

Alcohol & Drug Policy Council Meeting April 15, 2025

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Connecticut Consumer Protection – Cannabis Division



WHAT ARE HEMP, CANNABIS, THC AND CBD?

Hemp

• Generally defined as *Cannabis sativa L.* and any part of the plant with a delta-9 THC concentration of not more than 0.3% on a dry weight basis.

Cannabis

• The dried leaves and flowering tops of the *Cannabis sativa* or *Cannabis indica* plant. Contains active chemicals called cannabinoids that cause drug-like effects all through the body. Also known as marijuana.

THC

• A cannabinoid molecule in cannabis that's long been recognized as the main psychoactive ingredient that causes people to feel high. Total THC = (THCA x 0.877) + THC

CBD

• Chemically similar to THC but does not have the same psychoactive effects.



THREE CATEGORIES OF THC PRODUCTS

High-THC Hemp Products

(Cannabis)

Moderate-THC Hemp Products

(excludes infused beverages)

Infused Beverages

(for the purposes of this presentation, "infused beverages" refers to beverages containing THC)



PUBLIC ACT 23-79

Classified High-THC Hemp Products as cannabis (marijuana)

(29) "Marijuana" means all parts of any plant, or species of the genus cannabis or any infra specific taxon thereof, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such plant, its seeds or resin, any [product made using hemp, as defined in section 22-61*l*, which exceeds three-tenths per cent total THC concentration on a dry-weight basis high-THC hemp product; manufactured cannabinoids, synthetic cannabinoids, except as provided in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision; or cannabinon, cannabinol or cannabidiol and chemical compounds which are similar to cannabinon, cannabinol or cannabidiol in chemical structure or which are similar thereto in physiological effect, which are controlled substances under this chapter, except cannabidiol derived from hemp,

Public Act No. 23-79

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HIGH-THC HEMP PRODUCTS (CANNABIS)

Type of Product	Exceeds Total THC Per Serving	Exceeds Total THC Per Container	
 Hemp topical Hemp transdermal patch Hemp tincture, including, but not limited to, oil intended for ingestion by swallowing, buccal administration or sublingual absorption Hemp concentrate or extract, including, but not limited to, a vape oil, wax or shatter Manufacturer hemp product not described above 	1 mg	5 mg	
• Cannabis flower or cannabis trim	Exceeds 0.3% on a dry-weight basis		



HIGH-THC PRODUCTS ARE CONSIDERED CANNABIS AND SHOULD <u>NEVER</u> BE SOLD OUTSIDE OF A LICENSED DISPENSARY FACILITY, HYBRID RETAILER OR RETAILER.

IF YOU SEE CANNABIS PRODUCTS BEING SOLD OUTSIDE OF A LICENSED CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENT, CONTACT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.



LICENSED CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS

Cannabis and high-THC hemp products can only be sold at the following licensed cannabis establishment types:

- Dispensary facilities Medical marijuana patients only
- Hybrid retailers Medical marijuana patients and adult-use consumers
- Retailers Adult-use consumers only

Licensed cannabis establishments require security and age verification to enter. If you can walk right in without showing your identification, it's likely not licensed.



LICENSED CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS

http://ct.gov/cannabis

Adult-Use C.

Adult-Use C.

NUTMEG W.

NUTMEG KI.

HIGHER CO.

HIGHER CO.

ACRE.0015.

