

New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission
Public In-Writing Comments
Public Meeting: October 17, 2024

Full Name	Meeting Date	Comment
Nicholas Powers	10/17/24	<p>As a social equity licensee and receipt of a conversion to annual award, I am urging the CRC to please address waiver requests on a priority basis similar to application review, and be efficient in processing such requests. We submitted a waiver request and were told that it is up to the Chair of the CRC to decide if and when to place the matter on the agenda. The discretionary process is not only unfair it impacts my business and the timeline of my ability to become operational. If the goal of the CRC is to ensure social equity applicants are successful, then these matters need to be resolved with urgency given what's at stake. I understand the CRC has many pressing matters, but the requests of a social equity awardee should not be ignored and delayed due to discretion. There needs to be a proper mechanism in place where waiver requests are addressed promptly. The CRC does not have a November agenda/meeting, which means the earliest the request could be considered is December. We submitted our request in September. From a practical perspective, as a business owner, understand that these months of delays hurt only me and my opportunity to succeed. There is no logic in the delay and it undermines your agency's goals. To say you want to help social equity but make us wait months for a potential decision that is of paramount concern is contradictory. What we have requested of you in no way is a danger to the health or safety of others, but rather a regulatory waiver that impacts operations. I urge you to please reconsider your waiver request process and help us move forward. Thank you.</p>
Steven DeCredico	10/17/24	<p>Hello; as a relatively long term "Medical Marijuana" patient (since 2018) I have learned that the vast number of people involved in the NJ Medical Marijuana community actually know very little about actual medicinal components, procedures, benefits, concerns and / or availability of information regarding the "medical" part of "Medical Marijuana". I spent a few years trying to learn about the medical perspective of medical marijuana. In doing so I have learned that extremely few people in the industry (including, but not necessarily limited to doctors, lawyers and employees of dispensaries) actually know much, if anything, about medical scenarios, components, benefits or detrimental effects of using medical marijuana.</p> <p>As a patient, I was offered medical marijuana. For family related Issues I initially discounted the potential benefits of the opportunity. However, as time went on, my medical issues worsened. I was treated with numerous opioids. Then I decided to try Medical Marijuana. I immediately learned that there was not much actual medical</p>

		<p>information available from anyone. As you may see, if it shows in my records, at one point in time I even sent an email to the commission because an employee at one of the dispensaries suggested I try everything there was to offer at the dispensary and determine what I “liked” best. Not very medical or scientific.</p> <p>Well, since that time, my wife and I have educated ourselves and determined actual medical scenarios and treatments using the components of the marijuana. What prompted me to write this letter was that I returned to the original doctor who suggested medical marijuana. When I explained to him that I was using medical marijuana and what I was “doing” with the marijuana he was very interested, and was unaware of what I was telling him. I have now run into this scenario with several other professionals in the industry with the same general responses.</p> <p>In my opinion, the scenario of the medical component(s) of medical marijuana is under represented, and under educated by / to most people involved at any level of the program. So, is there a forum for sharing information with the medical marijuana community? Understand, my information is itself very limited. I have pursued information and scenarios relative to my use of the medical marijuana. As such this letter is not only offering up my limited information, but meant to inspire people (and possibly the commission, is applicable) to learn more about the medical part of Medical Marijuana.</p>
Craig McHugh	10/17/24	Can you please provide any information on the approval process for consumption lounge applications? Thank you.
Jon Cohn	10/17/24	Follow up to when the approval process for the lounge applications will be approved. Our submission was rejected since it was "submitted too early" but looking for guidance as to when we will be allowed to submit the applications for approval.
H Smith	10/17/24	There's no option to select the most current meeting. For the past two meetings the YouTube live stream hasn't been working properly. It only shows "Executive session 45-minutes" and no audio. Please fix!
Samuel Hilton	10/17/24	<p>Hello CRC, Good Day. I am am Samuel Hilton and previously was employed full time as a a SAS AI Consultant making over \$100 per hour or \$200k year before transitioning to a career in licensed Cannabis as a Sales Representative for Dr. Zodiak’s Moonrock. I am currently seeking a licensed white label cultivator or manufacturer in NJ to partner with Dr. Zodiak’s Moonrock and bring the West Coast premium brand and high thc and thca potency dominant hashish infused cannabis flower to the NJ Adult Use or ATC Med Market. My personal titrated dose of thc or thca concentrate is over a ½ oz a day and that with either a Med Discount or Employee Discount would still cost over \$20k a month and be more money than I ever earned in my career per year. Tasked with the challenge of affording and obtaining 1 pound of consumable hashish per month motivates me to attempt more than just finding a white label manufacturer for Dr. Zodiak’s Moonrock in NJ and sell licensed</p>

