Comments

AMCO received 9/22/21

September 22, 2021

License Number: 30822
License Type: Retail Marijuana Store
Doing Business As: Copper Nugget
Business License #: 2138622

To: AMCO

I am writing in opposition of having and selling marijuana in McCarthy, Alaska for the following reasons.

1. McCarthy does not have any law enforcement. The nearest State Troopers are located in Glennallen, about 100 miles and 4 hours away.
2. We do not have a local government, nor a borough or council.
3. The legal age is 21 for purchasing and having this product, but if it's for sale in McCarthy then people younger than 21 would be supplied by others who purchase it and or share it with them.
4. People that live in McCarthy already have their own marijuana available so it seems likely that the majority of the sales would be for tourists and under age people.
5. This is not the image that we want to have in McCarthy. It already has 2 bars in a very, very small town. In the winter there's about 20 to 30 people who live there. The next city is Chitna, 60 miles away.
6. As McCarthy is so far removed, 350 miles from Anchorage, it's hard to imagine that a store of this nature would be held accountable to the same standards and laws as other stores are in larger locations because they will not be monitored as strictly if at all.

Respectfully,
Carmen Russo
Carmen Russo

AMCO received 3/8/2022

September 22, 2021
March 8, 2022

License Number: 30822
License Type: Retail Marijuana Store
Doing Business As: Copper Nugget
Business License #: 2138622

To: AMCO

I am writing in opposition of having and selling marijuana in McCarthy, Alaska for the following reasons. I have a home in McCarthy for about 35 years and a B&B.

1. McCarthy does not have any law enforcement. The nearest State Troopers are located in Glennallen, about 100 miles and 4 hours away.
2. We do not have a local government, nor a borough or council.
3. The legal age is 21 for purchasing and having this product, but if it's for sale in McCarthy then people younger than 21 would be supplied by others who purchase it and or share it with them.
4. People that live in McCarthy already have their own marijuana available, so it seems likely that the majority of the sales would be for tourists and under age people.
5. This is not the image that we want to have in McCarthy. It already has 2 bars in a very, very small town. In the winter there's about 20 to 30 people who live there. The next city is Chitna, 60 miles away.
6. As McCarthy is so far removed, 350 miles from Anchorage, it's hard to imagine that a store of this nature would be held accountable to the same standards and laws as other stores are in larger locations because they will not be monitored as strictly if at all.

Respectfully,
Carmen Russo
Carmen Russo

From:	Carmen Russo
To:	Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored); Carmen Russo
Subject:	object/comment to the board
Date:	Tuesday, March 8, 2022 8:09:01 AM
Attachments:	McCarthy Marijuana.docx

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3/8/22

Thank you for accepting my objection and comments to the board.

Please see the attached with specific information and comments.

Respectfully,

Carmen Russo
(907) 744-6668

From: chambones@hotmail.com
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Subject: Re: RE: Marijuana shop in McCarthy
Date: Saturday, March 26, 2022 1:19:49 PM

> You don't often get email from chambones@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important

Here is the information you requested.
Thank you
Michael Chambers

The McCarthy business name is "Copper Nugget" (Business License # 2138622). The Marijuana License App # should be 30822.

--
Sent from Outlook Email App for Android

Wednesday, 23 March 2022, 02:10PM -08:00 from Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov:

> Good afternoon,
>
> I apologize for my delay in responding to your e-mail. Do you happen to have the proposed establishments entity name or doing business as (DBA)?
>
> Thank you,
>
> Blue
>
> Olivia Frank
>
> Occupational Licensing Examiner
>
> Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO)
>
> marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov
>
> 550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
>
> Anchorage, Alaska 99501

From: chambones@hotmail.com <chambones@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 10:35 AM
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov>
Subject: Marijuana shop in McCarthy

> You don't often get email from chambones@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important

> **CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Marijuana board,
This is a letter I sent to your applicant during the winter when I received her community notice that she was exploring the possibility of opening a Marijuana shop.

I want you to keep in mind that although McCarthy is a privately held enterprise consisting of multiple private party properties, it is surrounded by an extensive National Park.