ACRE.0015

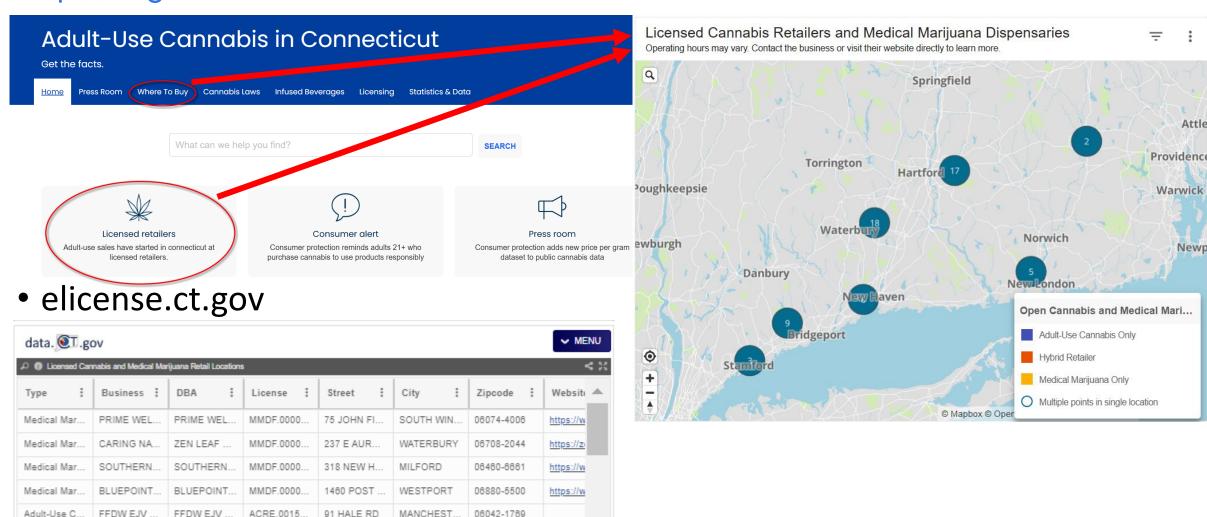
11 Phelps W.

Willington

KILLINGLY

06279

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MODERATE-THC HEMP PRODUCTS

Section 31 of Public Act 24-76

- (5) "Moderate-THC hemp product" (A) means a manufacturer hemp product that has total THC, as defined in section 21a-240 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, of not less than one-half of one milligram, and not more than five milligrams, on a per-container basis, and (B) does not include (i) an infused beverage, as defined in section 26 of this act, or (ii) a legacy infused beverage, as defined in section 26 of this act; and
- (6) "Moderate-THC hemp product vendor" means a person that (A) holds a certificate of registration issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section, and (B) is not a cannabis establishment.
- (b) Beginning on January 1, 2025, no person shall sell any moderate-THC hemp product in the state unless such person is a cannabis establishment or holds a certificate of registration issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to this section.



MODERATE-THC HEMP PRODUCT VENDORS

- Effective January 1, 2025, only licensed cannabis establishments or individuals registered as moderate-THC hemp product vendors may sell moderate-THC hemp products
 - \$2,000 application fee
 - Demonstrate location
 - Show that 85%+ of sales are from the sale of moderate-THC hemp products
 - Hemp manufacturers that manufacture and sell moderate-THC hemp products at the location where they manufacture hemp do not need to satisfy this criteria



MODERATE-THC HEMP PRODUCTS (NOT CANNABIS)

Type of Product	Total THC Per Container					
 Hemp topical Hemp transdermal patch Hemp tincture, including, but not limited to, oil intended for ingestion by swallowing, buccal administration or sublingual absorption Hemp concentrate or extract, including, but not limited to, a vape oil, wax or shatter Manufacturer hemp product not described above 	<u><</u> 0.5 mg and → 5 mg					
 Cannabis flower or cannabis trim 	Up to 0.3% on a dry-weight basis					
Must be 21+ to buy moderate-THC hemp products. This category does not include hemp-infused beverages that contain THC.						



MODERATE-THC HEMP PRODUCTS

- Cannot contain synthetic cannabinoids
- Cannot be packaged, presented or advertised in a manner that is likely to mislead a consumer by incorporating any statement, brand, design, representation, picture, illustration or other depiction that:
 - (1) Bears a reasonable resemblance to trademarked or characteristic packaging of a cannabis product or a commercially available product other than a cannabis product; or,
 - (2) implies that the manufacturer hemp product is a cannabis product, a total THC of more than 0.3% on a dry-weight basis, or is a high-THC hemp product.



