THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
Main: 907.269.0350

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marijuana Control Board

DATE: June 24, 2022

FROM: Jane P. Sawyer, Regulations Specialist

RE: Regulations Project – Public Notice for License Applications

The board and AMCO staff have been struggling to find a solution to the issue of lack of newspaper circulating in certain areas of the state. This issue impedes applicants to properly comply with the regulatory requirement of noticing their marijuana license application to the public.

The board has had multiple conversation about the issue, one of the questions being: can it be a newspaper of statewide access? The questions in my mind as I was putting some though into this were, what does that mean and how can that be written into regulation in a way a prudent person would be able to interpret and apply?

I spent many hours researching and trying to find a solution (ex: can it be a newspaper that runs in the very specific area as opposed to statewide? What kind of newspaper would this be? what if said newspaper does not meet the requirement of once a week for three **consecutive** weeks (some newspapers do not)? The result of my struggles in drafting this project, and in my opinion, is that the issue could be resolved by simply defining what a "newspaper of general circulation" means for our purpose, and removing public notice by radio.

Attached is draft for board discussion, I copied the definition of "newspaper of general circulation" from another Alaska State statute that deals with execution of personal property. This may or may not work for the board. I also included a list from the Alaska Court System which lists all the communities in the state and which judicial district the community falls under.