While the possession and recreational use of Marijuana may be legal in Alaska, it is not on federal property. Issuing a Marijuana permit to an enterprise in the middle of a national park may not be a good decision as it may encourage visitors to break federal law and suffer the legal consequences.

Jenny,
Thank you for your letter of sincere interest regarding your interest in opening a recreational majijuana outlet in McCarthy.

I am hardly qualified to speak as a "local" on this issue as I have been a temporary business representative for Base Camp Kennicott for the last 3 years. My roots do go back many years in the area as I was dear friends with Tony Zak. I used to visit him in the 70s and 80s often.

I wish to share with you my love for McCarthy and the area. It is one of the most remarkable places I have ever had the opportunity to reside in even if it is only during the summer business months. I believe we all share this love.

Regarding marijuana, I am not adverse to it's use as a personal recreational drug. I consumed marijuana for 15 years until I finally accepted that it was a "reality altering" drug which is very easy to use habitually.

I matured into a life where I built my own reality which I love without using drugs to enhance my experience. I understand fully that our body is a gift and a temple for our creator. This is a personal choice and one I encourage but do not push on others. It is their own free will to make personal decisions which are paramount. I just would never want to be an agent who reinforces bad choices.

Given this, there is no recreational drug which heightens the incredible experience I get in the McCarthy area. It is profound the feeling I get whenever I return into the urban environment of the greater Anchorage area and I am impacted with the superficial aspects of the highly constructed society greatly out of touch with the true experience of places like McCarthy.

The use of marijuana gives the user a synthetic experience.
It saddens me to think that visitors to McCarthy and the surrounding area desire a synthetic boost in order to heighten the experience there.

I wish for a day and time where we can experience some sense of the Garden of Eden without the apple. For me this is McCarthy. I only ask you to consider my thoughts in your business deliberations. You are beyond blessed to be able to experience that area on a regular basis. I care dearly for that natural experience.

My high regards,

Michael Chambers
Site Manager
Base Camp Kennicott

AMCO received 9/29/2021

Andrew and Heidi Linton
120 Church Street
Black Mountain, NC 28711
828-582-3346

September 28, 2021

AMCO
Marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov
550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, Alaska, 99501

RE: License Number 30822, Initiated, Retail Management Store, Copper Nugget, Business License Number 2138622, Physical address: [Lot 3 Block 1, Laurence Barrett, Addition to Townsite of McCarthy, McCarthy, AK 99588]

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express our strong objection to the licensing/establishment of a Marijuana Establishment in McCarthy, Alaska, as requested by Jennifer Rosenbaum of the Copper Nugget.

Since the early 1990s, we have owned property in McCarthy. [My (Heidi's) parents have owned property in the area since the 1960s, and we were regular visitors to the McCarthy/Kennicott area since my early childhood – over fifty years.] We are currently part owners/managers of a core business in the community, and have assisted/donated to various local community improvement projects over many years. Our family, now including 3 grown children, and 2 grandchildren, have been regular seasonal visitors/summer residents in McCarthy for most of the past 3 decades.

We are strongly against the establishment of a marijuana retail store in McCarthy for the following reasons:

1) The town of McCarthy consists of scattered private land inholdings located within the Wrangell St. Elias National Park. Parklands are considered federal land. Per Alaska State statute, it is illegal to consume marijuana products in public, and per federal statute, it is illegal to consume marijuana on federal lands. McCarthy has a huge influx of seasonal visitors, including international guests and many out-of-state visitors who come to enjoy the spectacular scenery and adventure that awaits. The vast majority of seasonal visitors do not own private property within the McCarthy/Kennicott area. Accordingly, their non-public legal consumption of marijuana would necessarily need to take place on the private property of local residents/businesses/guest lodgings (if allowed), or would illegally take place on federal park lands. As a property owner, we would strongly object to trespassing on our (or others') private property by uninvited guests for any reason, but particularly for purposes of marijuana use. Furthermore, we feel it would be confusing, counterproductive and against good public policy to promote/allow the sale of a controlled substance that cannot be legally used/consumed in the public park lands that comprise the majority of the proximate surroundings. In short, there is no

AMCO received 9/29/2021

place where the majority of likely consumers could legally consume this product, hence, it should not be offered for local sale.

