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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
MEDICAL CANNABIS PILOT PROGRAM  
TOWN HALL MEETING

COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 14, 2015

9:36 a.m. -- 1:11 p.m.

1 MODERATOR PANEL:  
2 Mr. Bob Morgan  
3 Mr. Ray Watson  
4 Ms. Laura Oberdorf  
5 Mr. Tyler Anthony

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21 Court Reporter:

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1 (Starting time: 9:36 a.m.)

2 MR. MORGAN: Good morning. Good  
3 morning, everyone. How is the sound? Can everyone  
4 hear me okay? If someone could raise their hand at  
5 any point if you can't hear us or a speaker and  
6 we'll try and change that, but for right now is  
7 there anyone who can't hear me? Please raise your  
8 hand. Okay.

9 Thank you so much for coming this  
10 morning. This is the first of three town halls that  
11 we'll be doing in the month of August through the  
12 Illinois Medical Cannabis Pilot Program. We did  
13 have a few town hall meetings, public hearings for  
14 the Department of Public Health several months ago,  
15 but that was limited to just the Department of  
16 Public Health.

17 So this is really the first forum for  
18 us as regulators and as state employees that are  
19 working on the program to meet with -- with  
20 interested community members across all the entire  
21 spectrum of the program, people that are involved or  
22 interested in being a patient or caregiver, those  
23 that might apply as a cultivation center or  
24 dispensary organization, and also those communities  
25 generally that are impacted by the program.

1                   So we really appreciate that you're  
2 here today. It means a lot to us to continue to get  
3 the feedback. If you've been tracking the program,  
4 you know that a lot of the feedback we have received  
5 has led to changes in the rules and in the program  
6 itself.

7                   So take solace that in the event that  
8 we answer a question here today with thank you,  
9 we'll take that under advisement, that's not because  
10 we're blowing you off or in any way disregarding  
11 your comments or questions or suggestions.

12                   We really do take it very seriously,  
13 and everyone at this table has worked really hard to  
14 incorporate those comments and really improve the  
15 program of whenever necessary.

16                   We'll go over our ground rules in a  
17 minute, but again, I just want to let everyone know  
18 that we appreciate you being here. The program has  
19 gotten much better.

20                   Since we began this process, the  
21 legislation went through a number of variations and  
22 improvements through public feedback, and then once  
23 the program became effective January 1st of this  
24 year, we've been working very hard to improve the  
25 program and make it an ideal program.

1                   It's not perfect. The statute is not  
2 perfect. The rules aren't perfect. As employees  
3 and the state government we're not perfect, but  
4 we're really proud of the program and proud of where  
5 we are today in getting this up and running.

6                   This is -- this has been a process that  
7 has taken some time, and we think we're all better  
8 for it and the program is better for it, and today  
9 will be no different.

10                   So there will be two other  
11 opportunities for town halls and we can talk about  
12 that at the end. But at this point I'm just going  
13 to go around and do quick introductions.

14                   MS. OBERDORF: Hi. I'm Laura  
15 Sherman-Oberdorf, and I'm the division chief for  
16 medical cannabis at the Illinois Department of  
17 Public Health.

18                   MR. ANTHONY: I'm Tyler Anthony. I'm  
19 legal counsel for the Medical Cannabis Pilot  
20 Program.

21                   MR. WATSON: Good morning, everyone.  
22 My name is Ray Watson. I'm the general counsel at  
23 the Illinois Department of Agriculture, and for  
24 those of you who haven't made the state fair in  
25 Springfield yet, please come on up. It lasts

1 through Sunday.

2 MR. MORGAN: You should go to the state  
3 fair.

4 And my name is Bob Morgan. I'm the  
5 statewide project coordinator for the medical  
6 cannabis program, the general counsel for the  
7 Department of Public Health when I'm not working on  
8 this program, and today I'm standing in as well for  
9 the Department of Financial and Professional  
10 Regulation on behalf of their program and rules.

