:46:21.545

companies, you're gonna get Article 78, you're gonna go

1029

00:46:21.545 --> 00:46:22.985

to court, there's gonna be another injunction,

1030

00:46:23.245 --> 00:46:24.425

and you're gonna lose again.

1031

00:46:24.485 --> 00:46:27.025

And it just keeps happening time after time after time.

1032

00:46:27.605 --> 00:46:30.385

So can we please have a process on, on

1033

00:46:30.525 --> 00:46:32.065

how this is being considered

1034

00:46:32.525 --> 00:46:34.745

and put it through the regular channels of

1035

00:46:34.745 --> 00:46:36.665

how laws are made in the state of New York instead

1036

00:46:36.665 --> 00:46:40.065

of you guys just deciding to give out PCAs based on some

1037

00:46:40.065 --> 00:46:41.465

things that nobody knows about.

1038

00:46:41.465 --> 00:46:43.025

There's no clear standards

1039

00:46:43.025 --> 00:46:44.465

or how it happens or why it happens.

1040

00:46:45.205 --> 00:46:48.265

And I really don't think you need a cure leaf between me

1041

00:46:48.265 --> 00:46:51.865

and Vanessa store, like they're a billion dollar company.

1042

00:46:51.935 --> 00:46:52.225

What

1043

00:46:56.715 --> 00:46:59.135

if, if it was a, if it was a another small business

1044

00:46:59.165 --> 00:47:01.135

that could all, that could be like kind of understanding.

1045

00:47:01.135 --> 00:47:02.415

But that is not a small business.

1046

00:47:02.415 --> 00:47:05.855

They're, they're just here to to, to wipe us out and,

1047

00:47:05.915 --> 00:47:08.215

and they're not here to provide a service to the community.

1048

00:47:08.215 --> 00:47:09.575

They're not here to do anything other than

1049

00:47:09.575 --> 00:47:10.655

make money for their shareholders.

1050

00:47:11.155 --> 00:47:12.895

So please, please be considered

1051

00:47:12.895 --> 00:47:15.295

of small businesses when you're giving out these PCAs.

1052

00:47:15.965 --> 00:47:18.055

It's tough as it is right now with the wintertime.

1053

00:47:18.205 --> 00:47:20.015

Just, just please. Thank you. Thank you.

1054

00:47:20.155 --> 00:47:24.435

Sandra McCain followed

1055

00:47:24.535 --> 00:47:28.195

by Ru um, Randolph Cross something.

1056

00:47:28.355 --> 00:47:30.645

I can't read it. I'm sorry. And then Michael White.

1057

00:47:30.745 --> 00:47:33.005

So Sandra Ru Randolph and Michael,

1058

00:47:33.985 --> 00:47:35.405

Uh, good afternoon, chairwoman Wright

1059

00:47:35.405 --> 00:47:37.685

and distinguished members of the Cannabis Control Board.

1060

00:47:37.975 --> 00:47:40.805

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today.

1061

00:47:41.185 --> 00:47:42.365

My name is Sandy McKee

1062

00:47:42.365 --> 00:47:44.365

and I'm the chair of Manhattan Community Board six,

1063

00:47:44.745 --> 00:47:46.365

an agency of the City of New York.

1064

00:47:46.985 --> 00:47:48.605

I'd like to offer comment on an item

1065

00:47:48.605 --> 00:47:50.125

that is not on your agenda today,

1066

00:47:50.145 --> 00:47:52.485

but that is of great concern to residents in this area,

1067

00:47:53.175 --> 00:47:54.805

Flintstone Cannabis Company

1068

00:47:55.185 --> 00:47:57.125

and the application by Mr. Mike Flynn

1069

00:47:57.125 --> 00:48:00.005

to operate a retail dispensary at eight 22nd Avenue.

1070

00:48:00.705 --> 00:48:03.285

In the weeks that Flintstone Cannabis Companies application

1071

00:48:03.285 --> 00:48:06.205

was under consideration by CB six, dozens

1072

00:48:06.365 --> 00:48:09.445

of neighborhood residents attended community meetings called

1073

00:48:09.465 --> 00:48:11.485

and wrote to us to express their opposition

1074

00:48:11.485 --> 00:48:13.925

to the application and submitted petitions.

1075

00:48:14.465 --> 00:48:17.845

As a result, CB six issued a negative resolution on

1076

00:48:18.005 --> 00:48:19.605

December 14th, 2024.

1077

00:48:19.835 --> 00:48:23.485

Objecting to Mr. Flynn's application, Mr.

1078

00:48:23.555 --> 00:48:25.605

Flynn's company has submitted notifications

1079

00:48:25.625 --> 00:48:28.685

to municipalities in the city, Brooklyn Community Board one

1080

00:48:28.685 --> 00:48:30.965

and Manhattan Community Board two, in addition

1081

00:48:30.965 --> 00:48:32.045

to the one in our district.

1082

00:48:32.425 --> 00:48:35.285

And every time the applications do not stand up to scrutiny.

1083

00:48:36.105 --> 00:48:39.115

Most Disturbingly Flintstone Cannabis Company is not

1084

00:48:39.355 --> 00:48:40.355

contributing to our community

1085

00:48:40.655 --> 00:48:43.355

by filling a vacant storefront in our district.

1086

00:48:43.825 --> 00:48:46.835

Instead, Mr. Flynn Flynn has prevailed upon the landlord

1087

00:48:46.855 --> 00:48:48.675

of the space at eight 22nd Avenue

1088

00:48:49.335 --> 00:48:50.835

to permanently terminate the lease

1089

00:48:50.895 --> 00:48:53.915

of the current business held by a long-term business owner

1090

00:48:53.935 --> 00:48:55.435

of color in our community

1091

00:48:55.695 --> 00:48:58.475

and forcibly evict him to bring the shop to our district.

1092

00:48:59.605 --> 00:49:02.355

While CB six supports honest business owners who wish

1093

00:49:02.355 --> 00:49:05.555

to do business in our district, we do not support as efforts

1094

00:49:05.615 --> 00:49:08.675

to displace longstanding businesses that have contributed

1095

00:49:08.695 --> 00:49:10.195

to the character of our community.

1096

00:49:11.185 --> 00:49:13.565

For these and many other reasons outlined in our

1097

00:49:13.725 --> 00:49:15.765

November 14th resolution, Mr.

1098

00:49:15.835 --> 00:49:18.845

Flynn's Flintstone Cannabis Company would not make a worthy

1099

00:49:19.125 --> 00:49:21.525

recipient of a license to operate a cannabis,

1100

00:49:22.085 --> 00:49:23.245

a cannabis dispensary.



1101

00:49:23.345 --> 00:49:25.005

And our district, thank you.

1102

00:49:25.775 --> 00:49:30.295

Thank you Randolph,

1103

00:49:30.735 --> 00:49:34.815

followed by Michael White, then Laurel Laurel Berge.

1104

00:49:35.915 --> 00:49:37.975

Sir, yes. Greetings and blessed love to all.

1105

00:49:39.195 --> 00:49:42.335

I'd like to come in the cannabis board for their efforts.

1106

00:49:43.155 --> 00:49:45.295

And, uh, I see the stress that you all are.

1107

00:49:45.315 --> 00:49:46.775

And then I pray for your wellbeing

1108

00:49:47.005 --> 00:49:49.815

because I know the, the lawsuit against you

1109

00:49:49.835 --> 00:49:52.575

and all these powerful companies

1110

00:49:52.575 --> 00:49:54.055

that are lobbying against you

1111

00:49:54.275 --> 00:49:57.815

and even against the small owners, I, I feel it very well.

1112

00:49:58.595 --> 00:50:01.615

But I'm here to speak in regards to the Safari community,

1113

00:50:02.435 --> 00:50:04.405

them that have been left out completely.

1114

00:50:05.075 --> 00:50:08.685

Even though we are in the queue for the December

1115

00:50:09.905 --> 00:50:12.475

licensing, I haven't heard anything

1116

00:50:13.145 --> 00:50:14.275

from the cannabis authority.

1117

00:50:14.635 --> 00:50:18.635

I I've not even received any, any notification.

1118

00:50:18.835 --> 00:50:21.275

I hopefully that's a good thing from

1119

00:50:21.275 --> 00:50:23.435

what I've been hearing about those that have been notified

1120

00:50:23.435 --> 00:50:25.275

that they are denied

1121

00:50:25.455 --> 00:50:29.315

or locked out from being a part of the licenses.

1122

00:50:30.405 --> 00:50:33.905

Now it's a way of life that I'm referring to.

1123

00:50:34.585 --> 00:50:37.025

Safari is my li it's my way of life.

1124

00:50:37.985 --> 00:50:40.965

The cannabis that you refer to as being just to get high.

1125

00:50:41.465 --> 00:50:44.845

It is not that in my being, it's my sacrament.

1126  
00:50:45.435 --> 00:50:47.925  
It's a holy herb. It's the healing of the nation.

1127  
00:50:48.305 --> 00:50:49.365  
It is one of them.

1128  
00:50:50.365 --> 00:50:52.345  
All the herb that yields seeds that

1129  
00:50:52.365 --> 00:50:54.745  
for its kind in my faith is holy.

1130  
00:50:55.405 --> 00:50:59.585  
The cannabis is one that is used in, uh, ceremonies

1131  
00:51:00.135 --> 00:51:02.745  
that we give reverence on Lata.

1132  
00:51:03.445 --> 00:51:07.785  
And in doing so, we not only uplift ourselves spiritually,

1133  
00:51:08.205 --> 00:51:09.625  
but we uplift our community

1134  
00:51:09.625 --> 00:51:11.505  
because we work in that love faculty,

1135  
00:51:12.035 --> 00:51:13.865  
which is sharing is caring.

1136  
00:51:14.975 --> 00:51:18.875  
Now I've been told by those that are, that are here

1137  
00:51:18.895 --> 00:51:22.095  
to do good, that patience is a virtue.

1138  
00:51:22.525 --> 00:51:24.255

That is, that is what I read in the scripture.

