From: Treasure Chest
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Cc: Jana Weltzin; mayor@craigak.com
Subject: RE: 420 Green Street
Date: Sunday, August 6, 2023 8:24:44 PM

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To whom it concerns:

As the managing owner of Thee Treasure Chest, a retail cannabis store in Craig (#16184), I am providing comments regarding the "420 Green Street" application, also located in Craig. My comments are not so much directed as an absolute objection, but to ask that the Board review the application fairly and with equal standards, as was done during our review. However, we do have some concerns for a couple of reasons.

As you know, the Craig Tribal Association doing business as "420 Green Street" (#34761) has applied for a similar license. This entity is a non-profit, which has acquired Federal funding in various forms, thereby we request that the State of Alaska conduct a review vis-à-vis the "Alaska Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act." Our contention is that Federal funding they have acquired for the promotion of their "mission statement," and as similarly repeated in the "articles of incorporation" warrant review under the Alaska Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act due to some deceptive wording that contradicts their current business goals.

Simply said, any one entity who acquires Federal funding to subvert competition while the other competitor is disallowed from seeking similar Federal funding needs to be reviewed under that State of Alaska law. The State of Alaska does have an obligation to promote business, as well as ensuring the protection of existing Alaskan businesses from unfair competition. And in this case, a large Federally funded corporation should not be able to out compete an existing Alaskan business using Federal funding where none were allowed in our business.

Additionally, there is no known documentation that disallows a felon, out of state resident or underage person from being voted on the CTA board. Consequently, at each of their regular elections, a change of licensee would be necessary and would necessitate the State granting a license to potentially an

underage, out of state, and possibly a felon. These possibilities are contrary to our understanding of the application process we incurred.

Finally, I am not objecting to the potential issuance of a license acquired under equal and fair circumstances, however, based on our information at this point, their approval would not be fair or equal, especially considering their uncompetitive advantage of acquiring Federal funding. And we believe it is withing the States purview to ensure that our long-established business, Thee Treasure Chest, is not disadvantaged by unfair competitive practices. Thanks for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Eric Vanveen
Managing Member
Thee Treasure Chest