2) Many visitors to the Wrangell St. Elias National Park engage in activities during their stay that have inherent, and at times, deadly risks – including backcountry camping, hiking, glacier climbing, river rafting, kayaking, trekking, snow machining, 4 wheeling, driving, flying, mine ruin exploration, etc. Furthermore, local (and seasonal) residents are often employed by businesses providing support services to visitors undertaking these higher risk activities – to include driving, guiding, piloting, etc. Many businesses may require as part of their policies random drug tests to be sure that employees are substance-free for their own safety and that of the public. We are strongly against offering for sale in the local community a substance that is known to alter judgement and that may further increase inherent recreational or employment risks for visitors or residents. Any injuries or deaths in the area create significant burdens and often further risks for other residents, local voluntary first-responders, park service employees, local businesses, etc. It does not seem to be in the best interests of the community to allow the sale of a substance that alters judgement contributing to increased risk.
3) We are against bringing in a substance that requires tight regulation and oversight by law enforcement. Already the McCarthy/Kennicott area suffers from extremely limited public safety support – we are against any increase in workload for local/regional law enforcement at a time of budget cuts and decreasing public safety resources. Nor do we, as private citizens, wish to have to deal with the predictable detrimental impact of unenforced regulations.
4) There are a number of families with small children who are year-round residents of McCarthy. In the interests of supporting the young generation and the greater health and well-being of the community, we are strongly against the normalization and sale of a substance known to adversely impact health, potentially result in dependency or addiction, or that may serve as a gateway to illegal recreational drug use.

We hope you will carefully consider our strong objections as you review the licensing request. Please feel free to be in touch if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew Linton

Heidi Linton

AMCO received 9/29/2021

From: Heidi Linton
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Cc: nizinaessentials@gmail.com; alinton.nc@gmail.com
Subject: Letter of objection related to license 30822, Copper Nugget
Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 11:43:52 AM

Please see attached the public notice regarding an application for marijuana establishment license, and our letter of objection, in response. Please take our letter into consideration.

Thank you,
Heidi Linton

South of McCarthy Creek.

- In Community Medical Cache building. ...
- Into the subdivision off of the Nizina Road.

AMCO received 9/29/2021

Public Notice

Application for Marijuana Establishment License

License Number: 30822
License Status: Initiated
License Type: Retail Marijuana Store
Doing Business As: Copper Nugget
Business License Number: 2138622
Email Address: nizinaessentials@gmail.com
Latitude, Longitude: 61.434412, -142.921166
Physical Address: Lot 3 Block 1, Laurence Barrett, Addition to Townsite of McCarthy
McCarthy, AK 99588
UNITED STATES

Licensee #1

Type: Entity
Alaska Entity Number: 10172197
Alaska Entity Name: Copper Nugget, LLC
Phone Number: 907-987-4211
Email Address: nizinaessentials@gmail.com
Mailing Address: PO Box MXY
Glenn Allen, AK 99588
UNITED STATES

Entity Official #1

Type: Individual
Name: Jennifer Rosenbaum
Phone Number: 907-987-4211
Email Address: nizinaessentials@gmail.com
Mailing Address: PO Box MXY
Glenn Allen, AK 99588
UNITED STATES

Note: *No affiliates entered for this license.*

Interested persons may object to the application by submitting a written statement of reasons for the objection to their local government, the applicant, and the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) not later than 30 days after the director has determined the application to be complete and has given written notice to the local government. Once an application is determined to be complete, the objection deadline and a copy of the application will be posted on AMCO's website at https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco. Objections should be sent to AMCO at marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov or to 550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600, Anchorage, AK 99501.

POSTING DATE 9/2/21

Erin McKinstry & Ian Gyori
P.O. Box MXY 78b
Glennallen, AK 99588
314-800-4764

November 12, 2021

Physical Address:
Lot 2, Block 12, Fireweed Subdivision
McCarthy, AK

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing in support of the Copper Nugget's (license #30822) application to open a marijuana retail store in McCarthy, Alaska. We live around three miles from downtown McCarthy, off of a private road on the west side of the Kennicott River.