11 So if you have a DFPR question I will  
12 do my best to answer, and again, if I answer with a  
13 we'll get back to you on that, don't take it  
14 personally.

15 Now for a few ground rules, just to  
16 make sure everyone knows what to expect.

17 MS. OBERDORF: All right, everyone. As  
18 you walked in the room, you should have received a  
19 sheet of paper that says Medical Cannabis Town Hall  
20 Meetings at the top. Basically we just want to make  
21 sure that everyone has an opportunity to have their  
22 questions answered.

23 And so just as a reminder, as Bob said,  
24 we're really holding these meetings to answer any  
25 questions about the applications, the application

1 process, about the law, about the rules. We do want  
2 to be clear, though, that if there's an issue you  
3 have with the law, something you don't like, we do  
4 not have the power to make any changes to that.

5 So we really want to make sure we focus  
6 on those questions that we'll be able to answer. We  
7 list our website, [www.mcpp.illinois.gov](http://www.mcpp.illinois.gov), and if you  
8 have additional comments or if you have a question  
9 that you would like to ask at another time, we  
10 encourage you to visit that website and submit your  
11 comment or question that way.

12 Just as a reminder, there was a sign-in  
13 sheet out at the front of the room. Tyler is going  
14 to be calling up your name. You will come up to the  
15 podium. We're going to ask that you slowly and  
16 clearly state and spell both your first and last  
17 name.

18 We have a court reporter here just so  
19 that we can make sure we get an accurate record of  
20 all the questions and answers. As you saw on our  
21 website, we have some frequently asked questions  
22 documents. And so if there's a theme of a question,  
23 we can make sure that we update that accordingly.

24 If you came here today as part of an  
25 organization and there are more than one person with

1 that organization, we would ask that you have one  
2 person come up to ask the questions.

3 We will be asking people to try and  
4 keep their questions brief. We're saying for now no  
5 more than three minutes. If we do have enough time,  
6 we will be happy to call you up again to ask more  
7 questions.

8 You can also of course always contact  
9 us through our website. And then lastly, we're  
10 asking everyone to please remain quiet throughout  
11 the town hall. We want to make sure that we can  
12 hear the questions, you can hear the questions, we  
13 can hear the answers, etc.

14 If at any point during the meeting you  
15 would like to ask a question and you have not signed  
16 up, you can go ahead and go outside and register at  
17 the table. And we're going to go ahead and get  
18 started. Thank you.

19 MR. ANTHONY: All right. I will do my  
20 best to pronounce everybody's names properly, but  
21 forgive me in advance if I do not. First, Charles  
22 Frey.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's Charles Frey,  
24 C-H-A-R-L-E-S, F-R-E-Y. Charles Frey. First  
25 question is, Do we need completed ISP background

1 checks for the application?

2 MS. OBERDORF: Which application?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Either one. We're  
4 doing both.

5 MS. OBERDORF: For the dispensary --

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Dispensary.

7 MS. OBERDORF: -- or cultivation  
8 center?

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, correct.

10 MS. OBERDORF: Okay.

11 MR. WATSON: The background checks will  
12 be done during the application process. So I mean,  
13 if you can get one ahead of time, that would be  
14 great, but when you submit the application you will  
15 be asked for information on anything that may be  
16 questionable in your background and you'll be  
17 given -- that would be the time to explain it.

18 If there's something that -- that you  
19 may think may be an issue, it would be helpful to  
20 disclose that, and -- and offer your explanation as  
21 to why you feel that it should not be a bar to your  
22 participating in the program.

23 But as far as getting background check  
24 done ahead of time, I don't think that's going to be  
25 possible. So ...

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. How do  
2 you get background checks for out-of-state people  
3 and/or Canadians?

4 MR. MORGAN: Just another sound check.  
5 Sorry about that everyone. Sorry. If you could  
6 repeat your question, we'll -- we'll hopefully not  
7 blow out everyone's eardrums.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: How do you get  
9 background checks suitable for the State of Illinois  
10 for an out-of-state people or Canadians?

11 MR. MORGAN: So the challenge I think  
12 you're describing for those who didn't hear the  
13 question is what do we do about background checks  
14 for out-of-state people or Canadians?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

16 MR. MORGAN: The challenge about  
17 background checks for those of you who aren't  
18 familiar with it, it is in the statute, requires a  
19 background check by Livescan vendor. There are no  
20 Livescan vendors that are licensed outside of the  
21 State of Illinois.

22 So we are -- we are requiring those  
23 that are applying that need a background check to  
24 come to the state to have a Livescan completed  
25 within Illinois within a licensed vendor.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. For a  
2 project that's to be purpose-built, what degree of  
3 detail do you expect relative to plans being stamped  
4 by an engineer or architect?

5 (Court reporter interruption.)

6 MR. MORGAN: Sorry. I think our mics  
7 are a little sensible. Everyone, if you could just  
8 make sure if you're pretty close to the mic, I think  
9 everyone will be able to hear.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: For a project that  
11 will be purpose-built, what degree of detail does  
12 Illinois expect relative to plans being stamped by  
13 an engineer or architect for turn-in with the  
14 application?

15 MR. WATSON: Well, the general theme  
16 that we've taken through the rules is that we do not  
17 want to be specific telling you what requirements  
18 that we want. What we want you to do is to give us  
19 your best plan for a center, for -- for a  
20 cultivation center.

21 We're not going to be specifying, say,  
22 the height of a fence or anything like that, but  
23 what we will do is be looking at the applications  
24 and judging the best application that comes in. So  
25 I would just recommend do -- do the best you can and

1 give -- give as much detail as possible.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. If a  
3 doctor is an owner, but not recommending, can he be  
4 an employee or a consultant?

5 MR. MORGAN: Give us one second.

6 MS. OBERDORF: Yes, sir?

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Would you guys mind  
8 repeating the question just before you answer it  
9 because it isn't coming completely through? Or if  
10 you understand it better than we, it will be  
11 helpful.

12 MR. MORGAN: Sir, would you just do us  
13 a favor? Just repeat the question one time. Thank  
14 you.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. If a  
16 doctor is an owner and he's not recommending, can he  
17 be an employee and/or a consultant?

18 MR. MORGAN: Did everyone hear the  
19 question? I'm just buying more time.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I don't understand  
21 not recommending.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not writing a  
23 recommendation.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Oh, not  
25 recommendation.

1 MR. MORGAN: And were you referring to  
2 dispensaries and cultivation centers?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

4 MR. MORGAN: And the question was can a  
5 physician who's not recommending a patient for  
6 participation in the program for physician  
7 certification, may they be an employee or consultant  
8 to the applicant?

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Section 1000.40.

10 MR. WATSON: That's in the rule.

11 MR. MORGAN: There is a provision. The  
12 reference is specifically in the statute. It  
13 references a physician who is referring patients and  
14 the role that that physician may or may not have,  
15 but this question was about whether a physician who  
16 is not referring. As a consultant, I don't believe  
17 the statute or the rules address that question.  
18 We're looking into the second part.

19 MR. WATSON: Okay.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Did you find it?

21 MR. WATSON: Yeah. I found it in the  
22 rule. I did not find the statute. Okay. According  
23 to the rules under -- as we've been told, 1000.40,  
24 operation of cultivation center, if you look at  
25 B-10, cultivation center may not allow a physician

1 to hold a direct or indirect economic interest if  
2 the physician recommends the use of medical  
3 cannabis. So that is not the question.

4 The -- or is it a partnership or other  
5 fee or profit-sharing relationship with the  
6 physician -- with the physician who does recommend  
7 medical cannabis? So if you're in a practice where  
8 there's another physician that's recommending it,  
9 that also is a disqualifying factor.

