**Compliance Guide for New Regulations for Small Businesses**

**COMAR 10.62 Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission (MMCC)**

* ***What does this regulation do?***

The purpose of the action is to implement statutory requirements restricting ownership and control of medical cannabis licenses and exempting hemp from the definition of medical cannabis, and waive the fee for patient identification cards for qualifying medical cannabis patients, require licensed dispensaries to appoint a clinical director, and update enforcement and inspection provisions applying to licensed medical cannabis businesses.

* ***Who is Subject to the new regulation?***

Medical cannabis licensed growers, processors, and dispensaries; certifying medical cannabis providers; registered independent testing laboratories; registered secure transportation companies; registered patients; and registered agents.

* ***Why were the new regulations adopted?***

To implement statutory requirements pursuant to Chapter 501 of the Laws of 2019 and Chapter 228 of the Laws of 2019, and to fulfill the purpose of the Commission established in Health-General Article, §§13-3301—3302 to provide a safe, effective, and affordable medical cannabis program.

* ***When are the regulations effective?***

The regulation will take effect 10 days after publication of Final Notice in the *Maryland Register.*

* ***Is funding available to implement new requirements established by the regulation?***

No.

* ***Are there other resources available for implementing the requirements of the regulation?***

No.

* ***Is there assistance available to help understand the requirements of the regulation?***

Yes, the MMCC is available to explain any changes to existing requirements, or new requirements, made by this regulation. Questions about specific provisions of the regulation should be directed to Will Tilburg at (410) 767-8069 or at william.tilburg@maryland.gov. Additional information will be available on the MMCC website at mmcc.maryland.gov.

**Key Terms and Definitions**

“Medical cannabis” means all parts of any plant of the genus cannabis, whether growing or not, including:

(i) The seeds of the plant;

(ii) The resin extracted from any part of the plant; and

(iii) Any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin including tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and all other naturally produced cannabinol derivatives, whether produced directly or indirectly by extraction.

(b) “Medical cannabis” does not include:

(i) Hemp, as defined in Agriculture Article, §14-101, Annotated Code of Maryland;

(ii) Mature stalks of the plant or fiber produced from the mature stalks;

(iii) Oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant;

(iv) Any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks, fiber, oil or cake; or

(v) The sterilized seed of the plant that is incapable of germination.

“Hemp” has the meaning defined in Agriculture Article, §14-101, Annotated Code of Maryland.