MMCC Policy Committee Meeting – July 30, 2020

Request for Public Comment

The July 30, 2020, MMCC Policy Committee meeting will be held online. The MMCC is accepting public comment on the proposals outlined below. Written comment should be submitted to maryjo.mather@maryland.gov by 5:00 PM EST on Monday, July 27, 2020. In addition, any individual interested in providing oral comment on the topics outlined below should email maryjo.mather@maryland.gov by 5:00 PM EST on Friday, July 24 in order to register. All oral remarks will be limited to 2 minutes per person.

I. Operation of a Medical Cannabis Grower at More than One Premises

The Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission (MMCC) has received a request from a licensed grower to cultivate medical cannabis at more than one location. At this time, a Maryland medical cannabis licensee (grower, processor, or dispensary) is limited to operating at one premises per license. The MMCC is soliciting public comment as to whether any licensed medical cannabis grower should be permitted to cultivate medical cannabis at multiple locations.

II. Diversity in the Medical Cannabis Industry

The MMCC is committed to promoting diversity and the participation of diverse groups within the medical cannabis industry, including small, minority, and women-owned businesses. In furtherance of this commitment, the MMCC is soliciting public comment on proposals for additional steps the MMCC or the medical cannabis industry can take to “the extent permitted by federal and State law, achieve racial, ethnic, and gender diversity.” The MMCC is particularly interested in any additional steps to achieve racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the areas of medical cannabis license owners and investors, and leadership and management positions, but welcomes public comment on any proposal in support of increasing diversity and social equity.

III. COVID-19 Measures

Since the state of emergency was declared on March 5, 2020, the MMCC has issued a series of Bulletins addressing various temporary measures put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (see, Bulletin 2020-05 suspending patient signature requirements; Bulletin 2020-06 permitting on-site delivery (aka curbside); Bulletin 2020-08 suspending patient attestations; Bulletin 2020-11 permitting a certifying health care provider who is registered with the MMCC
to provide a written certification to a qualifying patient via telehealth under limited circumstances). The MMCC is soliciting public comment as to whether any or all measures outlined in the above Bulletins should be permitted to continue once the state of emergency has ended.

IV. Fine Schedule

On December 16, 2019, the MMCC voted to approve an amendment to COMAR 10.62.34.07 that authorized issuance of monetary fines according to a fine schedule (“Any fine the [MMCC] imposes upon a licensee, registrant, agent, or employee for a violation of this subtitle or Health-General Article, §§13-3301—13-3316, Annotated Code shall comply with the fine schedule adopted by the Commission and posted on the Commission’s website.”). The MMCC is soliciting public comment on a draft fine schedule, which may be viewed by clicking the link.