1139

00:51:24.255 --> 00:51:28.135

Patient is truly a virtue that I'm to wait patiently

1140

00:51:28.395 --> 00:51:32.895

and I am waiting patiently on those that are in power to do

1141

00:51:32.895 --> 00:51:36.455

what is just and right for those that have been suffering

1142

00:51:36.475 --> 00:51:40.485

and still suffer till this day for not being able

1143

00:51:40.485 --> 00:51:41.805

to live their life.

1144

00:51:42.035 --> 00:51:43.035

Blessed enough,

1145

00:51:47.765 --> 00:51:49.775

Michael, followed by Laurel

1146

00:51:50.315 --> 00:51:53.095

and then Joan Boyle. So Michael White.

1147

00:51:53.315 --> 00:51:56.615

Yes. Yes sir. Please, yes. Greetings everyone. Yeah man.

1148

00:51:56.615 --> 00:51:58.655

Give thanks. Give thanks for the opportunity.

1149

00:51:59.875 --> 00:52:02.895

Um, what was said, you know, is I'm saying the same message

1150

00:52:04.265 --> 00:52:07.385

and I just want, yes, this board,

1151  
00:52:08.295 --> 00:52:10.115  
you are in the position right now

1152  
00:52:10.815 --> 00:52:12.275  
to balance the scale of justice.

1153  
00:52:13.645 --> 00:52:17.665  
And that alone, just justice alone, will, um,

1154  
00:52:18.335 --> 00:52:21.645  
resolve a lot of issues when you look at, you know,

1155  
00:52:21.745 --> 00:52:24.085  
the truth when, when all things considered.

1156  
00:52:25.425 --> 00:52:28.325  
So that's, I'm emphasizing that,

1157  
00:52:28.905 --> 00:52:33.355  
and that's my few words, um, that

1158  
00:52:34.995 --> 00:52:38.095  
we acknowledge the fact that I want

1159  
00:52:38.095 --> 00:52:41.295  
to cannabis border acknowledge the fact that we

1160  
00:52:41.295 --> 00:52:46.055  
as Rastafarian from 1930, um,

1161  
00:52:46.195 --> 00:52:48.215  
the sacrament of a sacramental, right?

1162  
00:52:48.535 --> 00:52:52.495  
Religious rights to use herb, which was the plant

1163  
00:52:52.495 --> 00:52:56.125

of renowned, which in the scripture is the, you know,

1164

00:52:56.185 --> 00:53:00.525

not just, but the king of all herbs in terms of the healing

1165

00:53:00.545 --> 00:53:02.365

of the nations as a bird said.

1166

00:53:03.355 --> 00:53:06.695

And after prohibition, 1937

1167

00:53:07.615 --> 00:53:12.595

became illegal and then all of a sudden his, um, thunder,

1168

00:53:12.665 --> 00:53:15.755

lightning jail, birth aid been, I mean, imprisonment

1169

00:53:15.755 --> 00:53:19.115

and incarceration and families suffer

1170

00:53:19.975 --> 00:53:21.075

and so on and so forth.

1171

00:53:21.215 --> 00:53:25.325

So in that said, no, no, it's,

1172

00:53:25.425 --> 00:53:26.965

um, legal.

1173

00:53:28.025 --> 00:53:30.925

So of course first things first should be the people

1174

00:53:30.985 --> 00:53:32.885

who suffer and pay the consequences

1175

00:53:34.105 --> 00:53:38.685

and should have the right to, you know, um,

1176  
00:53:39.585 --> 00:53:41.445  
get license and have the right

1177  
00:53:41.465 --> 00:53:44.405  
for their sacramental rights officially.

1178  
00:53:44.905 --> 00:53:49.245  
You know, so I'm just asking for justice. Justice.

1179  
00:53:49.705 --> 00:53:51.925  
We can resolve balance the scale of justice,

1180  
00:53:52.955 --> 00:53:56.695  
what we requested for these few words, the give tax.

1181  
00:53:57.475 --> 00:54:02.265  
Thank you, Laurel Burge.

1182  
00:54:04.305 --> 00:54:05.395  
Okay, thank you.

1183  
00:54:06.345 --> 00:54:10.195  
Joan Boyle, followed by Ann Seligman

1184  
00:54:10.535 --> 00:54:12.355  
and then Dan Hogan.

1185  
00:54:13.065 --> 00:54:16.495  
Joan is Joan present?

1186  
00:54:18.745 --> 00:54:19.735  
She's Okay.

1187  
00:54:35.735 --> 00:54:36.735  
Thank you.

1188  
00:54:37.585 --> 00:54:41.725

Yes. Hi. I'm a community member of Community Board six

1189

00:54:41.985 --> 00:54:46.615

and I just wanna make sure I let you know

1190

00:54:47.235 --> 00:54:49.855

how intense we feel about this

1191

00:54:49.955 --> 00:54:52.175

and how much we appreciate our community board

1192

00:54:52.875 --> 00:54:55.335

for standing up to protect us from

1193

00:54:55.335 --> 00:54:58.495

what we feel is a predatory business

1194

00:54:59.665 --> 00:55:04.475

with a name meant to appeal to children in his business

1195

00:55:05.375 --> 00:55:08.075

and we object wholeheartedly.

1196

00:55:08.195 --> 00:55:09.235

I want you to understand

1197

00:55:09.735 --> 00:55:13.595

how huge the community reaction is on the east side

1198

00:55:14.715 --> 00:55:18.315

and east side where all the storefronts are vacant.

1199

00:55:20.395 --> 00:55:24.115

A longstanding business that has served the community

1200

00:55:24.175 --> 00:55:28.155

for decades was pushed out by big bucks.



1201

00:55:29.325 --> 00:55:31.305

And I hope you realize the nuance

1202

00:55:31.535 --> 00:55:35.625

that goes on in the communities that the siting

1203

00:55:36.665 --> 00:55:39.625

activity is looking at. Thank you very much.

1204

00:55:40.355 --> 00:55:42.795

Thank you Ann.

1205

00:55:43.195 --> 00:55:47.585

Followed by Dan and then Erin

1206

00:55:47.625 --> 00:55:48.865

Thurmond will be next.

1207

00:55:49.205 --> 00:55:51.185

Ann then Dan, then Erin.

1208

00:55:53.205 --> 00:55:56.625

Um, hi. I am a member of Manhattan Community Board six,

1209

00:55:56.685 --> 00:55:58.745

but I'm speaking today as an individual.

1210

00:55:59.485 --> 00:56:03.425

Um, I want to express my strong opposition to

1211

00:56:04.005 --> 00:56:06.545

an application, as you just heard, um,

1212

00:56:06.545 --> 00:56:09.465

that the board received Flintstone is not

1213

00:56:09.465 --> 00:56:10.545

on the agenda here.

1214

00:56:10.685 --> 00:56:12.345

And that perhaps is

1215

00:56:12.345 --> 00:56:15.465

because Mike Flynn's notification to municipalities

1216

00:56:16.215 --> 00:56:19.625

says the business will be located in Nassau County.

1217

00:56:20.765 --> 00:56:24.205

So in fact, the proposed location is Second Avenue

1218

00:56:24.305 --> 00:56:26.605

and 44th Street in New York counties.

1219

00:56:27.705 --> 00:56:29.405

We are not anti-cannabis.

1220

00:56:29.905 --> 00:56:32.965

But there were many discrepancies in his application

1221

00:56:33.025 --> 00:56:35.725

to the community board, including a statement

1222

00:56:35.725 --> 00:56:38.485

that there was an executed lease when there was not.

1223

00:56:39.355 --> 00:56:42.125

He's now actually being sued for defamation

1224

00:56:42.225 --> 00:56:46.165

by the current tenant for making false statements about the

1225

00:56:46.685 --> 00:56:48.365

tenant's payment history.

1226

00:56:49.345 --> 00:56:53.085

Um, in addition to CB six, Manhattan Community Board two

1227

00:56:53.225 --> 00:56:56.165

and Brooklyn Community Board one have both passed

1228

00:56:56.525 --> 00:57:00.605

resolutions of objection to this operator setting, similar

1229

00:57:00.865 --> 00:57:03.525

and additional apprehension, apprehensions

1230

00:57:04.225 --> 00:57:08.325

all have concerns about transparency, community outreach,

1231

00:57:08.965 --> 00:57:10.965

location, suitability and security.

1232

00:57:11.755 --> 00:57:14.685

Mike Flynn brags about how many licenses he has,

1233

00:57:14.935 --> 00:57:18.165

which is clearly against c CCBs desire

1234

00:57:18.225 --> 00:57:20.005

to promote small businesses.

1235

00:57:20.905 --> 00:57:24.805

Um, he often does those with sort of opaque partnerships.

1236

00:57:25.785 --> 00:57:28.845

Um, the business being displaced has served the ne

1237

00:57:28.845 --> 00:57:33.085

neighborhood for decades and has strong community support.

1238

00:57:33.145 --> 00:57:35.525

As you have heard. Um, time is

1239

00:57:35.525 --> 00:57:37.685  
of the absence if we wanna save it.

1240

00:57:38.015 --> 00:57:40.485  
Thank you for your consideration. Thank you,

1241

00:57:44.495 --> 00:57:45.495  
Dan. Followed by

1242

00:57:45.495 --> 00:57:47.595  
Aaron Thurman, then David Feeder.

1243

00:57:51.195 --> 00:57:52.565  
Good afternoon, OCM.

1244

00:57:53.385 --> 00:57:55.245  
Um, hello, my name is Dan Kogan,

1245

00:57:55.245 --> 00:58:00.165  
license number 0-C-M-R-E-T-L 2023 dash

1246

00:58:00.515 --> 00:58:02.085  
0 0 6 5 0.

1247

00:58:02.845 --> 00:58:06.885  
I was placed on the November queue number 1-855-BECAUSE I

1248

00:58:06.885 --> 00:58:07.885  
applied for my, uh,

1249

00:58:07.905 --> 00:58:12.645  
retail license dispensary on October 22nd, 2023.

1250

00:58:13.385 --> 00:58:17.245  
And I submitted a, a lease and had control of a location

1251

00:58:17.345 --> 00:58:19.725  
and notified the committee board seven

1252

00:58:20.345 --> 00:58:25.325  
on September 2nd, 2023 based on the OGS report on, uh,

1253

00:58:25.385 --> 00:58:28.525  
May 8th, 2024, which was eight months ago.

