




**INTRODUCTION TO MEDICAL CANNABIS  
DRAFT RULES &  
REGULATIONS**

Presented by: The VI Cannabis Advisory Board &  
The VI Office of Cannabis Regulations



# Agenda

- Chair's Welcome
- Introduction to the Office of Cannabis Regulations
  - General Information
  - Work of the OCR
- Draft Rules & Regulations
  - Table of Contents
- General Timeline
- Application Types & Availability
  - Types
  - Fees
  - Other General Information
- Public Town Hall Comment Period
- Chair's Conclusion

# CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

*Presented by: Catherine Kean, MD*

# Cannabis Advisory Board

## *Board Composition*

- Dr. Catherine Kean, Chair
- The Honorable Commissioner Positive T. A. Nelson
- Dr. Nicole A. Craigwell-Syms
- Dr. Gary Jett
- Mr. Chris Jones
- The Honorable Commissioner Richard T. Evangelista, *confirmation pending*

# OFFICE OF CANNABIS REGULATIONS

*Presented by: Executive Director Hannah Carty*

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# General Information

Established by Act No. 8167, the Office of Cannabis Regulation is established to allow and provide for the beneficial use of medical cannabis in a regulated system for alleviating symptoms caused by debilitating medical conditions and their medical treatments.

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- Operations began January 3, 2022.
- Since then, the OCR has:
  - Established two (2) office locations at DLCA facilities on St. Thomas & St. Croix.
    - Integrated Office Supply Procurement
  - Developed Website Layout, Media, and Content
    - [ocr.vi.gov](https://ocr.vi.gov)
  - Created Contact Information:
    - (340) 714-9755
    - [info.ocr@ocr.vi.gov](mailto:info.ocr@ocr.vi.gov)
  - Received GVI Administration Systems Training

# General Information

*(cont'd)*

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- Established Social Media channels
  - Facebook
  - Instagram
  - YouTube
- Familiarized with Cannabis Laws
- Sought assistance and counsel from
  - General Legal Counsel
  - Office of the Attorney General
- OCR FY '22 & '23 Budget Development
- Press Releases
- Staff Planning
- Community Engagement Meetings & Projects

# General Information

*(cont'd)*

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- Cannabis Newsletter
  - Sign Up at the Bottom of OCR Website
- Joining National Memberships
- Traveled to Cannabis Summit held by Legislature in Colorado
- Upcoming Engagements
  - Personnel Hiring
  - Enforcement Strategy Development
  - Cannabis Technology Selection
  - Website Functionality Completion
  - Development of Strategic Plan
  - Application Roll-Outs



# Responsibilities of the OCR

*per VI Code 19 VIC §777e*

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“The Director of the OCR has the responsibility to ensure:

- (1) the ability of qualifying patients in all areas of the Territory to obtain timely access to high-quality medical cannabis;
- (2) the effectiveness of the dispensaries and cultivation facilities, individually and together, in serving the needs of qualifying patients, including the provision of educational and support services by dispensaries, the reasonableness of their prices, whether they are generating any complaints or security problems, and the sufficiency of the number operating to serve the Territory’s registered qualifying patients;
- (3) the effectiveness of the cannabis testing facilities;
- (4) the sufficiency of the regulatory and security safeguards contained in this chapter and adopted by the OCR to ensure that access to and use of cannabis cultivated is provided only to cardholders;
- (5) the proposal of additions or revisions to the OCR regulations or this chapter, including relating to security, safe handling, labeling and nomenclature; and
- (6) that research studies regarding health effects of medical cannabis for patients are encouraged and conducted.”

# CANNABIS TECHNOLOGY IN THE VI

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# Interim Logo & Seal

Changes to be made:

- Increase in the variety of colors
- Change in the shape of the cannabis leaf on both symbols
- Similar color scheme to be incorporated on both symbols

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VIRGIN ISLANDS OFFICE OF  
**CANNABIS**  
REGULATIONS



# OCR WEBSITE



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# UPCOMING PROCUREMENT

- Patient Registry (Applications)
- Seed to Sale System & Inventory Management



# DRAFT RULES & REGS

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# Table of Contents

§ 34-1	Definitions	§ 34-14	Certification of Medicinal Cannabis Vendors
§ 34-2	Duties of OCR Director	§ 34-15	Cannabis Testing Facilities
§ 34-3	Protections for the Medicinal Use of Cannabis	§ 34-16	Fee Schedule
§ 34-4	Addition of Debilitating Medical Condition	§ 34-17	Inventory Tracking System
§ 34-5	Registry	§ 34-18	Advertising
§ 34-6	Issuance and Denial of Registry Identification Cards	§ 34-19	Security
§ 34-7	Designated Caregivers	§ 34-20	Transport and Delivery
§ 34-8	Practitioner Registration	§ 34-21	Notifications to the OCR
§ 34-9	Licensing of Medicinal Cannabis Establishments	§ 34-22	Violations and Penalties
§ 34-10	Cannabis Cultivation Facilities	§ 34-23	Disaster Relief
§ 34-11	Medicinal Cannabis Dispensaries	§ 34-24	Enforcement, Suspension and Revocation of Registrations, Licenses and Certificates
§ 34-12	Cannabis Manufacturing	§ 34-25	Administrative Appeal
§ 34-13	Research and Development	§ 34-27	Medicinal Cannabis Tourism Program
		§ 34-28	Forms

