ERRICK DICKERSON * BEFORE THE MARYLAND

Respondent * CANNABIS ADMINISTRATION

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ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION OF CANNABIS AGENT REGISTRATION

On September 1, 2023, the Maryland Cannabis Administration ("MCA"), pursuant to the Cannabis Reform Act (the "Act"), codified at Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, § 36-501, et seq. (2003), issued a Notice of Intent to Permanently Revoke (the "Notice") the agent registration of ERRICK DICKERSON ("Respondent"), agent badge registration number AG-000576 for the reasons set forth herein.

The pertinent provisions of the Act are as follows:

§ 36-202. Powers and duties of Administration

- (a) The Administration shall:
- 7) after a determination that a violation of this title or a regulation adopted under this title has occurred, suspend, fine, restrict, or revoke cannabis licenses and cannabis registrations, whether active, expired, or surrendered, or impose any other penalty authorized by this title or any regulation adopted under this title;

The pertinent provisions of the Act's corresponding regulations are codified at Code of Maryland Regulations ("COMAR") as follows:

14.17.14 Complaints, Enforcement, Record Keeping, and Inspections of Cannabis Businesses

- .04 Discipline and Enforcement.
 - A. Diversion.
 - (1) A licensee, registrant, agent, or employee may not:
 - (a) Divert cannabis or cannabis products for any unauthorized sale or distribution;

- D. The Administration may fine, suspend, restrict, revoke, or otherwise sanction any cannabis licensee or registrant for:
- (1) Any violation of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, Title 36, Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (2) Any violation of this regulation;
- (3) Any violation of this chapter;
- (4) Any other violation of this subtitle and COMAR 10.62;
- (5) Restricting, limiting, or otherwise impeding an inspection or investigation by the Administration; or
- (6) Any other violation of State, federal, or local:
 - (a) Law;
 - (b) Regulation; or
 - (c) Ordinances.

.05 Fines, Hearings, and Suspension.

A. A licensee, registrant, agent, or employee who violates Regulation .04A—B of this chapter is subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 per violation.

The Notice informed Respondent that he had an opportunity for a hearing before the Administration if he filed a request for the same within 30 days of receiving the Notice. The Notice was sent by the Administration via certified mail and was received and signed for by Mr. Dickerson on September 8, 2023. Thus, Respondent had until October 9, 2023 to request a hearing. He has failed to do so, and thus the Administration issues this Final Order.

Findings of Fact

The Administration makes the following findings of fact:

- Respondent was originally awarded a cannabis agent registration on or about February
 21, 2023, under registration number AG-000576 to work at Seven Points Agro
 Therapeutics LLC (the "Grower"), a cannabis grower located in St. Mary's County,
 Maryland.
- Upon being hired, Dickerson signed three forms confirming he received training on Security & Safety procedures, COMAR and the grower's Employee Handbook.
- On or about August 20, 2023, the Grower reported to the MCA and the local police department that it had video footage of Respondent taking approximately 7030 grams

- (15.6 pounds) of cannabis flower out of its facility without authorization.
- 4. The stolen cannabis flower was valued at approximately \$99,840 at the time of the theft.
- 5. The amount stolen gives rise to the reasonable presumption that Respondent intended to illegally distribute the cannabis flower he took.
- 6. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's office thereafter arrested Respondent based upon the evidence provided by the Grower.
- 7. On August 21, 2023, an MCA investigator responded to the Grower to conduct an investigation and learned that Respondent had been hired to work at the Grower's facility as a janitor, working five days a week, which usually included Saturdays and Sundays.
- 8. The investigator's review of the video in multiple locations throughout the facility revealed the following:
 - a. On August 12, 2023, Respondent is seen opening a bin of cannabis flower in the cure room and placing it in a trash bag;
 - b. On August 19, 2023 at 6:47 a.m, Respondent is seen opening a bin of cannabis flower in the cure room and placing it in a trash bag;
 - c. On August 19, 2023 at 6:51 a.m., Respondent is seen attempting to leave the cure room with a bag of cannabis flower but quickly throws it on the ground after looking outside of the cure room door and then exits the room with a white trash bin;
 - d. On August 19, 2023 at 7:10 a.m, Respondent is seen on video opening a bin of cannabis flower in the cure room and placing it in a trash bag;
 - e. On August 20th, at 7:39 am., Respondent is seen again in the cure room filling a large trash bag with cannabis flower;

- f. On August 20, 2023, at 11:52 a.m. Respondent is seen exiting the cure room with a bag of cannabis flower as well as a bin of cannabis flower and is confronted by the Cultivation Supervisor, who opened the door to the cure room for Respondent to return the items;
- g. The Cultivation Supervisor then told Respondent to leave, and the video shows him exiting the hallway doors along with the Cultivation Supervisor;
- h. However, while the Cultivation Supervisor went to another area to contact his supervisor, at 12:00 p.m., Respondent is shown entering the cure room, rather than leaving as instructed, and departing with a bag of cannabis flower; and
- i. On August 20, 2023, at 12:02 p.m., Respondent is shown exiting the main door of the grow facility with a bag of cannabis flower, and then at 12:03 p.m., Respondent is seen placing the bag on a Gator Utility Vehicle and driving away from the facility.
- 6. On August 20, 2023, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office arrested Respondent and placed him in the St. Mary's County Detention Center.
- 7. The Grower later informed the MCA's investigator that Respondent had been released on \$5,000 bail.
- 8. The Notice was sent by the Administration via certified mail and was received and signed for by Mr. Dickerson on September 8, 2023.

Violations

Respondent's actions of taking cannabis flower from the Grower without authorization and presumably with the intent to distribute the same is a clear violation of COMAR 14.17.14.04.

ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this day of
November 2023 hereby:
ORDERED that Respondent's cannabis agent registration is PERMANENTLY
REVOKED; and it is further
ORDERED that Respondent shall pay to a civil penalty in amount of \$70,000 to the
Administration's Compassionate Use Fund; and it is further
ORDERED that this Order is a PUBLIC DOCUMENT pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen.
Prov. §§ 4-401 et seq. (2021).
11/7/23
Date William Tilburg, Acting Director