McCarthy's economy is limited and relies heavily on summer tourism. The new business would bolster that economy by providing a new service to visitors. Additionally, rather than having to drive hours to access another retail store and sending money out of the local economy, residents could instead invest their money locally and save fuel, time and money purchasing marijuana from the Copper Nugget.

We also support the location of the new store. It's appropriately placed in downtown McCarthy, the commercial hub for the town.

Erin has known Jenny since she first moved to McCarthy in 2015, and Ian has known her for nearly two decades. Ian has also worked with her professionally and her existing small business, Nizina Essentials, to provide accounting services for his restaurant, The Potato. We both consider her professional and responsible. She is an important part of the McCarthy community. Additionally, we support her efforts to provide for her family and make a living for herself in the place she calls home.

Sincerely,
Erin McKinstry and Ian Gyori
McCarthy residents

From:	Erin McKinstry
To:	Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Cc:	nizinaessentials@gmail.com
Subject:	Letter of support for Copper Nugget, license #30822
Date:	Friday, November 12, 2021 10:31:13 AM
Attachments:	letterofsupport_coppernugget.docx

Hi there,

Attached is a letter of support for the Copper Nugget's application to open a marijuana retail store in McCarthy.

Best,
Erin McKinstry and Ian Gyori

From: Neil Darish
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Cc: Jenny Rosenbaum
Subject: Marijuana Business License Request #30822
Date: Monday, December 27, 2021 12:26:37 PM

You don't often get email from neildarish@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

RE: Copper Nugget License #30822 Application

Dear AMCO:
I am a 20 year resident and business owner in McCarthy, Alaska. I would like to provide the following information and testimony to the ABC board in regards to consideration of the Marijauna Business license application #30822, proposed for the town of McCarthy.

I currently own and operate several businesses in McCarthy, Alaska including 2 small hotels, a Saloon, a fine dining restaurant, Grocery and Liquor Stores, Shuttle company and other services in McCarthy, Alaska. Our company has been restoring and stabilizing much of the downtown McCarthy area since 2001. We employ over 45 people each summer in our Tourism based economy.

The impact of a Marijuana business in McCarthy will be a positive one for tourism here. The town would also benefit from an on site consumption license if one is applied for in the future.

Tom Kizzia's latest book, published last month (by McCarthy's own Porphyry Press) entitled *Cold Mountain Path,* tells the history of McCarthy between 1938 and 1983. I mention this book as the author describes among the many off-grid exploits, the "Hippy Hole". The Hippy Hole is part of our colorful past and the use of Marijuana in McCarthy is, well, legendary. Today's tourist may or may not be aware of Marijuana in Alaska, but since it's legal, and since it's use is historically part of McCarthy, a new business for the legal sale of Marijuana is a welcome business addition to town.

Regarding any concerns of a Marijuana business in McCarthy because we are in the very center of Wrangell St-Elias National Park (WRST). Marijuana possession and use is illegal on NPS Lands. In fact, 1 million acres of the "13 million acre WRST" is privately held land, not lands under NPS management. McCarthy sits deep inside the Unorganized Borough in Alaska. There's one million private acres not managed by Federal Land Use restrictions. The unorganized Borough provides us with Federal and State Government but no local governing body exists for McCarthy.

I've known Jenny Rosenbaum personally and professionally for around 20 years. Jenny currently is the CFO of McCarthy Ventures LLC, one of the companies I own. The legal provisions, under the ownership of Jenny Rosenbaum, will ensure safe application of the law in McCarthy.

Please let me know if I can provide any further information.

Kind regards,
Neil Darish
1.907.202.6717
neildarish@gmail.com

Virus-free. www.avast.com

Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
550 W. 7th Ave
Suite 1600
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Marijuana Control Board
Jenny Rosenbaum

It has come to my attention that MS Rosenblum has started the process of applying for a license/permit for a Cannabis Retail Store in McCarthy. I sincerely support her efforts. I will give you my background and reasoning.

