

CT Social Equity Council Approves Equity Status for Six Equity Joint Ventures, Votes on Workplan Development Plans

HARTFORD (March 7, 2023) — Connecticut's Social Equity Council (SEC) today voted to accept CohnReznick's recommendation on three workforce development plans. Two of these plans were recommended for approval while one was recommended for denial. The denied applicant may re-submit a revised workforce plan for consideration.

The SEC also voted to approve social equity status for six Equity Joint Ventures (EJVs) while denying five EJVs. The denials were based on the ground that the Council has already approved the maximum number of two EJVs for the dispensary / hybrid facility or producer involved in these EJVs. The law was [amended last year](#) to allow licensed DIA cultivators, medical producers and medical dispensaries to create up to two EJVs.

Finally, the Council voted to withdraw approval of five EJVs, previously approved on September 7, 2022, because all five EJVs share the same social equity qualifying individuals with a social equity licensee that is operating under a final license. Such overlapping ownership is prohibited by law.

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 www.ct.gov/cannabis.

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 [Social Equity Council \(ct.gov\)](http://SocialEquityCouncil.ct.gov).

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Media Contact:

Kristina Diamond

kristina.diamond@ct.gov

(860) 513-8481 (cell)