10 May not allow a physician to serve on  
11 the board of directors or as an employee of the  
12 cultivation center. However, a cultivation center  
13 may hire a physician as an independent contractor  
14 provided the physician's involvement in the  
15 cultivation center is limited exclusively to  
16 designing or conducting nonproprietary medical  
17 research or studies.

18 MR. MORGAN: And if I can address just  
19 the -- I think the basis of the intent there was we  
20 received a number of comments about concerns about  
21 whether a physician could be involved with research  
22 given that research is certainly identified in the  
23 rules as part of the selection criteria of  
24 additional bonus points, those that are looking to  
25 provide research opportunities and research studies.

1                   So that particular provision that Ray  
2    is referencing and I believe that's -- that's  
3    identical in the DFPR dispensary rules was to allow  
4    a physician to participate in those research  
5    activities. So that wasn't precluding it, but it  
6    does not permit them to be employees.

7                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. But if it's  
8    an owner, he can also participate in the -- as a  
9    consultant then? I mean, to do research, things  
10   like that.

11                  MR. MORGAN: Well, but if -- but if  
12   you're an owner, presumably you have some kind of a  
13   financial interest. So it would probably go to the  
14   root of the question of whether or not there's a  
15   financial interest and what that interest is.

16                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: So that would be  
17   exclusive.

18                  MR. MORGAN: Well, I think that it  
19   would be excluding a physician. But again, it  
20   depends on a case-by-case basis, and I think for  
21   those that are looking to apply we'll look for  
22   documentation about what their interest would be in  
23   the organization because, again, we -- we don't want  
24   to preclude any physician from participating in the  
25   research studies, but the intent is not to provide a

1 pathway for physicians having financial interests in  
2 and of itself in the facilities.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What if he's a doctor  
4 and is not going to practice?

5 MR. MORGAN: For those that raise your  
6 hands for the follow-up to comments we have, please,  
7 we'll -- we'll attempt to answer, provide more  
8 information later.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What if he's a doctor  
10 and he doesn't -- he's not going to practice?

11 MR. MORGAN: Pretty sure it's the  
12 physician under the Physician Practice Act, and it  
13 probably refers to them being a licensed physician.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. When --  
15 when will the bond forms be made available, the  
16 bonding forms?

17 MR. MORGAN: The question is when will  
18 the bond forms be available.

19 You know, at this point we're not  
20 prescribing particular bond forms. We've discussed  
21 a number of aspects of requirements for the  
22 application and are trying not to be too  
23 prescriptive.

24 The description of what we're looking  
25 for is in the rules, but in terms of a particular

1 form, at this point I don't believe we're going to  
2 be issuing prescribed bond form, and then if we  
3 could go on to the next individual we'll -- we'll  
4 come back to you and we'll give you another  
5 opportunity to ask more questions, I promise.

6 We're not going anywhere until everyone  
7 has got a chance to ask their questions. Thank you.

8 MR. ANTHONY: Next we'd like to call  
9 John Sholar.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good morning. John,  
11 J-O-H-N. Sholar, S-H-O-L-A-R. Piasa Labs. The  
12 first question I have -- the first question I have,  
13 sir, is to Mr. Watson.

14 It's at what point in the application  
15 process, if at all, will speed to market be  
16 considered as part of the cultivation plan for  
17 points purposes vis-à-vis, you know, as -- as we  
18 just discussed with another gentleman some buildings  
19 will be design-built obviously. Some buildings will  
20 be, you know, buildings that are already in  
21 existence that might be, you know, readily  
22 transformed into something.

23 MR. MORGAN: I'll repeat the question.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So some buildings  
25 might be readily transformed into things that can be

1 used for a cultivation center. Other buildings  
2 we're going to design-build. There's obviously  
3 advantages and disadvantages to both. My question  
4 is for purposes of the scoring to application, is  
5 speed to market going to be one of the  
6 considerations?