1254

00:58:28.585 --> 00:58:31.605  
On page 10, um, it clearly saves

1255

00:58:31.605 --> 00:58:34.525  
that the OCM paused its review on the November queue on

1256

00:58:35.345 --> 00:58:38.085  
in May, um, in March, 2024

1257

00:58:38.105 --> 00:58:40.405  
and moved on to December queue.

1258

00:58:41.505 --> 00:58:45.285  
So on the page 11 on the O-G-O-G-S report, it states

1259

00:58:45.285 --> 00:58:48.405  
that the OCM reports on the review of the first

1260

00:58:48.945 --> 00:58:50.925  
600 application in the November queue,

1261

00:58:51.225 --> 00:58:53.765  
and then the OCM moved on to the December queue,

1262

00:58:54.295 --> 00:58:56.805  
which states should have never done, uh,

1263

00:58:56.865 --> 00:58:59.325

not telling anyone from the November queue

1264

00:58:59.465 --> 00:59:01.525

who got the license, like myself, for example,

1265

00:59:02.105 --> 00:59:03.405

and continued paying rent.

1266

00:59:04.425 --> 00:59:09.285

So on the OGS report, on the, uh, May 8th, 2024, it says

1267

00:59:09.285 --> 00:59:13.365

that the OCM issued 450 provisional licenses

1268

00:59:13.625 --> 00:59:16.485

to retail dispensary from the

1269

00:59:17.345 --> 00:59:22.205

and 110 micro business, um, license from the, uh,

1270

00:59:22.205 --> 00:59:26.885

the semi totaling up to 560 week out dispensary

1271

00:59:27.145 --> 00:59:29.445

and micro businesses license application

1272

00:59:30.035 --> 00:59:31.325

from all the, the semi queue.

1273

00:59:32.545 --> 00:59:35.605

Um, today, eight months later, I don't know the real number

1274

00:59:35.605 --> 00:59:38.605

of how many application OCM went over from the,

1275

00:59:39.905 --> 00:59:42.925

I'm still waiting from, from the, from the domic queue.

1276

00:59:44.625 --> 00:59:47.445

So please add my, add my submitted location

1277

00:59:47.445 --> 00:59:50.965

that have been emailing you guys for my, my hand location

1278

00:59:51.265 --> 00:59:55.405

to be given proximate proximity protections on the map.

1279

00:59:56.615 --> 00:59:58.845

Thank you. Do you wanna submit that as well? Okay.

1280

01:00:00.395 --> 01:00:02.235

I I have another copy To

1281

01:00:02.235 --> 01:00:03.235

Submit that. Yes, just

1282

01:00:03.235 --> 01:00:04.235

submit that. Thank you.

1283

01:00:04.525 --> 01:00:06.315

Aaron Thurman, followed by David

1284

01:00:06.855 --> 01:00:10.675

and, um, feeder then David Hooper. Thank you.

1285

01:00:11.595 --> 01:00:13.725

Good afternoon everybody. My name is Erin Thurman.

1286

01:00:14.065 --> 01:00:16.965

Um, I'm a Michael Ven applicant in the December queue

1287

01:00:16.965 --> 01:00:20.685

application number 2003 MICR

1288

01:00:20.795 --> 01:00:22.885

0 0 0 0 9 7.

1289

01:00:23.425 --> 01:00:24.565

And I code that to show you

1290

01:00:24.565 --> 01:00:26.085

how early I applied for my application.

1291

01:00:26.705 --> 01:00:29.045

Um, longtime legacy operator from New York City.

1292

01:00:29.665 --> 01:00:30.845

All I've done is self cannabis

1293

01:00:30.845 --> 01:00:33.085

and when I learned about the new law,

1294

01:00:33.205 --> 01:00:35.485

I was sitting on Rikers and the four cannabis charge.

1295

01:00:36.715 --> 01:00:39.395

I opted not to get back into the cannabis game coming out

1296

01:00:39.395 --> 01:00:40.795

to go ahead and apply for my license.

1297

01:00:41.455 --> 01:00:42.515

And I've done so on my own

1298

01:00:42.515 --> 01:00:44.275

because I didn't, I didn't have any help at the time.

1299

01:00:44.835 --> 01:00:47.275

Thankful there's been some people in this room kind enough

1300

01:00:47.575 --> 01:00:48.675

to bring me along in the process.



1301

01:00:48.685 --> 01:00:53.145

Thank you. But I sent out to say is it is been a lot of hope

1302

01:00:53.165 --> 01:00:55.225

that's went into this.

1303

01:00:55.375 --> 01:00:57.425

I've tied up my life into this.

1304

01:00:57.695 --> 01:01:01.225

I've sacrificed tremendously to do so knowing I could easily

1305

01:01:01.885 --> 01:01:04.145

go back to the streets and flood New York City with weeds.

1306

01:01:04.145 --> 01:01:05.905

I've done so and done so since the nineties.

1307

01:01:06.605 --> 01:01:09.585

I'm asking the OCM to please consider myself my application,

1308

01:01:09.635 --> 01:01:10.945

those similarly situated

1309

01:01:11.015 --> 01:01:13.185

because there's a lot of people out there sitting on the

1310

01:01:13.185 --> 01:01:14.505

sidelines hoping to get in

1311

01:01:15.205 --> 01:01:16.585

and they could be doing other things,

1312

01:01:16.585 --> 01:01:18.465

but they're choosing to go the right way.

1313

01:01:18.705 --> 01:01:20.665

'cause we have at least a little bit of faith hoping

1314

01:01:21.095 --> 01:01:23.185

that at least if you're going take the cannabis game from

1315

01:01:23.565 --> 01:01:25.905

legacy operating the black man, you got something in return.

1316

01:01:26.975 --> 01:01:28.105

I've staked a lot into this

1317

01:01:28.805 --> 01:01:31.415

and I'm hoping that not only

1318

01:01:31.415 --> 01:01:32.495

that we consider my application,

1319

01:01:32.495 --> 01:01:33.855

but consider those similarly situated

1320

01:01:33.855 --> 01:01:34.895

because the thing about it is

1321

01:01:34.895 --> 01:01:36.295

that we should be grandfathered in.

1322

01:01:36.435 --> 01:01:39.855

If you can prove that your leg job should be grandfathered

1323

01:01:39.855 --> 01:01:41.935

in, why would I have to go through the same process

1324

01:01:42.075 --> 01:01:44.735

as somebody that was on the sideline and demonize cannabis

1325

01:01:45.275 --> 01:01:47.255

and they get to be put in the same pool as me when I

1326

01:01:47.925 --> 01:01:50.295

shed blood to have my blood shut as New York City streets.

1327

01:01:50.915 --> 01:01:54.495

So please consider my application to others. Thank you.

1328

01:01:55.105 --> 01:01:55.575

Thank you.

1329

01:02:01.135 --> 01:02:04.565

David Feta, David Hooper, then Kamar.

1330

01:02:07.805 --> 01:02:10.625

Hi Uh, David Fayer, founder of Weed Law, uh,

1331

01:02:11.065 --> 01:02:12.865

cannabis business attorney in New York for over a decade.

1332

01:02:13.055 --> 01:02:14.945

Nice to see everybody here. You're all alright.

1333

01:02:14.945 --> 01:02:17.145

Very excited about what's gonna be and OCM.

1334

01:02:17.155 --> 01:02:19.970

Great job getting out licenses. We're very excited for more.

1335

01:02:20.215 --> 01:02:21.495

I wanna bring out a couple of points.

1336

01:02:21.635 --> 01:02:23.375

Uh, I have a limited amount of time. Obviously.

1337

01:02:23.835 --> 01:02:26.095

One, uh, registered organizations should not get

1338

01:02:26.095 --> 01:02:27.135

any proximity protection.

1339

01:02:27.135 --> 01:02:29.095

That's crazy. They shouldn't, they shouldn't get it.

1340

01:02:29.095 --> 01:02:30.895

That's number one. Alright, num number two

1341

01:02:31.595 --> 01:02:35.015

is you gave out proximity waivers, uh, three meetings ago,

1342

01:02:35.475 --> 01:02:38.935

um, to applicants that you said had submitted requests

1343

01:02:38.935 --> 01:02:41.015

for proximity waiver prior to that date.

1344

01:02:41.245 --> 01:02:42.375

It's not completely accurate

1345

01:02:42.615 --> 01:02:44.895

'cause we've submitted numerous applications requests

1346

01:02:44.895 --> 01:02:46.615

for a proximity waiver prior to that date.

1347

01:02:46.835 --> 01:02:47.895

We haven't gotten anything yet,

1348

01:02:47.895 --> 01:02:49.255

and it's, it's, uh, it's unfortunate.

1349

01:02:49.255 --> 01:02:50.495

We waited for the past few meetings.

1350

01:02:50.675 --> 01:02:52.375

We had anticipated that this meeting there would be

1351  
01:02:52.375 --> 01:02:53.695  
exemption waivers that would be issued.

1352  
01:02:53.925 --> 01:02:55.055  
Obviously there's stuff going

1353  
01:02:55.055 --> 01:02:56.215  
on, you know, behind the scenes.

1354  
01:02:56.225 --> 01:02:57.415  
We're hoping to see those soon.

1355  
01:02:57.485 --> 01:03:00.575  
Finally, and most importantly, New York,

1356  
01:03:00.575 --> 01:03:02.095  
Canada is a registered organization

1357  
01:03:02.205 --> 01:03:04.375  
that has been shifted hands numerous times.

1358  
01:03:04.715 --> 01:03:06.815  
Unscrupulously, it is an illegally

1359  
01:03:06.815 --> 01:03:08.135  
transferred license right now.

1360  
01:03:08.135 --> 01:03:10.175  
It's going into the hands of canopy growth, one

1361  
01:03:10.175 --> 01:03:11.295  
of the largest failures

1362  
01:03:11.295 --> 01:03:13.615  
of the cannabis industry in the universe.

1363  
01:03:13.955 --> 01:03:15.375

And they're about to come into New York

1364

01:03:15.375 --> 01:03:16.495

and take over a license

1365

01:03:16.835 --> 01:03:17.895

and start playing the game

1366

01:03:17.895 --> 01:03:20.295

of adult use even though the license is not

1367

01:03:20.295 --> 01:03:21.415

in their, in their hands properly.

