

LATE SPRING INC. D/B/A GAGE CANNABIS COMPANY
(MRN281248)

BACKGROUND & APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW

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

Late Spring Inc. D/B/A Gage Cannabis Company (MRN281248)

2. Address of the Marijuana Establishment:

38 Littleton Road, Ayer, MA 01432

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

Retailer

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

This entity is not another licensee or applicant for other Marijuana Establishment licenses. However, John Hillier is the owner of this entity and Central Ave Compassionate Care, Inc. Central Ave Compassionate Care, Inc. is an operational RMD with a Final Certificate of Registration and has applied for an adult-use cultivation (Tier 1—Indoor) and product manufacturing licenses (MCN281505 and MPN281399).

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

John Hillier—Owner/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:

This application was from a general applicant.

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

Not an RMD.

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 August 2, 2018.
Notice was published at least seven days prior in The Sun.
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 17, 2018 | Certificate of Good Standing, Secretary of the Commonwealth

April 23, 2018 | Certificate of Good Standing, Department of Revenue

(Letter ID: L1190654080)

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS REVIEW

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

The applicant will require approval of architectural plans and minor renovations to an existing structure including the installation of a security system, fixtures, and equipment. The applicant indicated a short renovation period (approximately two months) to become operational once approved for a provisional license.

20. Applicant's proposed hours of operation:

Monday-Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 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 summaries. All summaries were determined to be substantially compliant with the requirements listed in 935 CMR 500.105 through 935 CMR 500.160 as applicable. 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):

Not applicable.

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

The applicant plans to establish and maintain business relationships with other adult-use Marijuana Establishments to acquire its marijuana supply. Mr. Hillier is also the owner of an RMD that is applying for adult-use cultivation and product manufacturing licenses.

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.