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Of Counsel:

Dana Blake

July 11, 2016

Ms. Margaret Leong  
Supervisor  
Hawaii Medical Marijuana Dispensary Licensing Program  
Office of Health Care Assurance  
601 Kamokila Blvd., Room 337  
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Re: Notice of Appeal  
Application No. 2623  
Applicant: James York/Hawaii  
Equity Partners, Inc.  
For County of Maui

Dear Ms. Leong:

On behalf of the above-captioned applicant this Notice of Appeal is hereby submitted. The applicant appeals the demand of a license pursuant to 329D-21, HRS, sections 11-850-24 and 11-850-101 HAR.

On June 20, 2016, the applicant client received and signed a "return receipt" for the notice from your office of the denial. We noted that your denial stated that they ranked 11th with a score of 240.00.

We do not understand and therefore take issue with the scoring and the ranking based on the experience, expertise, and financial condition of Hawaii Equity Partners, Inc. compared to the other applicants. We do not believe the criteria used and the published requirements were fairly and impartially used in determining the score and ranking. It is further our understanding that only vested and "connected" in-state applicants were awarded the license(s), notwithstanding their lack of a particular location or site, lack of experience, expertise, and comparatively less capital for investment.

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The applicant also challenges the partiality and make-up of the board or committee assessing the merits of each applicant. We submitted four applications: Nos. 2623, 2597, 2611, and 2587. All of which were identical and all of which received widely varying scores and rankings. Without any explanation the applicant is at a loss to understand the variance in scoring and ranking.

In addition to this Notice of Appeal, we are forwarding herein Notices of Appeal for all of the applications we submitted and were denied.

Hawaii Equity Partners, Inc.

by Steve C. Coape  
Secretary

c: Hawaii Equity Partners, Inc.  
935 Dillingham Blvd.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817