1368

01:03:21.415 --> 01:03:22.895

It was never properly transferred.

1369

01:03:23.105 --> 01:03:26.055

We're engaged in a lawsuit that's ongoing since 2018.

1370

01:03:26.075 --> 01:03:27.255

The OCM has been on notice

1371

01:03:27.485 --> 01:03:29.495

that this license was fraudulently transferred.

1372

01:03:30.035 --> 01:03:31.895

The, the people that applied. Imagine if I would just come

1373

01:03:31.895 --> 01:03:33.615

in here and say, yeah, that that person's license,

1374

01:03:33.615 --> 01:03:35.135

that's my license, and I just

1375

01:03:35.135 --> 01:03:36.175

submit paperwork and you give it to me.

1376

01:03:36.175 --> 01:03:38.095

That's exactly what happened. That's crazy, right?

1377

01:03:38.275 --> 01:03:40.695

So I think that for medical safety, for patient safety,

1378

01:03:40.695 --> 01:03:41.975

we're talking about a medical license here.

1379

01:03:42.075 --> 01:03:43.295

We have to worry about patient health.

1380

01:03:43.635 --> 01:03:44.775

We should look into this. There

1381

01:03:44.775 --> 01:03:45.935

should be some sort of investigation.

1382

01:03:45.935 --> 01:03:48.135

It shouldn't just be David Fader fighting this in the court.

1383

01:03:48.605 --> 01:03:50.375

This OCM should be doing something in terms

1384

01:03:50.375 --> 01:03:52.775

of the regulatory, um, you know, oversight

1385

01:03:52.835 --> 01:03:55.535

and say, Hey, wait a minute, this license never should have

1386

01:03:55.535 --> 01:03:57.895

been in acreages hands and they shouldn't have been able

1387

01:03:57.895 --> 01:03:59.095

to transfer it to Canopy.

1388

01:03:59.795 --> 01:04:01.455

And that's it. I think you guys are great people

1389

01:04:01.635 --> 01:04:03.175

and I hope you continue doing good work

1390

01:04:03.515 --> 01:04:04.895

and I hope everybody here gets a license

1391

01:04:05.275 --> 01:04:06.375

and we make a lot of money together.

1392

01:04:08.325 --> 01:04:09.325

God bless America.

1393

01:04:12.155 --> 01:04:16.385

David followed by ka, followed by Matthew Robinson.

1394

01:04:17.415 --> 01:04:18.795

Uh, good afternoon.

1395

01:04:19.055 --> 01:04:21.995

My name is David Hooper, owner of Monty's Dispensary

1396

01:04:21.995 --> 01:04:23.195

and Far Rockaway Queens.

1397

01:04:23.665 --> 01:04:26.275

Many of you may know me from other meetings.

1398

01:04:26.595 --> 01:04:28.315

Speaking about delays we were going through,

1399

01:04:28.915 --> 01:04:31.995

I felt it was only right to come back and update you.

1400

01:04:32.775 --> 01:04:35.475

We had our soft opening in Queens November 4th



1401

01:04:35.575 --> 01:04:37.475

and our grand opening November 23rd.

1402

01:04:37.985 --> 01:04:39.915

Between the feedback from the community

1403

01:04:40.215 --> 01:04:42.595

and the opportunity to offer jobs to people

1404

01:04:42.625 --> 01:04:45.555

that came from the same community that I came from,

1405

01:04:46.565 --> 01:04:49.155

makes the delays, the fight, all feel worth it.

1406

01:04:49.835 --> 01:04:51.675

I like to thank the board again

1407

01:04:51.815 --> 01:04:54.275

and the OCM staff again for continuing

1408

01:04:54.275 --> 01:04:56.435

to keep social equity at the forefront.

1409

01:04:56.955 --> 01:05:00.155

I hope that continues even as these lawsuits

1410

01:05:00.155 --> 01:05:02.955

and the power that we try to derail that.

1411

01:05:03.775 --> 01:05:07.275

And to, to my fellow car members still waiting, hold on.

1412

01:05:07.415 --> 01:05:08.415

Be strong.

1413

01:05:13.835 --> 01:05:16.595

Followed by Matthew Robinson. Then Harris Kin,

1414

01:05:17.935 --> 01:05:20.285

Thank you for the opportunity to speak here.

1415

01:05:20.645 --> 01:05:21.965

I really appreciate it.

1416

01:05:22.425 --> 01:05:24.285

Um, I appreciate Evelyn

1417

01:05:24.385 --> 01:05:26.325

for making everybody think that I'm rich.

1418

01:05:27.065 --> 01:05:29.885

You know, everybody thinks I'm making 800,000 a, uh,

1419

01:05:30.005 --> 01:05:32.125

a a month and pocketing that in my pocket.

1420

01:05:32.965 --> 01:05:36.125

I haven't gotten my first check, which I'm about to,

1421

01:05:36.825 --> 01:05:38.445

but it's okay, you know,

1422

01:05:38.445 --> 01:05:40.405

because people don't understand the system.

1423

01:05:41.145 --> 01:05:43.525

So we saw the system, the system,

1424

01:05:43.625 --> 01:05:47.125

the history books have already been written in other states.

1425

01:05:47.255 --> 01:05:50.485

We've seen what happens when bigwigs come in.

1426

01:05:50.995 --> 01:05:54.565

They demolish us. Do we wanna be demolished?

1427

01:05:54.585 --> 01:05:57.395

Do we wanna fight? Do we wanna fight together?

1428

01:05:58.945 --> 01:06:01.645

We want, we wanna fight together. December, right?

1429

01:06:02.825 --> 01:06:07.145

I got my I You deserve a license. You deserve a license.

1430

01:06:07.685 --> 01:06:08.705

You deserve a license.

1431

01:06:09.165 --> 01:06:11.465

And I, I swear to God, you deserve a license.

1432

01:06:12.875 --> 01:06:15.405

But you know, we have to wait

1433

01:06:15.555 --> 01:06:17.685

because this is what the system is

1434

01:06:17.825 --> 01:06:19.725

and this is the reality of the system.

1435

01:06:20.555 --> 01:06:21.855

And we have to face it.

1436

01:06:22.955 --> 01:06:26.275

It's gonna come, the system is working.

1437

01:06:27.535 --> 01:06:30.475

I'm a proof that it's working. Jeremy's a proof.

1438

01:06:31.105 --> 01:06:32.475

Matt is over here as a proof.

1439

01:06:34.845 --> 01:06:37.585

It is working and I appreciate it working.

1440

01:06:38.545 --> 01:06:41.045

I'm not trying to block December blocks.

1441

01:06:42.135 --> 01:06:43.955

I'm not trying to block anybody trying

1442

01:06:43.955 --> 01:06:45.035

to get a license right now.

1443

01:06:46.125 --> 01:06:47.185

I'm trying to bring awareness.

1444

01:06:48.405 --> 01:06:51.855

When we bring purely 600 feet from Vanessa

1445

01:06:53.805 --> 01:06:56.385

saying they coming in for medical next step.

1446

01:06:57.325 --> 01:06:58.465

Now they taking you to court,

1447

01:06:59.105 --> 01:07:01.425

transfer this license into a wreck license.

1448

01:07:02.205 --> 01:07:03.945

Now they selling a hundred dollars ounces.

1449

01:07:03.945 --> 01:07:08.265

Well, we get \$90 ounces. What's my profit margin gonna be?

1450

01:07:08.335 --> 01:07:12.645

It's gonna make no sense, no sense to be in this thing.

1451

01:07:14.165 --> 01:07:15.345

The system is working.

1452

01:07:15.675 --> 01:07:18.025

Don't allow big pharma to come in here,

1453

01:07:18.065 --> 01:07:20.625

demolish us, don't do it.

1454

01:07:21.165 --> 01:07:22.265

And that's what I gotta say.

1455

01:07:24.215 --> 01:07:25.625

Matthew Robinson.

1456

01:07:25.645 --> 01:07:29.945

Harris, um, Peskin and then max free. Matthew.

1457

01:07:30.805 --> 01:07:33.385

Um, hello everybody. My name is Matthew Robinson.

1458

01:07:34.005 --> 01:07:35.065

Um, I'm a open

1459

01:07:35.125 --> 01:07:37.265

and operating licensed dispensary owner in upstate

1460

01:07:37.285 --> 01:07:38.345

New York, in Albany.

1461

01:07:38.845 --> 01:07:40.985

And I wanna go through a couple things.

1462

01:07:41.445 --> 01:07:44.025

The December queue, I mean you guys are working on that.

1463

01:07:44.025 --> 01:07:46.145

The OCM and you guys are doing a great job.

1464

01:07:46.865 --> 01:07:47.945

December queue just has to be patient

1465

01:07:48.175 --> 01:07:50.145

because the o CM is gonna give licenses

1466

01:07:50.145 --> 01:07:51.305

to the December because they have to.

1467

01:07:51.655 --> 01:07:53.745

That is where all the CDI is.

1468

01:07:54.525 --> 01:07:56.665

All the low income people that need this,

1469

01:07:56.665 --> 01:07:58.545

that have fought years and years

1470

01:07:58.545 --> 01:08:00.305

and years for this, that have went to jail for this,

1471

01:08:00.415 --> 01:08:04.065

then beef for this abused, they are in the December queue.

1472

01:08:04.445 --> 01:08:06.345

We cannot close the door on it.

1473

01:08:06.655 --> 01:08:10.665

They have to get licenses, but they also have to be patient.

1474

01:08:10.805 --> 01:08:15.025

It takes time. I was blessed to be in the first group,

1475

01:08:15.305 --> 01:08:18.345

the first 36 or 37 to get license.

1476  
01:08:18.525 --> 01:08:22.325  
So I was blessed. But you guys are gonna get blessed too.

1477  
01:08:22.835 --> 01:08:24.605  
It's important. The brothers over here,

1478  
01:08:24.605 --> 01:08:26.365  
the sister over here, they, you,

1479  
01:08:26.365 --> 01:08:27.805  
you got a license at December queue.

1480  
01:08:29.355 --> 01:08:31.215  
At the same time. We have to pace ourselves.

1481  
01:08:31.215 --> 01:08:34.055  
Like Kyle said, KA is a hundred percent correct.

1482  
01:08:34.285 --> 01:08:37.575  
It's a pacing thing. I also wanna go over the proxy

1483  
01:08:37.575 --> 01:08:39.135  
protection with the ros.

1484  
01:08:39.195 --> 01:08:41.255  
Now, right now it's not affecting me at all.

1485  
01:08:41.675 --> 01:08:43.135  
But it affects Vanessa

1486  
01:08:43.315 --> 01:08:44.775  
and the other gentleman that was up here.

1487  
01:08:44.915 --> 01:08:48.095  
It affects cost and other people giving them proxy

1488  
01:08:48.095 --> 01:08:49.895

protection waivers is insane.

1489

01:08:50.635 --> 01:08:52.015

You tell me they get to sell it lower

1490

01:08:52.435 --> 01:08:54.255

and they get to take off the tax on it,

1491

01:08:54.635 --> 01:08:57.815

but we gotta keep forcing and selling it at a high price.

1492

01:08:58.195 --> 01:09:00.095

We gotta ounce 2 50, 200.

1493

01:09:01.455 --> 01:09:03.755

But they get to sell for one 20 a hundred

1494

01:09:03.895 --> 01:09:05.395

and they get to go right next door to us.

1495

01:09:06.095 --> 01:09:09.715

It doesn't make sense. You can't approve big pharma coming

1496

01:09:09.775 --> 01:09:11.275

in and trying to shut us down.

1497

01:09:11.495 --> 01:09:13.875

We all stronger than that. This is New York.

1498

01:09:13.875 --> 01:09:15.595

This isn't Cali or any other state.

1499

01:09:15.745 --> 01:09:18.035

This is New York and we fight here.

1500

01:09:18.335 --> 01:09:21.035

We want all, we want everything thing that's old to us.



1501

01:09:21.215 --> 01:09:25.625

We want that. And I appreciate the ocm.

1502

01:09:25.725 --> 01:09:27.105

You guys all know. I'm very thankful

1503

01:09:27.725 --> 01:09:30.385

I'm sometimes get emotional, but I appreciate you guys.

1504

01:09:30.405 --> 01:09:31.865

You guys are working hard. I know it.

1505

01:09:32.065 --> 01:09:33.345

I talk to you consistently.

1506

01:09:33.345 --> 01:09:35.425

I send emails and talk and have discussions.

1507

01:09:35.605 --> 01:09:37.705

You guys are working hard. The OCM is working hard.

1508

01:09:37.905 --> 01:09:39.705

December Q thank you. They're gonna get you in

1509

01:09:39.705 --> 01:09:41.145

Matthew, but, um, thank you very much.

1510

01:09:41.145 --> 01:09:42.145

You guys have a great day.

1511

01:09:42.775 --> 01:09:43.965

Thank you Harris.

1512

01:09:44.525 --> 01:09:47.845

Followed by Max free then David, David Napkin.

1513

01:09:48.715 --> 01:09:51.535

My name's Harris Peskin. I'm a partner over at ESG law.

1514

01:09:51.775 --> 01:09:53.855

I represent several licensees and applicants.

1515

01:09:53.915 --> 01:09:56.255

Uh, one particular applicant asked me to come here today,

1516

01:09:56.265 --> 01:09:57.415

baked daily LLC.

1517

01:09:57.475 --> 01:09:59.815

Uh, we submitted our micro business application on

1518

01:09:59.975 --> 01:10:04.255

November 17th, 2023, 2020 3 0 0 0 6 2 2.

1519

01:10:04.955 --> 01:10:06.415

Uh, my client has secured

1520

01:10:06.415 --> 01:10:08.695

and held their location, uh, in anticipation

1521

01:10:08.695 --> 01:10:11.615

of being granted a license for probably over a year at

1522

01:10:11.615 --> 01:10:13.175

that point, after receiving a notice

1523

01:10:13.175 --> 01:10:15.335

of deficiency in early 2024 February.

1524

01:10:15.515 --> 01:10:17.935

And we quickly responded within the 30 day requirement.

1525

01:10:18.225 --> 01:10:21.495

We've not heard anything from the OCM since February, 2024

1526  
01:10:21.685 --> 01:10:22.975  
because of the financial costs

1527  
01:10:22.975 --> 01:10:24.535  
associated with holding that space.

1528  
01:10:24.985 --> 01:10:27.215  
We've since had to get rid of it.

1529  
01:10:27.305 --> 01:10:29.415  
We're no longer able to do it. We've probably expended

1530  
01:10:29.415 --> 01:10:31.415  
somewhere to the tunes of \$50,000.

1531  
01:10:31.995 --> 01:10:34.535  
Uh, we were told by mass email that if we lost access

1532  
01:10:34.535 --> 01:10:35.935  
to our space, we'd be,

1533  
01:10:36.085 --> 01:10:37.535  
we'd be offered a provisional license.

1534  
01:10:37.785 --> 01:10:40.735  
We've since notified the OCM, uh, of that loss

1535  
01:10:40.755 --> 01:10:42.055  
and, and we've not heard anything back.

1536  
01:10:42.055 --> 01:10:44.615  
That was some time in September. We've been trying

1537  
01:10:44.615 --> 01:10:47.295  
to call every single week we've been sending emails.

1538  
01:10:47.925 --> 01:10:49.295

It's gone completely blank

1539

01:10:49.675 --> 01:10:51.535

and we've not heard a single thing back from you guys.

1540

01:10:52.075 --> 01:10:55.175

Um, I sincerely appreciate what you guys do on behalf

1541

01:10:55.175 --> 01:10:56.935

of Myer license, my Myer licensees,

1542

01:10:57.275 --> 01:10:59.455

but at the same time we need some sort of an answer.

1543

01:10:59.635 --> 01:11:01.775

Uh, there's, there's financial money tied up in this

1544

01:11:01.955 --> 01:11:03.775

and we just haven't heard anything.

1545

01:11:04.155 --> 01:11:05.895

Uh, we need to know whether it be we're going

1546

01:11:05.895 --> 01:11:07.615

to be granted provisional and we need to be able

1547

01:11:07.615 --> 01:11:10.695

to tell our, our, um, our members of our company what,

1548

01:11:10.695 --> 01:11:12.695

what they should be doing with their lives. Thank you.

1549

01:11:13.335 --> 01:11:18.205

Thank you. Max Fried David followed by, uh,

1550

01:11:18.595 --> 01:11:21.245

Vito Berg or Berg.

1551  
01:11:22.245 --> 01:11:24.205  
Berg Max free.

1552  
01:11:24.775 --> 01:11:26.005  
Thank you. I'm Dr. Free.

1553  
01:11:26.115 --> 01:11:27.565  
It's not enough time, but details

1554  
01:11:27.625 --> 01:11:29.645  
and some policy proposals of being my comments.

1555  
01:11:30.315 --> 01:11:32.765  
This is all about the advisory board letter on its way

1556  
01:11:32.765 --> 01:11:34.525  
to you, which is advocating license caps

1557  
01:11:34.525 --> 01:11:36.685  
and the supply side licensing moratorium.

1558  
01:11:37.305 --> 01:11:39.405  
To be frank, OCM seems to be unhappy

1559  
01:11:39.405 --> 01:11:41.565  
that this board wisely rejected their attempt

1560  
01:11:41.565 --> 01:11:42.925  
to set policy from below

1561  
01:11:43.145 --> 01:11:45.685  
and wag the dog into imposing license quotas.

1562  
01:11:46.105 --> 01:11:47.925  
Now, OCMs enlisted the advisory board,

1563  
01:11:47.925 --> 01:11:49.885

which has blatant conflicts of interest.

1564

01:11:50.265 --> 01:11:53.285

Not only did active supply licensees not recuse themselves

1565

01:11:53.305 --> 01:11:56.125

or abstain, they were specifically praised as sources

1566

01:11:56.225 --> 01:11:58.445

of wisdom on the question of whether they should have

1567

01:11:58.445 --> 01:11:59.645

to face real competition.

1568

01:12:00.265 --> 01:12:02.085

If you're an applicant who feels like you've been treated

1569

01:12:02.085 --> 01:12:03.605

unfairly, please get in touch with me.

1570

01:12:03.605 --> 01:12:06.485

Take a card, uh, email me at zul lab at gmail

1571

01:12:07.045 --> 01:12:09.165

Z u u d at gmail.

1572

01:12:09.605 --> 01:12:10.765

I wanna hear about your problems.

1573

01:12:10.815 --> 01:12:14.445

Maybe speaking together might be a little more effective now

1574

01:12:14.585 --> 01:12:17.525

by standing in the way of supply licensing OCM

1575

01:12:17.525 --> 01:12:20.365

and this board would be making themselves responsible

1576

01:12:20.365 --> 01:12:23.365

for the inevitable fires, explosions, injuries

1577

01:12:23.365 --> 01:12:25.885

and deaths from back alley butane extraction

1578

01:12:25.885 --> 01:12:26.925

in our communities.

1579

01:12:27.515 --> 01:12:30.685

When someone is killed in an explosion, do you wanna be able

1580

01:12:30.685 --> 01:12:32.285

to say you did everything you could

1581

01:12:32.305 --> 01:12:33.845

to support safe processing?

1582

01:12:34.185 --> 01:12:36.285

Or will you have to justify standing in the way

1583

01:12:37.375 --> 01:12:39.525

processing plays a keystone role in this market?

1584

01:12:39.585 --> 01:12:41.485

It doesn't matter how much flour is grown

1585

01:12:41.625 --> 01:12:44.365

or how many stores are open if you don't have the processors

1586

01:12:44.365 --> 01:12:45.765

to package and label.

1587

01:12:46.075 --> 01:12:48.445

Nevermind formulating the products people want.

1588

01:12:48.915 --> 01:12:53.005

Expecting 150 tier one processors to splice \$6 billion.

1589

01:12:53.005 --> 01:12:56.405

Market by 2030 is expecting every one of those licensees

1590

01:12:56.405 --> 01:13:00.285

to grow to a minimum \$10 million a year in revenue per year.