7 MR. MORGAN: The question was will  
8 there be consideration given in the scoring for  
9 speed to market for a cultivation center given the  
10 variety of options for a build-out, new construction  
11 type facility, will that be taken into consideration  
12 in the scoring.

13 MR. WATSON: Yes. The -- if you look  
14 at measure three under schedule six, the business  
15 plan demonstrates that start-up timetable which  
16 provides an estimated time from permit approval of  
17 cultivation center to full operation and the  
18 assumptions used for the basis of those estimates.

19 So yes, if you let us know how quickly  
20 you plan to get it to the patients, that's something  
21 we will take into consideration.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'll try this one  
23 more time. My next question for Mr. Watson is also  
24 I believe -- and I can't find it right now. There's  
25 a provision that says at some point given the size

1 of the facility the department may require on-site  
2 security staff at all times.

3 I don't recall if that's stayed in  
4 after -- after some of the drafts or not. Has  
5 anyone given any thought to precisely at what point  
6 I guess by pounds or ounces or how much turnover a  
7 cultivation center is going to have when the  
8 security plan will be required to include 24-hour  
9 security on-site?

10 MR. WATSON: I'm not sure I recall that  
11 discussion taking place, but what -- what -- again,  
12 to what I started out with, our caveat is we want  
13 you to give us your security plan. You tell us the  
14 best security plan you have. We're not going to  
15 dictate to you what that is, but we will be scoring  
16 on the quality of that plan.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. One last  
18 question. On the bonus points, obviously we don't  
19 have sections in our -- in the current draft  
20 application for how the bonus point section should  
21 be I guess documented, and I'm assuming I'm going to  
22 get the same answer from Mr. Watson I just got, but  
23 is there an intent to provide additional guidelines  
24 on those bonus point sections?

25 MR. WATSON: Well, again, we're relying

1 on the creativity of the applicant. And I'm sorry  
2 that -- that we can't be more specific. You have to  
3 remember this is a pilot program. This is the first  
4 time for the State of Illinois to do this.

5 We have looked at what's happened in  
6 other states and we do have a lot of people that are  
7 interested who have -- have experience in this  
8 matter in other states, and I'm sure many of them  
9 will be applying and so -- but we do -- or we are  
10 looking for innovation and for creativity because we  
11 want this to be the best program possible, and we  
12 don't want to be limiting people by setting up  
13 strict guidelines.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And the one last on  
15 the bonus points, and I promise this is it. It  
16 lists veterans, women, minority owned. Are those  
17 cumulative or does one of those individuals have to  
18 have 51 percent?

19 MR. MORGAN: The bonus point section,  
20 this is mirrored in both the dispensary and  
21 cultivation center applications. The question was  
22 whether or not it's cumulative or a segregated  
23 percentage requirement for the minority, female,  
24 veteran, or disabled individual bonus point section,  
25 whether that cumulatively those four categories can

1 total 51 percent or more, or is an individual, for  
2 instance, veterans preference of 51 percent or more.  
3 The way we have it constructed is a combination of  
4 51 percent or more of those four categories.

5 MR. ANTHONY: Next is Alan --

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm not sure if I'm  
7 clear on that. 51 percent?

8 MR. MORGAN: In follow-up we'll make  
9 sure we get them later. Please sign up. We'll  
10 definitely address any -- any outstanding questions.  
11 Thanks.

12 MR. ANTHONY: Alan Johnson.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I think I'll pass.  
14 Mine is probably a medical question and I need to  
15 take up with my doctor.

16 MR. ANTHONY: Okay. Next we have Romy  
17 Ramadan.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, sir. Hi, good  
19 morning. Romy, R-O-M-Y. Last name is  
20 R-A-M-A-D-A-N. And specifically my questions will  
21 be for cultivation -- dispensary center. Any -- any  
22 computer programs that the state is working on or do  
23 we have to refine our own computer systems to track  
24 and monitor patients and recordkeeping?

25 MR. MORGAN: The question was whether

1 the state will require particular computer programs  
2 for the dispensaries and any connectivity and  
3 particular types of systems.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, sir.