# GENERALLY EXPECTED TIMELINE

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# Timeline

- Receipt of Approval for Legal Sufficiency
  - +/- 5 Days CAB Board Meeting to Approve Proposed Rules & Regulations
  - Press Release Notifying Public on Availability
- Rules & Regulations Posted for Public Comment on OCR Website
  - 30 Day Comment Period
- +/- 5 Days Summary of Comments Composed
- +/- 5 Days CAB Board Meeting to Approve Final Rules & Regulations
- +/- 10 Days OCR to roll out initial applications on a bi-weekly basis; schedule forthcoming

***~ 55 Days to applications upon receipt of the approved document***

# APPLICATIONS

Types, Fees, and other General Information

# Application Types

## Patient Side Registrations

- Patient
- Physician
- Caregiver

## Business Side Registrations

- Producer/Grower
- Manufacturer
- Retailer/Dispensary
- Research
- Third-Party Vendors (Transporters & Delivery)
- Laboratory Testing

# Initial Application Fees

*per VI Code 19 VIC §778; 10*

<b>Applications and Petitions</b>	<b>Fees</b>
Registry Identification Card Application	\$50
Renewal of Registry Identification Card Application	\$50
Physician Certification	TBD
Non-Resident Registry Identification Card	
· Five-Day Card	\$50
· Ten-Day Card	\$75
· Thirty-Day Card	\$100
Cultivation License Application	
· Level 1-Not to exceed 100 plants	\$1,000/\$500 for existing farmers
· Level 2-Not to exceed 500 plants	\$2,500/\$2,000 for existing farmers
· Level 3-Not to exceed 1000 plants	\$5,000/\$4,500 for existing farmers
Dispensary License Application	\$5,000
Manufacturer License Application	\$5,000
Third-Party Vendor Certification Application	\$1,000
Other fees to note in addition to application fee: - <b>Approval to Operate Certificate Fees</b> - <b>Renewal Fees</b>	<i>Neither may exceed the current fees listed above.</i>

# Application Information

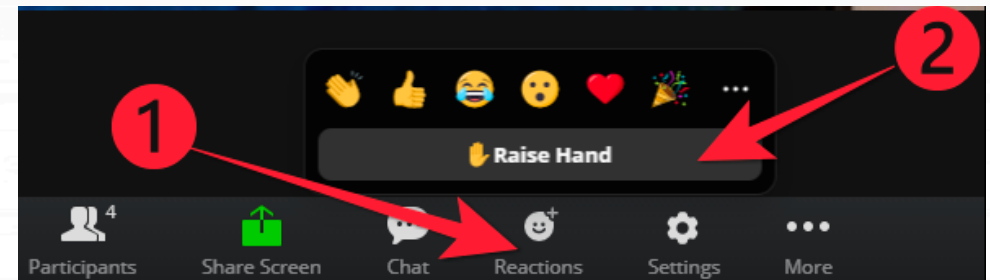
- OCR is not currently accepting registrations or applications of any kind.
  - The public will be made aware when applications become available.
- Application information (ie. Time frame, Contents, etc) will be:
  - Made available once Rules & Regulations are approved.
  - Will be linked on the OCR Official Website ([ocr.vi.gov](https://ocr.vi.gov))
  - Available through procured submission systems.
- The exact number of licenses to be released on an annual basis shall be determined by the CAB; however, they shall not release licenses that supersede the amounts allowed by 19 VIC; Chapter 34.
- Any general inquiries about this may be sent to:
  - [info.ocr@ocr.vi.gov](mailto:info.ocr@ocr.vi.gov)

# TOWN HALL FORUM

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# TO PARTICIPATE:

1. Please use the Reactions > Raise Hand feature to be recognized to speak.
2. The Moderator will call on individuals as needed.
3. Please be respectful, and keep questions and comments to under 2 minutes.



# THANK YOU

*for your attention and your participation !*

For more information, please visit our website: [ocr.vi.gov](https://ocr.vi.gov)  
or email [info.ocr@ocr.vi.gov](mailto:info.ocr@ocr.vi.gov)