

Potentially Fraudulent Mailer Warning

The Office of Social Equity (OSE) and the Maryland Cannabis Administration (MCA) have been made aware of at least one misleading direct outreach campaign pertaining to MCA's upcoming licensing round which has been circulated throughout the State. The mailer appears to be targeting addresses in Maryland that have been identified as Disproportionately Impacted Areas. The mailer was sent as a postcard and is featured below:



Note: The mailer in question was sent in both English and Spanish, with Spanish language printed on the reverse, as shown below. <u>Update: The MCA has been made aware of a similar mailer, using "Green Roots Cannabis Co." as the entity in question. The MCA believes these are related mailers and Marylanders should not contact either purported entity.</u>



The OSE and MCA are jointly advising anyone interested in cannabis licensure to *only* obtain information through official government sources, such as <u>ose.maryland.gov</u> for eligibility criteria and <u>cannabis.maryland.gov</u> for questions related to the application process. Further,

Marylanders are advised not to call any numbers or visit any website associated with likely scams, as shown above. Marylands are further reminded to remain vigilant about sharing personal information with unverified entities.

OSE and MCA will be hosting joint technical assistance sessions throughout the months of October and November to provide educational guidance to prospective applicants. Interested applicants are advised not to contact or respond to unknown third-parties or share any personal or financial information with unknown third-parties. OSE and MCA are dedicated to providing sufficient, comprehensive, and equitable assistance to those who may need it.

For additional information on **official technical assistance events for the upcoming licensing round** sponsored by the Office of Social Equity please contact: info.ose@maryland.gov.

"Planted Cannabis" mailer that was circulating in September that the MCA believes to be related and also likely fraudulent:

