
Bulletin – Governor Charles D. Baker’s COVID-19 Order No. 53

To: Adult-use Marijuana Retailers licensed pursuant to 935 CMR 500.000
From: Shawn Collins, Executive Director
Date: November 4, 2020
Subject: Governor Charles D. Baker’s Order Requiring Early Closing for Certain Businesses and Activities and Limiting the Hours for Adult-use Cannabis

On November 2, 2020, Governor Charles D. Baker issued [COVID-19 Order No. 53](#), an *Order Requiring Early Closing for Certain Businesses and Activities, Limiting the Hours for Alcohol Sales and Adult Use Cannabis, and Modifying Chapter 138 License Renewal Requirements* (the “Order”). As a result, the Cannabis Control Commission (the “Commission”), through its Executive Director, now issues this bulletin to all adult-use Marijuana Retailers, including Marijuana Retailers currently authorized to commence retail operations and Marijuana Retailers that possess a provisional or final license and may be subject to the Order upon becoming operational. The Order takes effect at 12:01AM on Friday, November 6, 2020.

Section 1 of the Order establishes a mandatory night-time closing period, requiring certain businesses, facilities or activities to close their premises to the public each day not later than 9:30PM and restricting such premises from re-opening to the public sooner than 5:00AM the following day. The Order explains that, during the hours of 9:30PM–5:00AM, such businesses, facilities, or activities may not admit customers, patrons, or members of the public to their premises or otherwise offer, provide, or permit in-person, on-premises services or activities. Operators of such businesses, facilities, or activities may keep their premises open to employees and other workers during the hours of 9:30PM–5:00AM and otherwise conduct business activities and operations that do not involve admitting customers, patrons, or members of the public to their premises.

Section 2 of the Order specifically establishes that no adult-use Marijuana Retailer may sell adult-use cannabis or adult-use cannabis products of any kind to any person anywhere in the Commonwealth during the mandatory closing period of 9:30PM–5:00AM. Violations of the Order may result in a civil fine of up to \$500.00 per violation. Marijuana Retailers determined to have violated the Order may further be subject to disciplinary action by the Commission.

Please note that dispensing operations of medical-use marijuana by Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (“MTC”) licensed pursuant to 935 CMR 501.000 are not subject to COVID-19 Order No. 53. An MTC that is a colocated Marijuana Retailer pursuant to 935



CMR 502.000 may continue to perform dispensing operations of medical-use marijuana but shall comply with the Order for all applicable adult-use operations.

Inquiries regarding COVID-19 Order No. 53 should be directed to the [Department of Public Health](#), the [Department of Labor Standards](#), and/or the licensee's local board of health. Marijuana Retailers may also submit questions regarding this Bulletin to their assigned investigator.

Marijuana Retailers are also encouraged to visit the Commission's [COVID-19 webpage](#). The COVID-19 webpage provides information concerning [curbside operations](#), [agent reporting](#), and other relevant resources and updates.