From:	Sawyer, Jane Preston (CED)
To:	Derek Clark
Cc:	Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored); Wilson, Joan M (CED)
Subject:	RE: 33144 Hidden Farms LLC new app status update
Date:	Wednesday, December 28, 2022 2:47:00 PM
Attachments:	image001.png 33144 MJ-07.pdf 33144 Public Notice.pdf

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Hello, Derek,

Jane here at AMCO.

I was able to review your application relatively quick because you did a good job on it. I can't speak to the going backward in the queue aspect, I didn't really look into the details so I could spend that time looking at your application instead, but applications don't go backward in the queue. Now, IF you look at our website to find your spot in the queue, you may not get accurate information because of the manner in which the queue on our website is posted – this is on us; everything we do is so manual, we don't always have the time to reorganize the document.

Anyhow, I have one question on your application: the attached affidavit (MJ-07) states you posted the Public Notice on 5/2/2022 through 6/1/2022, however, you initiated your application online on 5/11/2022, meaning you could not have had the Public Notice to post.

If the attached Public Notice (which is generated in the license application initiation through your myAlaska) is not what you posted at the location of the proposed premises and at the Carrs on Huffman, please just post it for the 10 full days and provide me with a new signed affidavit. This is all I need from you in order to deem the application complete, notify the Muni of your application, and put it on the agenda for the March meeting.

Note: your lease expires March 2023, we will need a current lease or lease renewal before issuing a license.

Respectfully,
Jane

Jane P. Sawyer
Regulations Specialist/Acting Program Coordinator
DCCED-Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-269-0490

From: Wilson, Joan M (CED) <joan.wilson@alaska.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2022 1:32 PM

To: Derek Clark <derekdclark@gmail.com>; Craig, Carrie D (CED) <carrie.craig@alaska.gov>
Cc: Sawyer, Jane Preston (CED) <jane.sawyer@alaska.gov>; Hall, Nathan D (CED) <nathan.hall@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: 33144 Hidden Farms LLC new app status update

Hello, Derek.

I have never heard of an application moving backward in the queue. I will check on this and reach out to you this week.

Respectfully,

Joan M. Wilson
AMCO Director

From: Derek Clark <derekdclark@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 28, 2022 10:13 AM
To: Craig, Carrie D (CED) <carrie.craig@alaska.gov>; Wilson, Joan M (CED) <joan.wilson@alaska.gov>
Subject: Fwd: 33144 Hidden Farms LLC new app status update

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from derekdclark@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Joan & Carrie,

Good morning, I hope you both had an amazing Christmas and an even better New Year. I was referred by Natanael Hall on your team who has been great to work with and very responsive to my emails to-date. He suggested I reach out to both of you in regards to my concerns with the progress of my Standard Cultivation License Application #33144. I understand you are both out on vacation this week and that you may not respond to this email until next week.

My application was submitted by my attorney on July 14th, 2022 and it had been slowly moving up the queue until I reached out this week. On October 12th, 2022 my application was #39 in line, on November 4th, 2022 it was #30 in line, but when I checked yesterday, December 27th, my application moved backwards to #49 in line. Since October 12th, 2022 my application has actually moved backwards by 20% as AMCO has decided to re-prioritize the queues.

This is particularly concerning to me as every month there is a huge financial burden on myself and my new business. I understand from Nathanael that AMCO re-prioritizes semi-frequently what types of applications and renewals they focus on and I know there are a lot of renewals and new applications to review. However, the length of time it is taking to review those applications is of grave concern to me, so much so that it puts my future business at risk of running out of money before we even get our application reviewed by the State.

Is there anything that can be done to advance the timing? I had hoped to make the December AMCO meeting but that time passed. I was then hopeful to make the March AMCO meeting but

with the recent backwards trend in my application's movement that timeline is looking more doubtful, which would then push me out until June. That delay adds tens of thousands in overhead cost to my business which I am paying for by myself. I am running the very real risk of my business being sunk before ever getting started due to application delays of which there is little to no transparency or communication.

I genuinely appreciate that this is a hard problem to tackle and that you all are doing your best, I am really hoping there is a way to ensure that my application will be reviewed and processed so that I can make the March AMCO meeting for final approval.

Any insight is greatly appreciated and I am more than happy to have a quick phone conversation with either or both of you.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email and address my concerns.

Kindest Regards,

Derek Clark

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)** <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 28, 2022 at 9:22 AM
Subject: 33144 Hidden Farms LLC new app status update
To: Derek Clark <derekdclark@gmail.com>, Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov>

Derek, good morning.

Great question!

As I stated in my previous email, the number is highly subjective & ultimately does not technically mean anything but we give that number out as the applicants (understandably) ask for it.

There could be several different explanations for why a place in line would change. The short answer is prioritization of the queue changes on a semi-regular basis, at the discretion of Records & Licensing Supervisor Craig and Director Wilson.

Unfortunately, both of them are out of the office this week on leave. However, I still personally encourage you to reach out to them via email or leave a VM for a much more detailed explanation of how the queue works.