5 MR. MORGAN: So the application  
6 references and the rules reference that the state  
7 will have some security IT requirements or  
8 technology requirements. At.

9 This point the state hasn't procured  
10 any type of system or vendor for the electronic  
11 aspects of the program for both dispensaries and  
12 cultivation centers.

13 We are likely to do so, and at that  
14 point we will probably be providing more  
15 information, but it's not -- not anticipated that a  
16 particular system will be required, but  
17 compatibility with whatever system the state  
18 procures is what we expect.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. So if we  
20 search our own companies, we wouldn't be wasting our  
21 time basically?

22 MR. MORGAN: The question was if they  
23 search their own companies, would that be a waste of  
24 time? Is that correct?

25 I would not say that's a waste of time.

1 There are a number of -- again, for referencing the  
2 other states that are currently operating medical  
3 cannabis systems, there are a variety of IT systems  
4 out there.

5 Majority of them are very high  
6 functioning and would have the capability to be  
7 compatible with the state system. So I would not  
8 say that that's a waste of time.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thanks. And  
10 also, if you're leasing a building, should -- the  
11 pilot program I believe is for five years; is that  
12 correct? Four years? And so should the lease be --  
13 the entire lease need to be for how long?

14 MR. MORGAN: The question is for those  
15 that are leasing a building, how long does that  
16 lease have to be.

17 I believe for Agriculture it is the  
18 life of the program, so that would be a four-year,  
19 and I believe it's the same at DFPR.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you very  
21 much.

22 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

23 MR. ANTHONY: Next we have Alan  
24 Gaffner.

25 MR. MORGAN: For those of you

1 interested in giving softball questions, we welcome  
2 those too.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good morning. Thank  
4 you. Maybe this will be a softball question. I  
5 don't know. Alan, A-L-A-N. Gaffner, G-A-F-F-N-E-R.

6 Relative to the cultivation centers and  
7 the scoring system, could you please describe the  
8 component of either the committee or the personnel  
9 that will be involved in ascribing that score,  
10 whether it will be no names at this time or  
11 positions, whether that will be done through the ag  
12 department or an outside group selected by the ag  
13 department or another entity?

14 MR. MORGAN: The question for those of  
15 you who didn't hear was what will the committee,  
16 selection committee be composed of, and who -- which  
17 agency, if additional agencies, will be reviewing  
18 the applications for cultivation centers and  
19 assigning those specific scores.

20 At this point we're still finalizing  
21 both for dispensaries and cultivation centers the  
22 specific teams, but generally speaking both agencies  
23 will have their own specifically assigned team  
24 internally of state employees at those agencies that  
25 will be reviewing all the various components of the

1 requirements for the applications.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So we'd look for that  
3 to come from solely Department of Ag or a  
4 combination of Department of Health and Department  
5 of Ag?

6 MR. MORGAN: It's a good question.  
7 The -- again, we're still finalizing exactly who is  
8 going to be on the committee. I can say  
9 historically we have drawn from each other in terms  
10 of respective agencies involved in the program.  
11 Public health has assisted Department of  
12 Agriculture, agriculture has assisted DFPR, and that  
13 kind of continuing -- continuing support will --  
14 will exist.

15 There are a number of aspects of the  
16 application that are subject matter specific,  
17 particularly when you start looking at the bonus  
18 points. There's some sections that require some  
19 experience that we'll be drawing from, but again,  
20 we're still finalizing the team, and generally  
21 speaking it would be a Department of Agriculture  
22 selection team.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Present number of  
24 individuals known that will comprise the team?

25 MR. MORGAN: More than one. We're

1 still finalizing.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. All right.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

5 MR. ANTHONY: Next, C.J. Biendo.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I've got no

7 questions.

8 MR. ANTHONY: Pamela Shourd.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hello. My name is  
10 Pamela Shourd. P-A-M-E-L-A, S-H-O-U-R-D.