		<p>Cannabis. I need to address the larger issues affecting NJ such as supply, price, municipal license availability, and maximum allowable purchase.</p> <p>Outside of Dr. Zodiak's Moonrock I recently have found a 500K sqft factory facility within allowed municipal zoning that if repurposed for Licensed Cultivation according to Urban-Gro can produce over 25% of current 2024 1B a year potential NJ Supply and be occupied by 10 large Adult Use or Med licensed cultivators. There is also additional large acres of vacant land also within zoning where a 2 additionally large facilities could be built to add additional supply, manufacturing, distribution, or potentially a shopping mall of dispensaries or integrating large commercial developments of businesses or residential within cannabis zones.</p> <p>The challenge is the municipality allowed 2 of each class 1-5 licenses, no 6, no testing, and no consumption zones. The 2 cultivation licenses within the municipality are available so can the facility operate as a coop of indoor cultivation under 1 municipality license with a group of NJ State Med or Adult Use licensees or even unlicensed tenants? Or would the municipality need to increase the number of municipal licenses if a Cooperative of 10 Cultivators isn't permissible. If additional cultivation licenses, as equivalent manufacturing, and retail licenses need to be obtained is there going to be any simple process for requesting a municipality to significantly increase its maximum amount of allowable licenses. If at the NJ State Level there are an unlimited amount of all licenses shouldn't at the municipal level there also be more adequate availability. Only available zoned activities would require more municipal licenses but perhaps the municipalities individual caps could accommodate expansion.</p>
Ken Wolski	10/17/24	<p>Institutional Caregiver Access 2024</p> <p>I was disappointed that I was not able to attend the recent hearings of the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission's (CRC) Permitting and Licensing Committee (P&LC) when the need for institutional caregivers in health care facilities in New Jersey was discussed.</p> <p>These hearings took place on September 25, and October 1, 2024. I applied to attend these meetings but not only was not granted permission to attend, but the meetings were not available virtually, nor is any summary publicly available, so I could not determine what issues were brought up to address the unfulfilled need for this important service.</p> <p>I have testified numerous times to the CRC about the need for institutional caregivers.</p> <p>On June 17, 2024 I was invited to testify to the CRC about several issues. I included this information about the need for institutional caregivers: https://cmmnj.blogspot.com/2024/06/testimony-to-nj-</p>

		<p>cannabis-regulatory.html</p> <p>"A woman told me about her 90-year-old father who is living in an assisted living facility in central New Jersey.</p> <p>The director of the facility said their lawyers told him they could not have medical marijuana in their facility because they receive federal funds, and this would place those funds in jeopardy.</p> <p>This patient, and many patients like him, continue to suffer needlessly by being deprived of the appropriate physician-recommended medicine due to fears that the federal government will interfere with New Jersey's medical marijuana program.</p> <p>However, Congress has forbidden the Department of Justice to spend any money interfering with medical marijuana programs in any of the over three dozen such programs in the United States. The US Attorney General affirmed that they will not do so, and since then there has not been a single instance of this happening in any of the states with medical marijuana programs.</p> <p>The CRC needs to reassure all facilities that house medical marijuana patients, and that receive federal funds, that they are not at risk of federal interference with New Jersey's medical marijuana program."</p> <p>In testimony to the CRC on November 9, 2021, (at https://cmmnj.blogspot.com/2021/11/testimony-to-nj-cannabis-regulatory.html) I noted that "I was part of a team that tried unsuccessfully to save a patient in Status Epilepticus, an unrelenting seizure condition, at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital in the early 1970's. It was a tragic experience that I have never forgotten. It should not happen again."</p> <p>Here is a link to an Op Ed I had published in The Times of Trenton on January 20, 2016 entitled "It's time for N.J. to fully embrace medical marijuana:" http://www.nj.com/opinion/index.ssf/2016/01/nj_needs_to_embrace_medical_marijuana_opinion.html</p> <p>Please provide public access to the progress that the role of institutional caregivers is making in New Jersey.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Ken Wolski, RN, MPA Executive Director, Coalition for Medical Marijuana--New Jersey, Inc. October 12, 2024</p>
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