Carrie Craig
Carrie.craig@alaska.gov

Joan Wilson

Joan.wilson@alaska.gov

Both of their phone extensions can be reached via 907/269-0350

Thank you,

Nathanael Hall

Occupational Licensing Examiner
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-334-0892
marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov

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From: Derek Clark <derekdclark@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2022 11:41 AM
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: 33144 Hidden Farms LLC new app status update

Nathanael,

When we last talked I was #30 in the queue and prior to that #39. How did my applocation drop back 19 spots on the queue?

On Tue, Dec 27, 2022, 11:32 AM Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov> wrote:

> Good morning.
>
> Thanks, I hope you had a great holiday as well.
>
> Thank you for your inquiry, your application was received July 14th and is approximately #49in our queue to be thoroughly reviewed in detail by an Examiner. This approximate number does not factor in separate queues for renewals and MJ-15D's. I anticipate you will be hearing from one of us relatively shortly. We are looking forward to scheduling your application for presentation to the Board as soon as possible. Please feel free to reach out anytime with questions/concerns by calling 907-269-0350 or emailing marijuana.licensing@alasksa.gov. We will do our very best to respond within 24-48 hours.

Please note new apps are currently being processed by Audrey, who has been making amazing progress with that queue as well as printing renewed licenses. (I'm currently finishing up the remaining renewals.) As we've discussed previously, that number in line is essentially meaningless given who is assigned to what queue at what level of prioritization is regularly shifting. However, if I was on the other end, I would still want that number.

Thank you,

Nathanael Hall

Occupational Licensing Examiner
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
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marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov

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From: Derek Clark <derekdclark@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2022 10:15 AM
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: 33144 Hidden Farms LLC new app status update

Nathanael,

Good morning. I truly hope you had an amazing Christmas Holiday and are looking forward to the New Year. I wanted to drop a quick line to see if you could provide me with a quick update on my application status in the queue?

Thank you in advance and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Have a great day!

Regards,

Derek Clark
Hidden Farms LLC

On Sun, Nov 6, 2022 at 2:44 PM Derek Clark <derekdclark@gmail.com> wrote:

Nathanael,

Thank you very much for the update and your transparency. I understand and can sympathize with the staffing issues that everyone is having these days no matter what industry you are in. Again, I appreciate the candor and will continue to look forward to hearing from your team as soon as they have had time to review my application.

Thank you for everything and I truly hope you all had a wonderful weekend and that your week starts well.

Talk soon.

Derek

On Fri, Nov 4, 2022 at 1:56 PM Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov> wrote:

> Thank you for your inquiry, your application was received July 14th and is approximately #30 in our queue to be thoroughly reviewed in detail by an Examiner. This approximate number does not factor in separate queues for renewals and MJ-15D's. I anticipate you will be hearing from one of us relatively shortly. We are looking forward to scheduling your application for presentation to the Board as soon as possible. Please feel free to reach out anytime with questions/concerns by calling 907-269-0350 or emailing marijuana.licensing@alasksa.gov. We will do our very best to respond within 24-48 hours.
>
> We are currently processing new/transfer apps submitted the week of 4/20/22. However, it should be noted queues are being handled differently than normal. Currently 1 examiner, Audrey, is exclusively processing new apps and she's got a significant amount processed just fresh out of training. I know this isn't the answer you want, but if I were in your shoes I'd still want the most accurate answer. Which is..it's very highly unlikely a July 14th submission can be reviewed in time for you to make corrections to make it deemed complete by December 1st, it's also not impossible either. Every application is truly different in this industry.
>
> One initiative I've proposed is to make the queue public. That's in progress, but at least then (when it goes live) applicant would be able to instantly look up where they were in line.
>
> Thank you,
>
> **Nathanael Hall**
> Occupational Licensing Examiner

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From: Derek Clark <derekdclark@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 12:01 PM
To: Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: 33144 Hidden Farms LLC new app status update

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Nathanael,

Thank you very much for your prompt response a couple of weeks ago and I apologize I did not say that earlier. I wanted to check-in again to see how things are progressing. As I am sure you are acutely aware, the next meeting is only ~5 weeks away and I am concerned that my application will not make that timeline, especially considering I cannot file the Muni application until after AMCO deems my current application as complete.

Do you think there is any hope or am I going to have to wait until March?

Thank you again and I look forward to hearing from you or another member of your team soon.

Regards,

Derek Clark
License # 33144
Business License # 2156410

On Wed, Oct 12, 2022 at 2:29 PM Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored) <marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov> wrote:

> Thank you for your voicemail inquiry, your application was received July 14th and is approximately #39 in our queue to be thoroughly reviewed in detail by an Examiner. This approximate number does not factor in separate queues for renewals and MJ-

15D's, rapidly shifting prioritization directives from the Program Director, staffing, etc. I anticipate you will be hearing from one of us relatively shortly. We are looking forward to scheduling your application for presentation to the Board as soon as possible. Please feel free to reach out anytime with questions/concerns by calling 907-269-0350 or emailing marijuana.licensing@alasksa.gov We will do our very best to respond within 24-48 hours.

FYI Ijust now updated the status from “initiated” to “in queue”, that was an error during intake that we appreciate you bringing to our attention.

Thank you,

Nathanael Hall

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