



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
CANNABIS COMMISSION**

P.O. BOX 500135 Saipan, MP 96950  
Email: [info@cnmicannabis.org](mailto:info@cnmicannabis.org)  
(670) 488-0420 | (670) 488-2627

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## **CNMI Cannabis Commission Compliance Advisory**

### **CNMICC Advisory # 23-01**

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The CNMI Cannabis Commission (CNMICC or the Commission) is providing the following information to existing and prospective cannabis licensees.

The advisory issued pursuant to 4 CMC § 53008 to ensure licensee compliance with CNMI Law and CNMICC regulations. It is important that you read and understand the contents of this advisory.

Failure to comply with the information contained in this advisory and the relevant regulations for which it references could result in penalties affecting your license.

CNMICC Advisory # 23-01 covers the following issue(s):

### **Permit for Temporary Use of Marijuana Items at Special Events**

The CNMI Cannabis Commission wishes to ensure that all licensees are in compliance with the applicable restrictions for the sale of marijuana items at special events contained in Title 180 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code.

Please refer to the information below which is also found in **4 CMC § 53055 and Part 1500 of Title 180 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC)**.

#### Commercial Sale of Marijuana Products at Special Events

*Are you allowed to sell your cannabis products at a special event?*

Pursuant to **4 CMC § 53055**, the Commission may issue a permit allowing for the temporary use of marijuana items to be displayed, possessed, sold, purchased, used and/or consumed at a private place for a special event.

Regulations provided to govern the issuance of permits for the temporary use of marijuana items at special events is found on **Part 1500 of Title 180** of the NMIAC. An approved permittee for the temporary use of marijuana items at special events may: 1) allow for the display or sale of marijuana items by individuals, businesses, or others in the manner described in the Special Events Plan.

*Can you sell homegrown marijuana at a special event?*

No. Homegrown marijuana permit holders are regulated on a separate section of the Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018, as amended. The relevant sections of the Act related to the question of whether homegrown marijuana can be sold at a special event are as follows:

**4 CMC § 53005(m)** - “Homegrown” or “homemade” means grown or made by a person 21 years of age or older for non-commercial purposes.

**4 CMC § 53005(n)** - “Homegrown marijuana registry” means a record maintained by the Commission of the names and addresses of persons who are 21 years of age or older or medical marijuana patients authorized to produce, process, keep, or store homegrown marijuana at a household or a cultivation site for non-commercial purposes.

**4 CMC § 53005(o)** - “Homegrown marijuana registry card” means a card issued by the Commission to a person who is 21 years of age or older or a medical marijuana patient that is authorized to produce, process, keep, or store homegrown marijuana at a household or a cultivation site for non-commercial purposes.

The Homegrown Marijuana Registry Permit does not allow permit holders to engage in the commercial sale of their homegrown marijuana products, as such, unlicensed retailers are not permitted to sell homegrown marijuana products at special events.

*When does an event require a Permit for Temporary Use of Marijuana Items at Special Events?*

**NMAIC § 180-10.1-1505** defines a “Special Event” as a scheduled and publicly advertised hosting of one or more persons for commercial use, whether active or passive, where marijuana items are to be displayed, possessed, sold, purchased, used and/or consumed at a private place.

*Examples of Special Events that require a permit:*

- *A musical event is held in which a cannabis licensee hosts members of the public 21 years of age or older to attend at a private establishment. At the event, the licensee applies to sell marijuana products to attendees under the conditions set by Part 1500 of the CNMI Cannabis Commission Regulations.*
- *A promoter, or group of licensees, host an event in which members of the public 21 years of age or older are invited to attend in which cannabis products from multiple retailers are showcased at a private establishment.*

Please be advised that the CNMI Cannabis Commission continues to monitor and investigate the business activities of all CCC licensees to ensure the suitability and compliance with CNMI law and CNMICC regulations.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding of this advisory. If you need clarification or assistance in understanding this advisory, please contact the CNMI Cannabis Commission.