1591

01:13:00.545 --> 01:13:03.165

In as little as three years starting from zero.

1592

01:13:03.805 --> 01:13:04.845

Everyone that fails to do

1593

01:13:04.845 --> 01:13:06.445

that increases the burden on the others.

1594

01:13:06.745 --> 01:13:08.845

That's the plan for beating the illicit market.

1595

01:13:09.875 --> 01:13:11.325

It's outrageous for regulation

1596

01:13:11.325 --> 01:13:13.925

to mandate micro businesses cultivate the vast majority

1597

01:13:13.925 --> 01:13:17.045

of their own flour and then kill much of the micro queue

1598

01:13:17.075 --> 01:13:19.085

because they would grow too much flour.

1599

01:13:19.955 --> 01:13:21.285

It's shocking to hear the phrase

1600

01:13:21.355 --> 01:13:24.365

what the market will bear Credulously used by regulators.



1601

01:13:24.715 --> 01:13:27.765

That phrase means extracting the most cash from the

1602

01:13:27.925 --> 01:13:29.245

customers as possible.

1603

01:13:29.595 --> 01:13:30.685

They deserve better. Thank you.

1604

01:13:31.695 --> 01:13:36.045

Thank you David. Followed by Vito, then Walter.

1605

01:13:37.885 --> 01:13:39.775

Good afternoon. Board members and OCM staff.

1606

01:13:39.875 --> 01:13:41.655

I'm David, Nick Ky Bronx retail

1607

01:13:41.735 --> 01:13:43.055

licensee and NIRA board member.

1608

01:13:43.475 --> 01:13:46.135

Uh, first, uh, don't destroy the value of licenses.

1609

01:13:46.275 --> 01:13:47.815

If careful market analysis shows

1610

01:13:47.815 --> 01:13:49.815

that market can support December Q applicants,

1611

01:13:49.845 --> 01:13:51.295

then they should be licensed over time.

1612

01:13:51.365 --> 01:13:53.215

Obviously, that's not my main point.

1613

01:13:54.155 --> 01:13:55.775

The industry is actually facing a crisis

1614

01:13:55.805 --> 01:13:57.615

that isn't being acknowledged, let alone addressed.

1615

01:13:57.715 --> 01:13:59.815

As reported in OCM policy Director John,

1616

01:14:00.335 --> 01:14:01.735

is December presentation to the board?

1617

01:14:01.945 --> 01:14:04.975

60% more than half of retailers are on track

1618

01:14:04.975 --> 01:14:08.055

for an annualized run rate of \$1 million or less.

1619

01:14:08.405 --> 01:14:10.135

That is to be unprofitable.

1620

01:14:10.485 --> 01:14:13.965

Many by a shockingly wide margin, retailers face an uphill

1621

01:14:13.965 --> 01:14:15.205

and unfair battle competing

1622

01:14:15.205 --> 01:14:17.045

with a still thriving illegal retail market.

1623

01:14:17.305 --> 01:14:19.645

And they must do so with one metaphorical hand tied

1624

01:14:19.645 --> 01:14:22.685

behind their backs, unable to access most typical methods

1625

01:14:22.745 --> 01:14:25.005

of retail advertising to reach potential customers.

1626  
01:14:25.395 --> 01:14:26.685  
Despite these green figures,

1627  
01:14:26.865 --> 01:14:29.085  
months have passed since the public comment period

1628  
01:14:29.105 --> 01:14:32.005  
of the proposed PMLA Reed Changes has closed,

1629  
01:14:32.345 --> 01:14:33.765  
yet they still haven't been adopted.

1630  
01:14:34.155 --> 01:14:37.165  
Inability to advertise strangles growth prospects

1631  
01:14:37.185 --> 01:14:39.325  
and jeopardize its retailer financial stability.

1632  
01:14:39.795 --> 01:14:42.405  
Meanwhile, the board's activity over recent meetings such

1633  
01:14:42.405 --> 01:14:45.125  
as rapidly approving proximity protection waivers has caused

1634  
01:14:45.135 --> 01:14:46.805  
widespread distress distress

1635  
01:14:46.805 --> 01:14:49.485  
amongst licensees threatening license values.

1636  
01:14:49.785 --> 01:14:51.285  
And not only opening the door to,

1637  
01:14:51.305 --> 01:14:53.565  
but practically begging for additional litigation.

1638  
01:14:54.025 --> 01:14:55.485

In summary, strong no

1639

01:14:55.585 --> 01:14:58.965

to rapid proximity PCA waivers without a thorough public,

1640

01:14:59.195 --> 01:15:02.485

transparent and legally sound review process that defaults

1641

01:15:02.485 --> 01:15:04.285

to denial, that allow success and rare

1642

01:15:04.305 --> 01:15:06.325

and necessary cases strong.

1643

01:15:06.425 --> 01:15:09.645

Yes to adopting the pending changes to the PMLA regulations,

1644

01:15:09.865 --> 01:15:11.325

giving retailers the tools

1645

01:15:11.345 --> 01:15:13.445

and opportunity they need to compete successfully

1646

01:15:13.445 --> 01:15:14.925

and reach their potential customers.

1647

01:15:15.405 --> 01:15:17.045

I urge the board to prioritize actions

1648

01:15:17.045 --> 01:15:19.165

that will benefit the public and they support our existing

1649

01:15:19.165 --> 01:15:20.885

licensees and future licensees.

1650

01:15:21.185 --> 01:15:22.645

The licensee community has made their

1651  
01:15:22.645 --> 01:15:23.885  
needs and priorities clear.

1652  
01:15:24.315 --> 01:15:26.165  
It's time for the board to listen. Thank you.

1653  
01:15:26.815 --> 01:15:29.965  
Thank you. Followed, uh, Vito, then Walter,

1654  
01:15:30.195 --> 01:15:31.765  
then Starland Joseph.

1655  
01:15:32.225 --> 01:15:33.225  
So Vito.

1656  
01:15:34.075 --> 01:15:36.015  
Hey, good afternoon. My name's Vito Berg.

1657  
01:15:36.155 --> 01:15:40.095  
Uh, I spoke back here a couple months back. Um, back again.

1658  
01:15:40.855 --> 01:15:42.455  
I am part of the November queue.

1659  
01:15:42.915 --> 01:15:46.175  
Um, so this is how my thing has been breaking down.

1660  
01:15:46.275 --> 01:15:49.655  
Um, in March 7th, I received an email from the A OL stating

1661  
01:15:49.725 --> 01:15:54.375  
that, uh, my location proximity, uh, was not part of the

1662  
01:15:55.285 --> 01:15:57.215  
proximity that was allowed.

1663  
01:15:57.235 --> 01:15:58.655

And 'cause I was with Hempstead Village

1664

01:15:58.655 --> 01:16:00.495

and that Hempstead Village opted out

1665

01:16:00.495 --> 01:16:02.895

of allowing adult use dispensaries in the village.

1666

01:16:03.315 --> 01:16:06.015

And they gave me a week, a couple days to fix it.

1667

01:16:06.195 --> 01:16:10.015

Um, so by March 14th, I resubmitted a new lease, uh,

1668

01:16:10.015 --> 01:16:13.695

notarized, signed, uh, with a \$35,000 down payment.

1669

01:16:13.875 --> 01:16:16.095

And at \$10,000 a month I started paying.

1670

01:16:16.595 --> 01:16:19.055

And April 1st I received notification from the board

1671

01:16:19.055 --> 01:16:20.775

that my lease was put with the correct team.

1672

01:16:21.655 --> 01:16:23.775

Uh, I believe it was around June we started going

1673

01:16:23.775 --> 01:16:26.175

with deficiencies with somebody that goes by the name

1674

01:16:26.175 --> 01:16:27.655

of ED with the a UL workers.

1675

01:16:28.275 --> 01:16:30.935

Um, July 1st, I received an email from him saying,

1676

01:16:30.995 --> 01:16:33.055

I'm reaching out to you because when you submitted your

1677

01:16:33.055 --> 01:16:34.735

corrections, you provided us a new location.

1678

01:16:35.275 --> 01:16:37.255

The way this process works, you need to submit

1679

01:16:37.255 --> 01:16:40.055

with your original lease for nine Main Street in Hempstead,

1680

01:16:40.355 --> 01:16:43.455

if you can please provide the lease that as well as, as well

1681

01:16:43.455 --> 01:16:44.535

as the other deficiencies,

1682

01:16:44.535 --> 01:16:46.255

you'll be eligible for a provisional license.

1683

01:16:46.585 --> 01:16:48.335

After being awarded the provisional license,

1684

01:16:48.335 --> 01:16:50.175

you'll be then permitted to change your location.

1685

01:16:50.885 --> 01:16:54.135

Okay? Uh, all the deficiencies have been taken care of.

1686

01:16:54.315 --> 01:16:59.055

Um, so now I have two leases. Uh, it's December now.

1687

01:16:59.235 --> 01:17:00.375

Uh, uh, comes

1688

01:17:00.435 --> 01:17:01.735

and I received an email stating

1689

01:17:01.735 --> 01:17:03.775  
that the Supreme Court issued an order

1690

01:17:03.795 --> 01:17:05.735  
to stop provisional license processing

1691

01:17:05.805 --> 01:17:09.095  
because of, uh, uh, some sort of lawsuit that was going on.

1692

01:17:09.705 --> 01:17:14.165  
Uh, so now I spent over \$130,000 of my money,

1693

01:17:14.545 --> 01:17:16.205  
uh, continuing to pay for a lease

1694

01:17:16.205 --> 01:17:18.365  
that I should have an operational license status,

1695

01:17:18.505 --> 01:17:19.925  
not a provisional license status.

1696

01:17:20.485 --> 01:17:21.965  
'cause I submitted all the correct paperwork

1697

01:17:21.965 --> 01:17:23.005  
that was asked of me.

1698

01:17:23.545 --> 01:17:24.645  
And during the process,

1699

01:17:24.855 --> 01:17:27.165  
after I submitted all the correct paperwork, one

1700

01:17:27.165 --> 01:17:28.725  
of the workers had sent me that email,



1701

01:17:29.345 --> 01:17:31.925

and I still have the email saved that he's reaching out

1702

01:17:31.925 --> 01:17:33.365

that I need to submit the corrections

1703

01:17:33.435 --> 01:17:35.165

with the old address provided.