11 And my question is for the Department  
12 of Agriculture. Also on section 1000.40, the  
13 operation of a cultivation center, under part six it  
14 lists two forms of evidence of financial  
15 responsibility. One is an escrow and one is a  
16 surety bond.

17 Then on -- when you get to section  
18 1000-60 where it talks about the reduction in the  
19 amount you're required to have, it lists escrow  
20 account, surety bond, and a letter of credit.

21 So what I'm wondering is is a letter of  
22 credit an acceptable evidence of financial  
23 responsibility or is it only the other two?

24 MR. MORGAN: The question was there are  
25 a couple references in the cultivation center rules

1 and application. One section for operation that  
2 addresses two forms of financial support, one deals  
3 with escrow, and one with surety bond.

4 There's another section dealing with a  
5 reduction of that escrow, surety bond, or letter of  
6 credit. The question is whether a letter of credit  
7 would suffice for both or --

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: In the place of an  
9 escrow or a surety bond.

10 MR. MORGAN: In the place of escrow or  
11 surety bond.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh. Is it a  
13 third option?

14 MR. WATSON: I believe you had --

15 MR. MORGAN: Just one moment, please.

16 MR. WATSON: I believe you had talked  
17 about 1000-60 you said.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, 1000-60 under  
19 evidence of financial responsibility - terms.

20 MR. WATSON: Are you talking about in  
21 section A in the first part? Because I believe that  
22 in the final rules that we had removed the reference  
23 to letter of credit in that section because there  
24 was a problem because we had taken it out from the  
25 other areas. So right now we are not considering

1 letters of credit.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And that was  
3 changed when?

4 MR. WATSON: Upon the final rule. You  
5 -- you may be reading the version of a second  
6 notice. The -- the rule process has been somewhat  
7 painstaking in that we have made several changes  
8 along the way, and we did it based upon comments  
9 that we received from the public as well as  
10 discussions within the department and with other  
11 agencies, and we determined that letter of credit  
12 was not one of the items that we would be  
13 considering.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

15 MR. ANTHONY: Chuck Huntke.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'll pass.

17 MR. ANTHONY: Pass? Next we have Dan  
18 Linn.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: First name Dan,  
20 D-A-N. Last name Linn, L-I-N-N.

21 Number of different groups here. I'm  
22 on behalf of the Illinois Chapter of Normal, the  
23 Illinois Cannabis Industry Association, the Illinois  
24 Cannabis Patient's Association, and then a private  
25 consulting company Midwest Cannabis Consulting.

1 Thank you for putting on the town hall  
2 and all that you all have done for this program thus  
3 far. Couple of questions specifically about the  
4 applications and then I'll yield my time to other  
5 people. I'm sure I'll have more time to ask other  
6 questions.

7 The first one deals with what is the  
8 timeline for the state procuring that inventory  
9 tracking system? Is that going to be  
10 pre-application or post-application?

11 MR. MORGAN: The question for those  
12 that didn't hear, what's the timeline for the state  
13 procuring the inventory tracking system, is it  
14 before the application or after the application?

15 I think the most likely event right now  
16 given our -- the state's procurement requirements  
17 and process, it would be after the application is  
18 submitted.

19 We're working developing that now,  
20 but that hasn't been -- there's, again, process of  
21 publicly posting that procurement request, receiving  
22 the request, following up with those requests,  
23 scoring the requests, issuing the potential  
24 successful bidder, things of that nature, and I  
25 think the timeline would be too -- too restricted

1 given our timing for the applications.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Next question,  
3 I'm not going to ask where the original clones or  
4 seeds are going to come from, but because the state  
5 does request information on what strains a  
6 cultivation center plans on growing, what  
7 verification system will be in place to assure the  
8 patients and the dispensaries that when somebody is  
9 buying OG Kush it actually is OG Kush and not  
10 something else?

11 MR. MORGAN: I'll give it a first shot  
12 and I'll pass it to Ray. It's important for  
13 patients to have as much confidence as they can in  
14 the product that they're purchasing.