MODERATE-THC HEMP PRODUCTS

Packaging and labeling for products meant for human ingestion:

- Must have a scannable barcode, website or QR code with:
 - Product name
 - Manufacturer/Packer/Distributor name, address and phone number
 - Batch number
 - Concentration of cannabinoids and total THC
- Expiration/Best by date
- Statements:
 - Children and those who are pregnant or breastfeeding should consult with a healthcare professional before using
 - Keep out of reach of children
 - Product has not been evaluated by the FDA
 - Warning statement for inhalable products



IDENTIFYING NON-COMPLIANT PRODUCTS



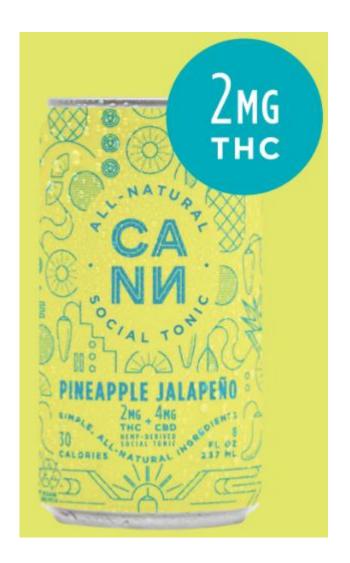
INFUSED BEVERAGES

Effective July 1, 2024

- Must be at least 21 years old to purchase
- Can only be sold to customers at <u>licensed cannabis</u> retail establishments or package stores with a <u>waiver</u> allowing them to sell infused beverages
- No indirect sales (mail, telephone or electronic means (i.e. no <u>shipping</u> to customers, but <u>delivery</u> is permitted))

Effective October 1, 2024

- Cannot contain more than 3mg THC per container
- Container cannot be less than 12 fluid ounces
- Cannot be sold in packs of more than four containers
- Can only be sold to customers at licensed <u>cannabis</u> retail establishments or packages stores with an <u>endorsement</u> to sell infused beverages





INFUSED BEVERAGES

Packaging and Labeling Requirements Effective October 1, 2024

- Must have symbol indicating it's for 21+ only
- Cannot contain synthetic cannabinoids
- Cannot be packaged or a labeled in a way that:
 - Resembles cannabis offered for sale in this state;
 - Mimics or resembles a commercially available food or beverage item that does not normally contain cannabis or THC;
 - Implies that the product is cannabis; or,
 - Appeals to individuals under 21 years of age.



0.5 inch



PACKAGING AND LABELING

Cannabis and high-THC hemp products (not infused beverages) must meet strict packaging and labeling guidelines:

<u>Labels must clearly indicate:</u>

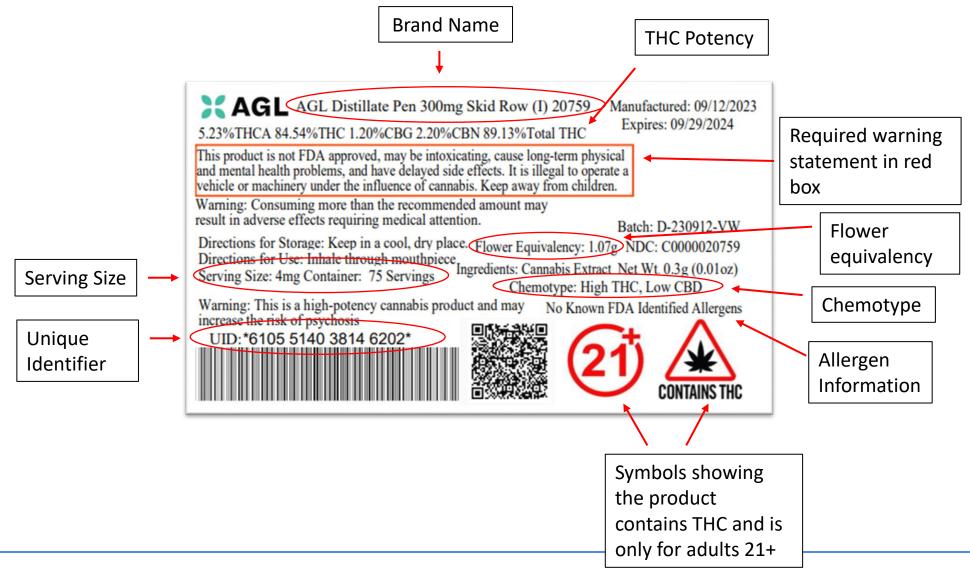
- Brand name
- Presence of THC or CBD
- Serving size, dosing and other information
- Plain contrasting color with Times New Roman font

