

MARIJUANA REGULATORY LICENSE PROCEDURE & REQUIREMENTS

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)

Email (Optional)

✓ Al Ochoza	Portland, OR 97214	al@curacan.com
✓ Casey Houlihan	4133 SE 27 th Ave. Portland, OR 97202	casey@oregoncannabisretails.com
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✓ TONY BIRCH	70 5100 SE HARNEY DR. PDX 97206	INFO@KARMAORBINALS.com

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Joseph Moser <jpmonk1121@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 12:13 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Please forward to all commissioners

Dear reader,

I am writing in order to call your attention to a distressing affair that threatens the livelihood of many of Portland's citizens.

As of early this year, I began to proudly call Portland my home. It promised to be a wonderful place to start my new life after graduating college; beautiful, diverse, friendly to local and small businesses, and brimming with culture. Full of excitement, I packed my whole life into my car and drove fifteen hours to my new city, where I signed a two-year lease, transferred my driver's license, vehicle registration, auto and health insurance, and student loan.

The next step was to begin to build a career. To my great delight, I found my dream job, which was even sweeter when compared to my previous job at a major bank (that I found highly distasteful). I started working for a wonderful marijuana dispensary, with an amazing, friendly staff and compassionate owners who care deeply about the community.

My fortunate footing and promising future are now suspect at best. The city of Portland has placed us under disproportionate and unfair scrutiny. At my dispensary, we are sticklers when it comes to observing and following the OHA's rules and regulations. Yet, despite our earnest efforts to remain compliant, and sincere desire to serve the community, the city of Portland is determined to shut us down.

Should this happen, it will adversely affect my life, and the lives of my coworkers, in no small way. I will be forced to go on Oregon's unemployment program in order to be able to pay my lease, car payment, insurance, bills, and ever-present student loan, thus passing these costs on to the taxpayer. Needless to say, this would totally invert my plans and outlook, making a seemingly-great start in a welcoming city, a life-altering disaster, in a foreign place with no family or other support.

It is my hope that this e-mail will bring to light the existence of this undeserved and unfair harassment by the city, and the harrowing effect it is having on its citizens.

I sincerely appreciate your time and attention to this matter. I dearly hope that my writing will be heard by the commissioners and the city council, and that you'll be sympathetic to our plight, because we need your advocacy. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
-Joseph Moser

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Chris Schaaf <chris@greenbuds.co>
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2016 2:48 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Cc: Chris Schaaf
Subject: Regards to Regulations Pertaining to Dispensaries: Please forward to all City Council Members

Dear Council Members,

I own and operate a dispensary in NE Portland, Rye Waters, Inc DBA Greenbuds, since 2015 and currently have a valid OHA license #73596.

Since the City adopted their regulations pertaining to dispensaries, I have spent countless hours and to date nearly \$10,000 trying to get my dispensary licensed with the City. The primary issue I am running into is the building I operate out of, was constructed in 1929 and the city is refusing to give me a license without a change of occupancy for the building, even though this building has had four operating business prior to us going back to 1985 with no necessary change of occupancy. I am now being told that I will need to upgrade the building structurally as well as make numerous other modifications that are being requested. These upgrades are going to cost me upwards of \$20,000 to complete and as a small business, I simply cannot absorb these costs and stay in business. As you are aware, dispensaries do not have access to traditional forms of capital like other businesses and all of these modifications have to be paid for out of pocket, we cannot go get a bank loan to assist us with this.

Currently, I employ eight people including myself and all of them live in the City of Portland. In addition to payroll taxes and business taxes, I contribute over \$10,000 a month in sales taxes to the state. If the city continues this unnecessary and aggressive path against dispensaries we will have no alternative but to shut our doors putting eight people on unemployment and the city and state will loose out on the taxes they are getting from us.

We have done everything in our power to operate a legitimate business and follow the rules and guidelines the state and city have produced. I implore you to consider these points and reconsider the course the city has taken in regards to dispensaries before it is to late for many small businesses in this industry.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Chris Schaaf
chris@greenbuds.co
323-632-1201