1704

01:17:36.345 --> 01:17:40.045

Um, I I, I mean I I,

1705

01:17:40.465 --> 01:17:41.485

I'm doing everything I could

1706

01:17:41.625 --> 01:17:43.405

and I'm standing here with my hands tied.

1707

01:17:43.445 --> 01:17:45.965

I really need help. I mean, it's costing me a fortune

1708

01:17:47.105 --> 01:17:48.205

To have that. Thank

1709

01:17:48.205 --> 01:17:49.205

You. Thank you,

1710

01:17:49.205 --> 01:17:49.375

1711

01:17:51.075 --> 01:17:52.075

Walter.

1712

01:17:52.375 --> 01:17:54.615

Followed by Starlin, Joseph and Marade.

1713

01:17:57.285 --> 01:18:00.775

Good afternoon. My name is Walter Ier. We've just three.

1714

01:18:01.715 --> 01:18:04.455

Uh, I came here to find out more about the injunction,

1715

01:18:04.715 --> 01:18:07.695

so I'm anxiously awaiting the response.

1716

01:18:08.635 --> 01:18:12.175

Uh, thank the board, the community and the staff

1717

01:18:12.235 --> 01:18:16.715

and all their hard work and let's move forward.

1718

01:18:17.125 --> 01:18:18.125

Thank you.

1719

01:18:24.855 --> 01:18:29.345

Starlin, followed by Mark Hayes, then Shlomo Winestock.

1720

01:18:30.245 --> 01:18:32.305

Hey, Hello. Good. And cannabis community.

1721

01:18:32.565 --> 01:18:36.225

I'm Stalin Joseph, I'm founder of loudest, LLC um,

1722

01:18:36.465 --> 01:18:38.385

d doing business as high inquiry.

1723

01:18:38.725 --> 01:18:40.945

And I'm here to get clarification on what's going on

1724

01:18:40.945 --> 01:18:43.225

with this conditional retail dispensary.

1725

01:18:44.005 --> 01:18:46.745

Um, with, with my conditional, with, with

1726

01:18:46.775 --> 01:18:48.505  
with my card license application.

1727  
01:18:49.165 --> 01:18:53.865  
Um, my license application number is O-C-M-C-A-U-R-D-P

1728  
01:18:54.645 --> 01:18:57.865  
2 0 2 4 0 0 1 3 4.

1729  
01:18:58.405 --> 01:19:02.425  
And I originally submitted my application in 2022, as in

1730  
01:19:02.765 --> 01:19:05.145  
as the original applications in September.

1731  
01:19:05.685 --> 01:19:10.625  
And the original application number is O-C-U-M-C-U-A-R-D

1732  
01:19:10.725 --> 01:19:14.105  
2020 2 0 0 2 9 2.

1733  
01:19:14.505 --> 01:19:16.105  
I have yet to been, um,

1734  
01:19:16.575 --> 01:19:18.385  
I've submitted it since September 22,

1735  
01:19:18.385 --> 01:19:21.865  
and I have yet to, um, been assigned an examiner

1736  
01:19:22.045 --> 01:19:24.265  
and examiner till this day.

1737  
01:19:24.485 --> 01:19:27.065  
And the process is now extended to nearly three years.

1738  
01:19:27.395 --> 01:19:30.065  
Given the recent court injunction changes

1739

01:19:30.125 --> 01:19:31.305  
to the car license process,

1740

01:19:31.565 --> 01:19:33.625  
I'm seeking clarification on whether my

1741

01:19:33.625 --> 01:19:34.865  
application has been affected.

1742

01:19:35.545 --> 01:19:37.425  
Specifically, I would like to know the current status

1743

01:19:37.425 --> 01:19:40.265  
of my application, whether the recent court ruling

1744

01:19:40.445 --> 01:19:44.105  
for whether the recent court ruling updates has impacted

1745

01:19:44.205 --> 01:19:46.025  
the, the eligibility

1746

01:19:46.365 --> 01:19:48.865  
or timeline since I'm an original applicant

1747

01:19:48.865 --> 01:19:50.025  
from September 22.

1748

01:19:50.535 --> 01:19:54.025  
Then I would like to also express that I have, that I am one

1749

01:19:54.025 --> 01:19:56.705  
of the first applicants from back in September, 2022.

1750

01:19:57.245 --> 01:20:00.785  
And due to the OCN not correctly processing my application

1751

01:20:00.845 --> 01:20:03.025  
in prior injunction, I was held back.

1752  
01:20:03.085 --> 01:20:05.905  
And finally I received my provisional approval in

1753  
01:20:05.905 --> 01:20:07.805  
June, 2020 24.

1754  
01:20:08.465 --> 01:20:10.805  
And as of right now, I'm,

1755  
01:20:11.235 --> 01:20:14.605  
I've already made significant financial investments towards

1756  
01:20:14.605 --> 01:20:18.195  
opening this dispensary, including, including securing

1757  
01:20:18.195 --> 01:20:21.435  
and paying monthly rent for a commercial property.

1758  
01:20:21.705 --> 01:20:23.915  
I've already received proximity protection

1759  
01:20:24.335 --> 01:20:26.715  
and this ongoing expense along

1760  
01:20:26.715 --> 01:20:28.915  
with other substantial commitments such

1761  
01:20:28.915 --> 01:20:31.235  
as insurance workers', comps and et cetera.

1762  
01:20:32.935 --> 01:20:35.835  
But I'm just trying to say it like I applied in 2022

1763  
01:20:36.375 --> 01:20:38.275  
and I don't know what's going on.

1764

01:20:38.655 --> 01:20:40.595

It is been three years now. So

1765

01:20:41.165 --> 01:20:42.555

We've got your information

1766

01:20:42.575 --> 01:20:44.795

to someone from the office should be reaching out to you.

1767

01:20:45.265 --> 01:20:48.395

I've emailed, I call it is like, I don't get no answers.

1768

01:20:48.495 --> 01:20:51.075

And it's like this is like, it's been since 2022.

1769

01:20:51.315 --> 01:20:52.355

I should not be here today.

1770

01:20:52.535 --> 01:20:53.955

So we have to respect the two minutes.

1771

01:20:54.095 --> 01:20:56.115

But I'm gonna say before you leave this room, yeah,

1772

01:20:56.455 --> 01:20:58.115

please come back to the table. Okay,

1773

01:20:58.115 --> 01:20:59.995

I'll, thank you so much for having me.

1774

01:21:05.355 --> 01:21:08.965

Mark Hayes promo and then something Ellington.

1775

01:21:09.105 --> 01:21:12.485

I'm sorry, I can't read that. Sc maybe easy please,

1776

01:21:12.505 --> 01:21:13.505  
Sir. Good afternoon,

1777  
01:21:13.505 --> 01:21:16.085  
chair. Thank you. CCB and the OCM.

1778  
01:21:16.385 --> 01:21:19.325  
Um, I'm Mark Hayes, also known as Chef Mark.

1779  
01:21:19.485 --> 01:21:21.525  
I am the proud owner of Brown Butter New York,

1780  
01:21:21.555 --> 01:21:23.605  
located in South Hampton, New York.

1781  
01:21:24.305 --> 01:21:28.405  
Um, quick brief summarization of what I appreciate,

1782  
01:21:28.455 --> 01:21:29.725  
appreciate you guys doing

1783  
01:21:29.725 --> 01:21:33.045  
and allowing us to be able to do as legacy New York Natives.

1784  
01:21:33.395 --> 01:21:34.565  
Born and raised in the Bronx.

1785  
01:21:35.155 --> 01:21:38.885  
Grandmother sold weed, uncle sold weed, taught me how

1786  
01:21:38.885 --> 01:21:39.925  
to sell weed at 13.

1787  
01:21:39.925 --> 01:21:43.125  
They're currently dead. I chose, um,

1788  
01:21:43.345 --> 01:21:45.845  
to use the wellness aspect of marijuana,

1789

01:21:45.895 --> 01:21:47.685  
which suppresses my PTSD

1790

01:21:47.685 --> 01:21:51.285  
and my anxiety of a confusion that I, uh,

1791

01:21:51.295 --> 01:21:53.085  
experience every day as a black man

1792

01:21:53.465 --> 01:21:55.045  
to escape utilizing weed.

1793

01:21:55.525 --> 01:21:57.965  
I spent seven years in prison for selling weed.

1794

01:21:57.965 --> 01:22:00.885  
Turned my selling to a restaurant, came home

1795

01:22:00.885 --> 01:22:03.765  
and now I teach formerly incarcerated individuals the soft

1796

01:22:03.765 --> 01:22:07.245  
skills of hospitality upon reentry into society,

1797

01:22:08.325 --> 01:22:10.765  
I also have the opportunity to teach them

1798

01:22:10.875 --> 01:22:13.085  
that the latest vegetable, which is cannabis,

1799

01:22:13.305 --> 01:22:15.605  
can go into this, uh, infusion of education.

1800

01:22:16.625 --> 01:22:18.445  
I'm currently not allowed

1801



01:22:18.665 --> 01:22:20.885  
to utilize my license in South Hampton

1802  
01:22:21.155 --> 01:22:24.045  
because the town is not corresponding with the state

1803  
01:22:24.545 --> 01:22:26.845  
and stating that I have an illegal license

1804  
01:22:27.105 --> 01:22:30.645  
and I cannot commence deliveries while I sit on \$40,000

1805  
01:22:30.645 --> 01:22:33.685  
worth of product and pay \$21,000 worth of rent

1806  
01:22:34.065 --> 01:22:35.285  
for the last 13 months.

1807  
01:22:36.065 --> 01:22:39.085  
Um, I went to prison, I served my time.

1808  
01:22:39.275 --> 01:22:41.925  
I've been reprimanded and was very, very reluctant

1809  
01:22:41.925 --> 01:22:46.205  
to go about pursuing this license in order to get,

1810  
01:22:46.585 --> 01:22:48.245  
Uh, A, a, a wave shock

1811  
01:22:48.245 --> 01:22:50.405  
of PTSD again, because I'm like, what?

1812  
01:22:50.405 --> 01:22:51.885  
Well, what am I doing? Am I doing it wrong?

