



## Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

ALCOHOL & MARIJUANA CONTROL OFFICE 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1600 Anchorage, AK 99501 Main: 907.269.0350

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Marijuana Control Board

DATE: October 11, 2021

RE: Licensing Report

FROM: Carrie Craig, Records and Licensing Supervisor

## Staff Changes

On August 30<sup>th</sup>, Lee Bulaong-Guinto resigned and her last day at AMCO was September 10<sup>th</sup>. Her position was posted to WorkPlace Alaska on October 7<sup>th</sup> and will close on October 19<sup>th</sup>. I should have updated information by the time we meet.

Olivia Frank and Nathan Hall are continuing to process marijuana renewal applications but they have begun to get their feet wet with other application types, while Jacqlene Drulis focuses on the master queue and training. I again ask for patience from applicants and licensees while training continues because as you know, completing and reviewing marijuana applications is a long and complicated process to learn. This team has been working very hard and doing it all from home. I am extremely proud of the entire licensing staff.

Jane Sawyer has been an invaluable resource for licensing staff. I cannot thank her enough for her assistance and guidance.

### **Applications**

#### <u>Renewals</u>

There are 158 renewal applications that have not yet been deemed complete by the writing of this memo. At the last meeting I stated there were 327 in the queue waiting for review by an Examiner. As I mentioned earlier, Nathan and Olivia are tasked with processing these renewal applications but they have begun to get their feet wet with other application types.

On August 27<sup>th</sup>, staff emailed a letter which authorized the continued operation of the license to the licensees who have submitted and paid for their renewal application while we complete the review process and await responses from local governing bodies. This temporary approval will expire October 31<sup>st</sup>. Because there are a number of applications still pending, an extended temporary approval was emailed to licensees on October 11<sup>th</sup> and will expire December 31<sup>st</sup>.

After the August 31st deadline, there were approximately 20 licenses that were expired or AMCO was notified by licensees that they were not going to renew.

#### New/Transfer/Other Applications

Since January 1, 2021, AMCO has received and placed approximately 200 various marijuana applications in the queue and 73 of those have been deemed complete to date. At this time, the "to be reviewed" queue has 109 various marijuana applications waiting for processing by an Examiner.

### **Reminders**

AMCO staff continues to work diligently to keep wait times as short as possible, but please keep in mind that applicants may experience a longer waiting period due to the current backlog.

Licensing questions/concerns/applications may be submitted via email to <u>marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov</u> except for fingerprints and payments, or you may call 907-269-0350 and follow the necessary prompts.