CT Social Equity Council Approves Equity Status for Five Equity Joint Ventures

HARTFORD (January 11, 2023) — Connecticut's Social Equity Council (SEC) voted today to approve social equity status for five Equity Joint Ventures (EJVs).

The SEC also voted to deny nine Equity Joint Ventures. EJVs are not subject to the lottery, and if denied, applicants may re-submit their application for licensure to the Department of Consumer Protection. The law was <u>amended this year</u> to allow licensed DIA cultivators, medical producers and medical dispensaries to create up to two equity joint ventures.

Finally, the SEC voted to approve four workforce development plans as recommended by CohnReznick.

All applicants seeking social equity status are first reviewed by the auditing and accounting firm of CohnReznick, a third-party reviewer hired by the SEC to create a comprehensive review system.

The adult-use cannabis market opened on January 10, 2023 at licensed retailers. For information about Adult-Use Cannabis, visit <u>www.ct.gov/cannabis</u>.

About the CT Social Equity Council (SEC)

The Social Equity Council was created to make sure the adult-use cannabis program is grown equitably and ensures that funds from the adult-use cannabis program are brought back to the communities hit hardest by the "war on drugs." The SEC oversees the verification of equity applicants, creates new programs to support cannabis businesses and businesses in other industries, and manages the more general community investments derived from the cannabis tax revenue. To learn more about Social Equity Council announcements, upcoming meetings, and adult-use cannabis information, visit <u>Social Equity Council (ct.gov)</u>.

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