Packaging must be:

- Child-, tamper-, and lightresistant
- Uniformly one color
- Packaging for edible products must be white



PACKAGING AND LABELING





EXAMPLES OF APPROVED CANNABIS PRODUCTS







Total THC 79.53%

1.52%B-Caryophyllen

High THC, Low CBD

THC 79.53% / 795.30mg
THCA 0.00% / 0.00mg
CONTAINS THC
CO THC 79.53% / 795.30mg

Seven Alien Kush Pure T795C3 21131

Batch ID: IPEN23-019
Net Wr: 1.0g - 0.04oz
FLW EQ3.56 g - 0.13oz
Expires On: 10/17/2024
Allergens: Cannabis
Warning:
Consuming more than the
recommended amount may result
in adverse effects requiring
modical attention.

modical attention.

Warning: This is a high-potency cannabis product and may increase the risk









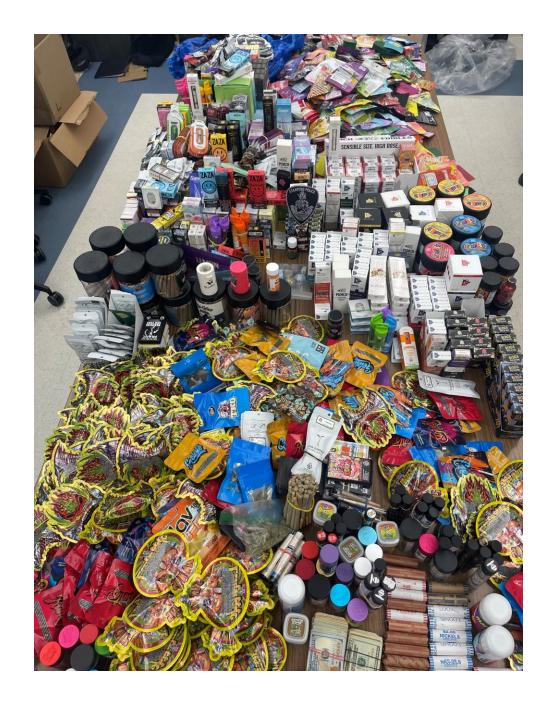




APPROVED CANNABIS PRODUCTS SHOULD NEVER BE SOLD OUTSIDE OF A LICENSED DISPENSARY FACILITY, HYBRID RETAILER OR RETAILER.

IF YOU SEE APPROVED CANNABIS PRODUCTS
BEING SOLD OUTSIDE OF A LICENSED CANNABIS
ESTABLISHMENT, DRUG CONTROL CAN PROVIDE
GUIDANCE.





SIGNS OF ILLICIT PRODUCTS

- Brightly colored packaging
- Not labeled with required information
- Not child- or tamperresistant

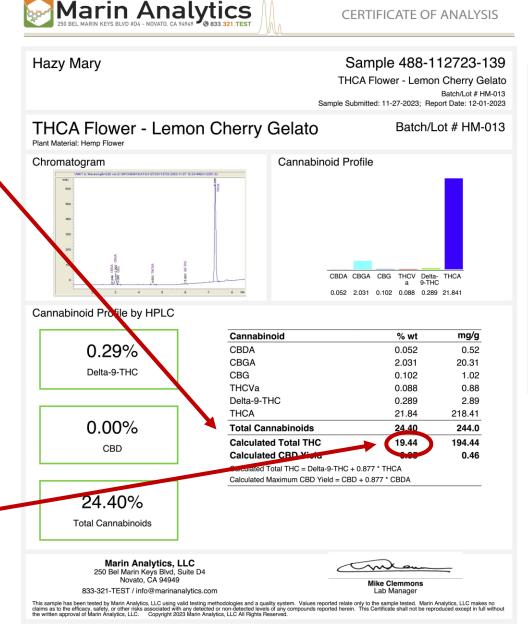




CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

- Look at Total THC
 - For flower, look for % of THC
 - For products other than flower, look at total mg of THC
- Does it have more than 0.3% THC?