I came to McCarthy the same year as Jenny. I retired there after years of working in the mental health and drug and alcohol field. I have volunteered at the museum for twenty years, and I attend a local church and enjoy the community of McCarthy. We are diverse, eclectic and love to take sides and hold our point of view passionately. Something like cannabis can bring out the best of opinions.

Although, we run in different circles, since 2000, Jenny and I have both witnessed huge growth in McCarthy. There are more seasonal and year around residents, more year-round and seasonal McMansions on the hills, dry cabins in the woods, increased visitors and new business. Several years ago, I seriously considered a cannabis retail shop downtown. However, I backed out due to my age. You see, I am 76 and semi-retired.

For approximately 30 years I have worked as a drug alcohol counselor, a domestic violence and anger management counselor, a mental health clinician, and a mental health first responder, for T47 (involuntary Commitments). I have worked at the Department of Corrections, the Alaska Psychiatric Hospital and the Alaska Native Hospital Behavioral Urgent Response Team (SCF-BURT). I lived and worked in the village of Utqiagvik (Barrow) for seven years off and on. I have a diverse professional background and a working experience with cannabis use in Alaska. I am more than an opinionated old woman. I am well trained, with boots on the ground experience in our great state in multi settings.

It is a matter of time before we have a pot shop. I prefer a local person in this endeavor. I would be leery of an unknown outsider. Jenny is about more than a bottom line. She has a total investment in our community for herself and her son. She has integrity and nowhere in our twenty year mutual history have I heard negative remarks about her. She is trusted and respected.

AMCO
FEB - 9 2022

As it is – McCarthy people use cannabis for many reasons: recreation, anxiety, sleep and/or pain management. They must drive to Valdez or Anchorage to pick up what is used. They are not addicts, they work, they are employers and employees, they have their own businesses, volunteer, greet visitors, write books, drive vans, row boats, grow gardens and they smoke dope for many reasons on their own time. Some are jerks, yes, but they are jerks before they smoke pot. Most are responsible. I support Jenny Rosembaum in this community business venture.

I cannot sign her petition. As I also have a condo in Anchorage. I bought it, recently due to Covid and the need to work at home. I use the Anchorage Municipally tax break for senior Alaskan residents for my condo. As such, I must register to vote in Anchorage. Until Covid, my voter's registration and primary residency was McCarthy.

It is a matter of time before a pot shop is opened. Jenny Rosenbaum would be the responsible person do this

Sincerely, PMgarrett

Patricia M Garrett, LCSW AK 235
551 Harold Bentley Ave
Fairbanks, Ak. 99701

Feb 3, 2022

AMCO
FEB – 9 2022

From: Dave Syren
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)
Subject: License #30822, Store, Copper Nugget, McCarthy, AK Business License #2138622.
Date: Monday, March 21, 2022 10:59:19 AM

You don't often get email from akflyer00@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Licensing Board,

I object to licensing for the sale of any Marijuana products in McCarthy, Alaska.

My initial visitation to the McCarthy area dates back to the late 1960's and I have investments in the area that bring me back frequently each summer.

The introduction of recreational drug sales within a 13.2 million acre Park will lead to illegal use/transport of Marijuana on park land accidentally or intentionally and potentially place people and businesses at risk of criminal indictment.

The transport of Marijuana or Marijuana products (intentionally or accidentally) from the place of purchase onto any "commercial carrier" could jeopardize the person in possession, the transport equipment operator, the equipment itself and the business entity of such an enterprise. This could include bikes, ebikes, water-craft, vehicles, shuttles, aircraft, etc. Most, if not all visitors, will avail themselves of some sort of transportation options offered within the park and if in the possession of Marijuana while doing so, could trigger personal and operator arrest, confiscation of equipment and criminal charges against business owners.

Visitors will not know the details of legal/illegal possession, of the amounts prohibited on commercial carriers, of park/private property boundaries or even of state and national border boundaries existing within this park when it comes to Marijuana possession and transport regulations within the park. This will create unreasonable risk for many Marijuana puchasers, commercial transportation operators and business owners in the area.

The complications of this issue alone should warrant the avoidance of all Marijuana sales in McCarthy and there are many other reasons as well to refrain from sales of this product that I'm sure others will weigh in on. Please listen.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Syren