

**CENTRAL AVE COMPASSIONATE CARE, INC.**  
(MPN281399)

**BACKGROUND & APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW**

1. Name of the Marijuana Establishment and its application number:

Central Ave Compassionate Care, Inc. (MPN281399)

2. Address of the Marijuana Establishment:

31 Central Avenue, Ayer, MA 01432

3. Type of license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

Product Manufacturer

4. Applicant is a licensee or applicant for other Marijuana Establishment license(s):

Cultivation (MCN281505)

John Hillier is the owner of this entity and Late Spring Inc. D/B/A Gage Cannabis Company. Late Spring Inc. D/B/A Gage Cannabis Company has applied for an adult-use retailer license (MRN281248).

5. List of all required individuals and their business roles in the Marijuana Establishment:

John Hillier—Owner/Director  
Valery Hillier—Director  
Kenneth Frank—Director

6. List of all required entities and their roles in the Marijuana Establishment:

No other entities, other than the applicant, have direct or indirect control over the Marijuana Establishment.

7. Priority status of applicant:

RMD Priority (RP201835)

8. Location and status of business if it is an RMD:

The RMD is in compliance with the Department of Public Health (DPH). The RMD business will be co-located with the adult-use business in Ayer. The RMD has a Final Certificate of Registration for dispensing, cultivation, and processing.

9. Information regarding host community agreement certification:

The Host Community Agreement was executed on March 27, 2018; certification provided.

10. Information regarding community outreach meeting:

The community outreach meeting was held on March 21, 2018. Notice was published at least seven days prior in the Nashoba Valley Voice. The applicant certified notice to the municipality and abutters. The applicant certified compliance with the community outreach meeting requirements.

11. Any objections regarding compliance with local ordinances and bylaws presented by the municipality:

No objections were communicated to the Commission. The Commission received a response from the municipality on August 22, 2018, stating that the applicant was in compliance with all local ordinances and bylaws.

12. Summary of plan to positively impact areas of disproportionate impact:

The applicant plans to do the following:

- i. Hold informational sessions, skill assessments, job fairs, and resume/cover letter workshops at least three times per year in Fitchburg, Lowell, and Worcester to help individuals in these areas build the necessary skills to become more attractive employment candidates;
- ii. Give a hiring preference to individuals from areas of disproportionate impact; and
- iii. Support local charities and community organizations.

After one year of operating in the adult-use market, the applicant will review the following in order to measure the success of its plan:

- i. Attendance at the informational sessions and workshops;
- ii. Outcome of interviews generated from job fairs;
- iii. Overall staff that are past or present residents of disproportionate impacted areas; and
- iv. Overall financial support provided to local charities and community organizations.

## **SUITABILITY REVIEW**

13. Concerns arising from background checks on individuals associated with the application:

No concerns.

14. Concerns arising from background checks on entities associated with the application:

No concerns.

15. Applicant's disclosure of any past civil or criminal actions:

No disclosures.

16. Applicant's disclosure of any occupational license issues:

No disclosures.

17. Applicant's disclosure of any business interests in other jurisdictions:

No disclosures.

18. Status of applicant's compliance with the Department of Revenue and Secretary of the Commonwealth:

April 13, 2018 | Certificate of Good Standing, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
(Certification Number: 18040312070)

May 9, 2018 | Certificate of Good Standing, Department of Revenue  
(Letter ID: L1957206144)

## **MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS REVIEW**

19. Applicant's proposed timeline to become operational in the adult-use market:

The applicant currently operates an RMD at this location. The applicant states it will be operational in the adult-use market within two months of being issued a provisional license.

20. Applicant's proposed hours of operation:

Monday-Sunday: 6:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

21. Applicant's compliance with submitting summaries of the following plans, policies and procedures:

- a. Security Plan
- b. Prevention of Diversion Plan
- c. Storage of Marijuana Plan
- d. Transportation Plan
- e. Inventory Procedures
- f. Quality Control and Testing Procedures
- g. Personnel Procedures
- h. Dispensing Procedures
- i. Record-Keeping Procedures
- j. Maintenance of Financial Records Policy
- k. Diversity Plan

The applicant is fully compliant with submitting all required summaries in accordance with 935 CMR 500.101(2)(a). Full compliance will be reviewed during inspections and will be required before a final license is issued.

22. Summary of diversity plan:

The applicant plans to do the following:

- i. Conduct deliberate advertising and other forms of outreach to ensure diverse individuals are aware of employment openings;
- ii. Develop and implement a screening system to mitigate bias of any employees in the interview process;
- iii. Provide trainings and professional development opportunities to staff at all levels; and
- iv. Conduct annual reviews of applicant pools, staff demographics, and changes in employment status (promotions, raises) to ensure its goal of a diverse and unbiased workforce is achieved.

23. Summary of cultivation plan (if applicable):

Not applicable.

24. Summary of products to be produced and/or sold (if applicable):

The applicant did not provide a summary of products to be produced pursuant to 935 CMR 500.101(2)(a).

25. Plan for obtaining marijuana or marijuana products (if applicable):

Not applicable.

26. ISO 17025 Certifying Body and Certificate Number (if applicable):

Not applicable.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Commission staff recommend issuing a provisional license with the following conditions:

- (1) Final license is subject to certification that applicant remains in compliance with DPH regulations, 105 CMR 725.000;
- (2) Final license is subject to inspection and audit to ascertain compliance with the requirements listed in 935 CMR 500.105 through 935 CMR 500.160 as applicable;
- (3) Final license is subject to inspection and audit to ascertain that its facilities are compliant with all applicable state and local codes, bylaws, ordinances, and regulations;
- (4) The applicant shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission investigators, agents, and employees upon request; and
- (5) Provisional license subject to the payment of the appropriate license fee pursuant to 935 CMR 500.005.

This recommendation was based on the applicant's demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth, suitability for licensure, and upon the evaluation of the thoroughness of the applicant's responses to the required criteria.

Commission staff certify that a due diligence review of the application was performed. As of this date, the applicant has demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth and suitability for licensure. Accordingly, the applicant is recommended for provisional licensure with the previously mentioned conditions.