YES! This is 19.44% THC.



Conclusion:

This product is high-THC hemp and considered cannabis.

Flower products containing more than 0.3% THC are considered cannabis.

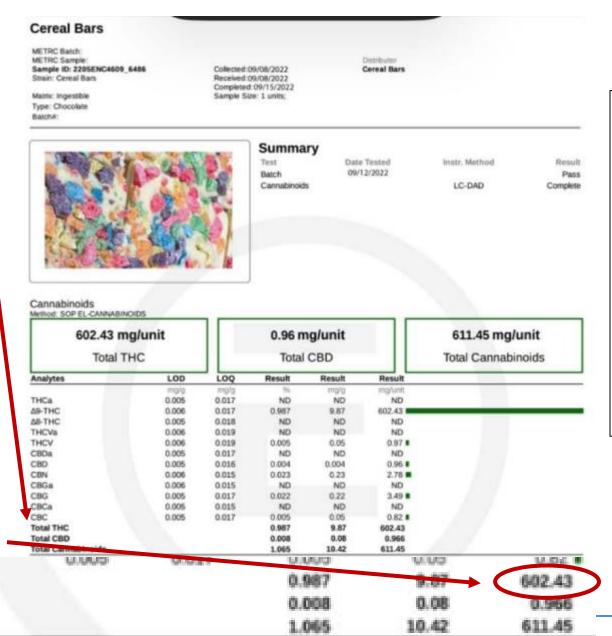


CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

- Look at Total THC
 - For flower, look for % of THC
 - For products other than flower, look at total mg of THC
- Does it have more than 5mg of THC?

YES! This has 602.43 mg of THC.





Conclusion:

This product is high-THC hemp and considered cannabis.

Products
containing more
than Img per
serving of 5 mg per
container THC are
considered
cannabis.



HEMP PRODUCT RESTRICTIONS

 Cannot mislead a consumer by incorporating any statement, brand, design, representation, picture, illustration or other depiction that bears a reasonable resemblance to trademarked or characteristic packaging of another cannabis or non-cannabis product.









APPROVED CANNABIS EDIBLES



ENFORCEMENT



ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

DCP does <u>not</u> have authority:

- Over unlicensed sellers of cannabis; or,
- To seize illegal cannabis from an unlicensed location.





ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

- If there are issues with misconduct at a licensed cannabis establishment, DCP's agents will work in conjunction with local police to take appropriate enforcement action.
- If there are issues with an unlicensed location, the violations are criminal and enforcement rests solely with local or state police.

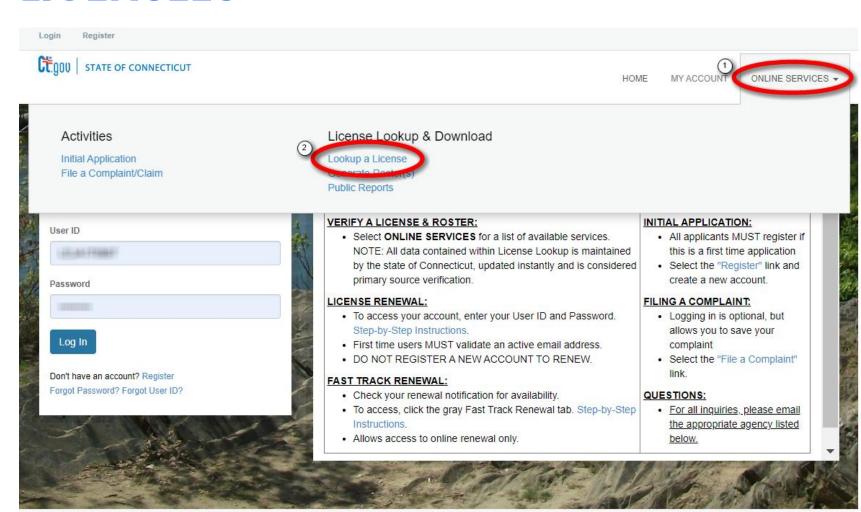


IDENTIFYING DCP LICENSEES

http://elicense.ct.gov

Look up licenses for:

