



MEMORANDUM

TO: Marijuana Control Board

DATE: December 6, 2022

FROM: Carrie Craig, Records and Licensing
Supervisor

RE: Licensing Report

Introductions & Shout Outs

Before going into detail regarding staffing changes, I would like to take some time to introduce some very important people at AMCO.

Nathan Hall: Nate has been with AMCO since the summer of 2020 and is our marijuana licensing go-to examiner as well as being our resident tech genius. He has spearheaded this year's marijuana renewal processing and spent time with other examiners showing them some of the complicated application processes.

Kristina Serezhenkov: She has been with AMCO since early 2021 and has become the alcohol licensing go-to examiner. She has also begun to attend our stakeholder meetings regarding the Title 4 rewrite. I must point out that with the exception of one or two applications, every application (definitely renewals) that was on the ABC agenda yesterday was processed by Kristina.

Regina Cruz: Regina has been with us for a year this month. Happy anniversary! She initially was trained on all forms of alcohol licensing and has recently been focused on the processing of a variety of marijuana applications, but since switched gears and began assisting Nathan with the renewals also managing her alcohol "caseload" which is not an easy task.

Audrey Saylor: Audrey started with us this past spring and jumped right into learning and processing alcohol new, transfers and change documents. She is inquisitive and does not hesitate to ask questions. Within the last few months, she has begun learning and processing marijuana new and transfer applications while, like Regina, managing her alcohol licensing "caseload".

Christel Brito: Christel has been with AMCO since late summer 2021 as a treasured Administrative Assistant, but as of mid-October she is one of our newest examiners. She has had some licensing training since however she splits her time between licensing and administrative duties. By the time the board meetings are concluded she will be spending 100% of her time in licensing.

Samuel Carrell: Sam is our latest new hire – he started with us in November and comes to us from the marijuana industry. He came in on day one as Licensing's new Administrative Assistant and has been killing it ever since. He is always willing to take on additional duties and learn something new every day. He has already learnt most of the administrative duties in our office such as daily deposits and other financial items as well as issuing marijuana handler permits, alcohol event permits, phones and walk – ins.

This is honestly just the tip of the ice burg. All staff has been fully committed to working tirelessly, including some overtime, to bring these applications to both boards. I am personally grateful for each of these people because I couldn't do my job without them.

Staff Changes

Other than the changes outlined above, our office is interviewing some talented individuals this week for the last vacant examiner position. I expect to have made a selection by the time we are meeting.

Jennifer Dufresne resigned her Administrative Assistant position for an opportunity to continue growing within the state. And now with Christel leaving her Administrative Assistant position with Ms. Ali, we needed to fill the two assistant positions as soon as possible. As mentioned earlier, we hired Samuel Carrell as the Licensing Administrative Assistant. Ms. AnnaRuth Wood, who will be reporting to Maya Ali, has accepted the other assistant position and will begin at AMCO on December 22nd.

Renewals

Out of the 464 licenses to be renewed this year, 323 of those have been claimed for review by an examiner and 231 have been deemed complete to the date of this report. There are approximately 25 renewal applications on this agenda for your consideration.

New, Transfer and other Applications

As of the date of this report, there are less than 50 marijuana applications in the review queue. In addition to this number, we currently have 15 applications assigned to an individual that is being reviewed. Since January 2022, staff has managed to review and deem complete approximately 170 various marijuana applications. There are approximately 12 applications on this agenda for your consideration.

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 marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov except for fingerprints and payments, or you may call 907-269-0350 and follow the necessary prompts.