1813  
01:22:51.885 --> 01:22:52.885  
Am I doing it right? I've

1814

01:22:52.885 --> 01:22:53.845

done everything that was supposed to.

1815

01:22:54.235 --> 01:22:56.245

This is not supposed to be the end result.

1816

01:22:57.125 --> 01:22:58.205

I only ask today

1817

01:22:58.395 --> 01:23:01.445

that there be more support from the OCM and the CCB.

1818

01:23:01.445 --> 01:23:02.685

You guys are doing an amazing job,

1819

01:23:02.705 --> 01:23:05.005

but there are things out here that we don't have,

1820

01:23:05.005 --> 01:23:07.725

have the answers to, and we have a a lot of confusion on how

1821

01:23:07.725 --> 01:23:08.805

to continue to combat.

1822

01:23:09.135 --> 01:23:10.645

Thank you. Thank

1823

01:23:10.645 --> 01:23:15.155

you, slowmo.

1824

01:23:18.275 --> 01:23:19.735

Hi. Just checking in.

1825

01:23:20.145 --> 01:23:23.215

Wanna shout out the women actually, uh, controlling

1826

01:23:23.215 --> 01:23:24.735  
and running cannabis in New York.

1827  
01:23:25.675 --> 01:23:28.655  
So shout out and, um, happy New Year.

1828  
01:23:28.865 --> 01:23:31.055  
Happy New Year. Take care. Thank you.

1829  
01:23:34.525 --> 01:23:37.465  
Um, I think we have someone Ellington. It is.

1830  
01:23:37.465 --> 01:23:41.865  
Might be a AC is key, but S key. Sorry. All right.

1831  
01:23:43.455 --> 01:23:44.865  
Handwriting. We're gonna finish.

1832  
01:23:45.005 --> 01:23:49.185  
And then they're followed by Laura Rasmussen. Lauren Rasmus.

1833  
01:23:49.185 --> 01:23:50.025  
That name sounds really

1834  
01:23:50.225 --> 01:23:54.185  
familiar, please.

1835  
01:23:59.735 --> 01:24:01.405  
Hello, my name is Ellington Keys.

1836  
01:24:01.545 --> 01:24:03.245  
I'm an applicant in the December queue.

1837  
01:24:04.405 --> 01:24:06.925  
I attended my first OCM meeting in March, 2024,

1838  
01:24:07.295 --> 01:24:09.725  
where my hair wasn't much longer than board member

1839

01:24:09.755 --> 01:24:11.165

John CAG is.

1840

01:24:12.105 --> 01:24:14.365

Um, my hair is a visual representation of

1841

01:24:14.365 --> 01:24:15.405

how long I have been waiting.

1842

01:24:15.835 --> 01:24:20.045

This was in June, so shortly after, uh, March.

1843

01:24:22.065 --> 01:24:23.845

Um, I feel like there's an invisible barrier

1844

01:24:23.845 --> 01:24:25.125

between the licensed applicants

1845

01:24:25.125 --> 01:24:28.725

and the OCM as I have as much information as

1846

01:24:28.725 --> 01:24:32.125

to when I may receive my license, as I did in December, 2023

1847

01:24:32.755 --> 01:24:34.165

when I submitted my application.

1848

01:24:34.415 --> 01:24:36.085

Today, I hope to bring down the invisible

1849

01:24:36.085 --> 01:24:37.125

barrier between us.

1850

01:24:37.825 --> 01:24:39.605

We all come from very different backgrounds,

1851

01:24:39.945 --> 01:24:42.205  
yet at the core, we are all very much the same.

1852  
01:24:42.265 --> 01:24:43.845  
And I want the, and want the same things.

1853  
01:24:44.305 --> 01:24:47.005  
For example, you like myself, want to be able to take care

1854  
01:24:47.065 --> 01:24:48.325  
and provide for your families.

1855  
01:24:48.825 --> 01:24:51.045  
You want your family and loved ones to be happy and healthy.

1856  
01:24:51.425 --> 01:24:54.085  
You want to be successful at your careers and professions.

1857  
01:24:54.585 --> 01:24:55.685  
You like myself, want

1858  
01:24:55.685 --> 01:24:57.325  
to be recognized for the hard work you do.

1859  
01:24:57.755 --> 01:24:59.405  
With these core similarities, I hope

1860  
01:24:59.405 --> 01:25:00.765  
that I can endure myself to the board.

1861  
01:25:00.765 --> 01:25:03.965  
Today. I'm one of the most qualified applicants.

1862  
01:25:03.965 --> 01:25:05.085  
The OCM will come across.

1863  
01:25:05.445 --> 01:25:08.005  
I check every requirement for a license and more.

1864

01:25:08.505 --> 01:25:10.525

I'm a minority, have a cannabis conviction,

1865

01:25:10.525 --> 01:25:12.645

built a delivery service on the legacy market

1866

01:25:12.645 --> 01:25:13.805

that was better than anything

1867

01:25:13.805 --> 01:25:15.405

that is available on the legal market.

1868

01:25:15.855 --> 01:25:18.285

Owned and operated multiple successful businesses,

1869

01:25:18.285 --> 01:25:19.685

including nightclubs and restaurants

1870

01:25:19.685 --> 01:25:21.525

and meatpacking district and the Hamptons.

1871

01:25:21.965 --> 01:25:25.485

I have a cannabis retail specialist certification from BMCC.

1872

01:25:25.485 --> 01:25:26.565

Created a marketing deck.

1873

01:25:26.765 --> 01:25:29.885

Interior design concepts for our store engaged architects

1874

01:25:29.885 --> 01:25:31.325

and contractors to do renovations.

1875

01:25:31.395 --> 01:25:32.645

Gain employment at three

1876

01:25:32.645 --> 01:25:35.845  
of the best licensed cannabis retail stores in the city

1877  
01:25:35.845 --> 01:25:37.045  
where I'm currently a bud tender.

1878  
01:25:37.565 --> 01:25:39.285  
I hope I don't have to wait another 13 months

1879  
01:25:39.385 --> 01:25:42.245  
for my license, but if I do, my hair will be much longer,

1880  
01:25:42.535 --> 01:25:44.445  
which will make for a funny picture when I

1881  
01:25:44.445 --> 01:25:45.565  
finally do receive my license.

1882  
01:25:45.855 --> 01:25:49.635  
Thank, thank you. And then

1883  
01:26:04.815 --> 01:26:06.765  
Thank you board member Ms. Knight,

1884  
01:26:06.985 --> 01:26:10.335  
and Chair Ms. Wright, uh,

1885  
01:26:10.435 --> 01:26:12.375  
and the board members for doing this today.

1886  
01:26:13.315 --> 01:26:16.655  
Um, I was reached out for the process of my license

1887  
01:26:17.635 --> 01:26:21.215  
two 2003 1865,

1888  
01:26:22.075 --> 01:26:24.735  
and was asked to provide the fingerprinting a month ago,

1889

01:26:24.945 --> 01:26:26.215  
which was completed.

1890

01:26:26.215 --> 01:26:28.095  
However, since then,

1891

01:26:28.245 --> 01:26:30.495  
I've been contacting them every single day

1892

01:26:30.885 --> 01:26:32.175  
calling the hotline.

1893

01:26:32.895 --> 01:26:36.215  
Absolutely no correspondence except the default response.

1894

01:26:37.155 --> 01:26:41.455  
Um, this license is beyond me,

1895

01:26:42.455 --> 01:26:45.235  
the town supervisor, the town I'm flying in.

1896

01:26:45.455 --> 01:26:48.395  
And the business owners are all excited about the license

1897

01:26:48.825 --> 01:26:52.755  
because I will be Revit, uh, revitalizing the town.

1898

01:26:53.985 --> 01:26:56.355  
It's a small town and it'll be creating jobs

1899

01:26:56.495 --> 01:26:57.715  
and help other businesses.

1900

01:26:58.295 --> 01:27:02.195  
It will provide a vitality and prosperity for this town.

1901



01:27:03.095 --> 01:27:04.675  
Uh, we can definitely use your help

1902  
01:27:04.935 --> 01:27:06.915  
and greatly appreciate the offer.

1903  
01:27:07.485 --> 01:27:08.395  
Thank you. Help.

1904  
01:27:13.305 --> 01:27:15.165  
So that was the last of our comments today,

1905  
01:27:15.165 --> 01:27:17.325  
and I'm gonna say thank you to everybody that's taking time

1906  
01:27:17.325 --> 01:27:18.925  
to come in and to speak with us

1907  
01:27:19.185 --> 01:27:22.565  
and to present, um, their concerns public

1908  
01:27:22.665 --> 01:27:24.445  
and to share their concerns publicly.

1909  
01:27:25.025 --> 01:27:29.735  
Um, please note that the time, the location

1910  
01:27:30.075 --> 01:27:34.215  
and a livestream link will be shared on our website,

1911  
01:27:34.535 --> 01:27:37.015  
cannabis.ny.gov in advance

1912  
01:27:37.035 --> 01:27:39.215  
of our next control board meeting.

1913  
01:27:39.985 --> 01:27:42.295  
There will be a recording of today's meeting,

1914  
01:27:42.635 --> 01:27:45.095  
the meeting minutes, and a transcription

1915  
01:27:45.355 --> 01:27:47.295  
of today's meeting posted as well.

1916  
01:27:48.435 --> 01:27:51.055  
Um, so that concludes our business for today.

1917  
01:27:51.755 --> 01:27:53.815  
And may I please have a motion to adjourn this meeting?

1918  
01:27:55.915 --> 01:27:57.215  
May I have a second? Second.

1919  
01:27:59.035 --> 01:28:01.575  
Any discussion, comments from board members?

1920  
01:28:02.365 --> 01:28:07.095  
Hearing none, uh, call for the vote. All in favor, aye. Aye.

1921  
01:28:08.075 --> 01:28:10.535  
Aye. Thank you. It's unanimous. The motion carries.

1922  
01:28:10.705 --> 01:28:12.135  
Thank you for joining us today,

1923  
01:28:12.395 --> 01:28:13.855  
and this meeting is now adjourned.

1924  
01:28:14.735 --> 01:28:14.855  
I.