- Cannabis establishments
- Package stores
- E-cigarette/ENDS (vape) dealers



More Online Services

Activities

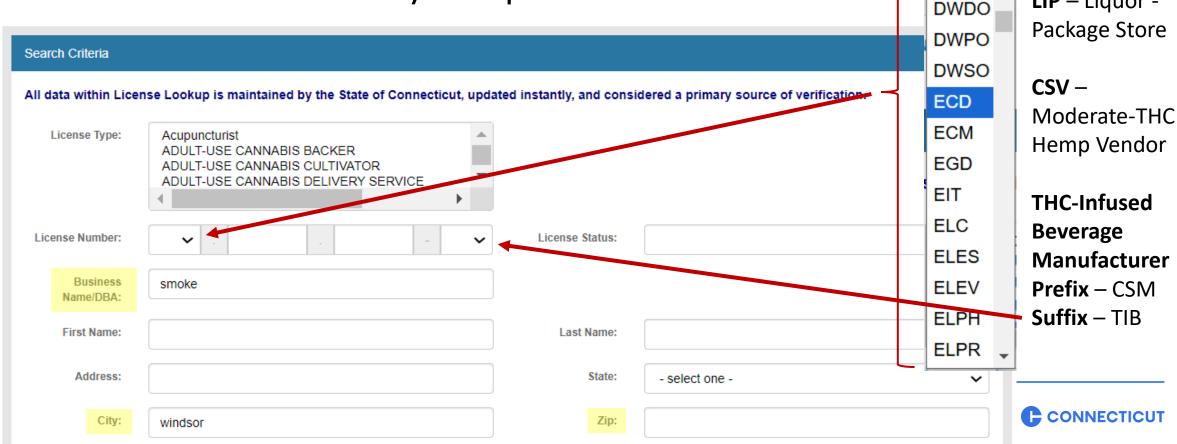
Initial Application
File a Complaint/Claim

License Lookup & Download

Lookup a License

LICENSE LOOKUP

Enter the information you have. The more information you enter, the narrower your results. Try searching by business name and city or zip code.



Common **Prefixes:**

DSMF A

DSMI

DSPA

DUL

DWBT

DWCI

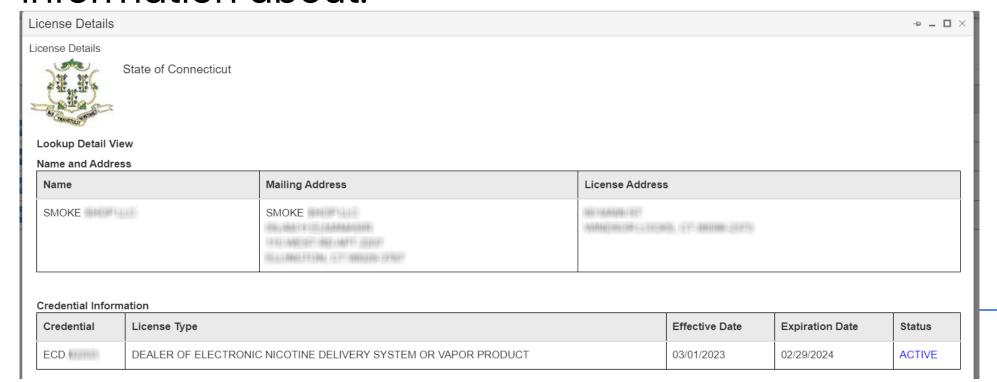
ECD -**Flectronic** Cigarette Dealer (Vapes)

