

# CT Social Equity Council Approves Equity Status for Three Equity Joint Ventures, Votes on Workforce Development Plans

**HARTFORD (May 24, 2023)** — Connecticut's Social Equity Council (SEC) today voted to accept CohnReznick's recommendation on five workforce development plans. All plans were recommended for approval.

The SEC also voted to approve social equity status for three Equity Joint Ventures (EJVs) while denying two EJVs. One EJV was denied on the grounds 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. The other EJV was denied for not meeting the ownership and control criteria.

Finally, the Council voted to approve two social equity plans. All DIA cultivators, lottery businesses and EJVs must submit a social equity plan for the Council's review and approval.

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](http://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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