LIP – Liquor -

SEARCH RESULTS

	Name	Credential	Credential Description	Status	Status Reason	City	DBA
Detail	ONE ZERO ONE LLC	ECD.02841	Department of Consumer Protection	LAPSED		WINDSOR	SMOKE SHOP 101
Detail	SMOKE SHOP LLC	ECD.02203	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	WINDSOR LOCKS	SMOKE SHOP LLC
Detail	SMOKERS DISCOUNT WORLD	ECD.00970	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	WINDSOR LOCKS	SMOKERS DISCOUNT WORLD
Detail	SMOKERS DISCOUNT WORLD	LSA.110751	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	WINDSOR LOCKS	SMOKERS DISCOUNT WORLD

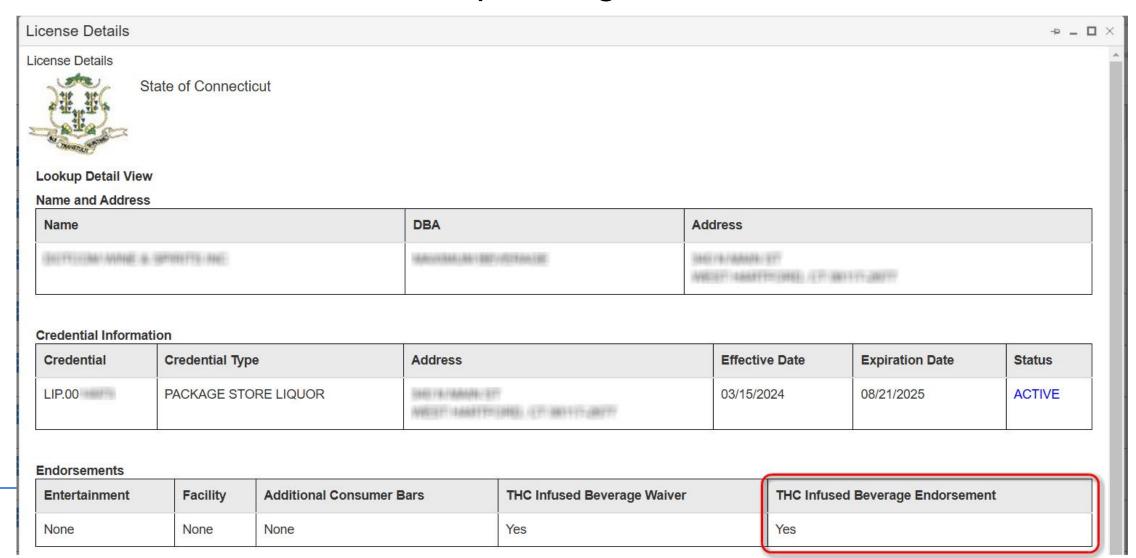
Click on "Detail" next to the credential you would like more information about.





INFUSED BEVERAGE ENDORSEMENT

Click on "Detail" next to the package store credential (LIP).



IF YOU FIND ILLEGAL CANNABIS

- If local or state police find cannabis at a business establishment, we recommend looking up to see whether or not the business holds a credential with DCP.
 - http://ct.gov/cannabis
 - http://elicense.ct.gov
- If the business holds a cannabis dispensary, hybrid retailer, retailer or delivery service license from DCP, they may legally sell cannabis products. If there is an issue at a licensed cannabis facility, contact DCP at dcp.cannabis@ct.gov immediately.



IF YOU FIND ILLEGAL CANNABIS

- If the business holds a DCP credential, but not a cannabis license, contact DCP.
- DCP issues many licenses including but not limited to:
 - Lottery
 - Liquor
 - Electronic cigarettes (vapes)
- For businesses with a non-cannabis credential, DCP may be able to take action against that license if there is an imminent risk to public health and safety or after there is a criminal finding of guilt.

DCP CONTACT INFORMATION

Drug Control

- Email: dcp.drugcontrol@ct.gov
- Phone: (860) 713-6065

Cannabis/Hemp

- Email: dcp.cannabis@ct.gov
- Phone: (860) 713-6065

Liquor

- Email: dcp.liquorcontrol@ct.gov
- Phone: (860) 713-6210