15 It is not a precise situation for a  
16 number of reasons in part because the brand names  
17 that we use in other states and that will be used in  
18 Illinois have a pretty wide variety of what they  
19 mean in different context, and people name the same  
20 thing and actually it is a different product. So  
21 there's already a diversity there.

22 So you mentioned OG Kush. So an OG  
23 Kush is purchased in one dispensary versus OG Kush  
24 in another, it could be a very different product.  
25 So the -- the opportunity for the state to mandate

1 that is there are a few opportunities, and Ray will  
2 go into that in terms of how we'll be assuring that,  
3 but we do have an interest in making sure patients  
4 have as much confidence in what they're purchasing  
5 as possible.

6 And from our perspective, my  
7 perspective, while the brand name will be important  
8 to ag, and Ray can talk about that, the components  
9 of the product are more important to me so that a  
10 patient is familiar with what they're purchasing and  
11 the potential impact on their health.

12 So we want to encourage and really  
13 mandate these dispensaries and really starting the  
14 cultivation centers to have a certain level of  
15 predictability, consistency in the product so that a  
16 patient purchasing one product is really receiving  
17 respectively high THC high CBD, low THC low CBD,  
18 etc., so that their health is not going to be  
19 negatively impacted.

20 So from my perspective, that's --  
21 that's our goal, and ag has a few components in  
22 place to address those.

23 MR. WATSON: First of all, we're going  
24 to ask that the product lines be registered with the  
25 department -- Department of Agriculture, and we are

1 also going to have labeling requirements for the  
2 product, and we will be asking the cultivation  
3 centers to have their product tested by an  
4 independent lab for the levels of THC and CBDs, and  
5 we will be testing ourselves to see if the product  
6 matches the label.

7 This is something we have experience  
8 with in other areas, like fertilizer, and to make  
9 sure that companies are selling what they say they  
10 are selling.

11 So I think the labeling requirements  
12 may be as important or more important than the name,  
13 and as -- as this process develops and I think  
14 doctors and patients will become more familiar with  
15 the effects of the various levels, THC and CBDs, so  
16 we are going to be testing to make sure that the  
17 labels are accurate.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. Hopefully  
19 this is a softball question here. Does the state  
20 anticipate litigation challenging felony patient  
21 denials?

22 MR. MORGAN: Does the state anticipate  
23 litigation?

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Challenging the  
25 constitutional nature of denying felons medicine?

1 Even though it's in the statute.

2 MR. MORGAN: We anticipate all types of  
3 litigation, and hopefully my anticipation is  
4 completely off base and it's -- it's nonexistent and  
5 we can all move on it with this program without  
6 having to go on to court.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'll keep asking  
8 questions as long as you guys leave me up here.

9 MR. MORGAN: Why don't you ask one more  
10 question, Dan, and we can rotate?

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. So looking at  
12 the FAQs for the financial and professional  
13 regulations, the question, is a lender, a financial  
14 institution counted as a financial backer? If so,  
15 must tax returns be provided from a loan company or  
16 investor?

17 The answer on the FAQ was possibly. If  
18 that was the case, would the applicant be allowed to  
19 rectify that and bring forth the tax returns or  
20 would their application be simply denied if they  
21 were using those questionable investors or backers?

22 MR. MORGAN: That's a good question.  
23 For those who didn't hear, it was for a financial  
24 lending institution that -- that has lent -- lent a  
25 certain amount of financial assets to a dispensary

1 backer, whether that would be a dispensary backer by  
2 the definition of our rules that would have to  
3 supply financial information and documentation.

4 The reason we say possibly is because  
5 it depends on the relationship of the lender to the  
6 applicant. There are a number of ways the financial  
7 institution could lend money which could result in a  
8 financial interest in the business, and so it's a  
9 case-by-case basis.

10 And I think we're always going to err  
11 on the side of provide more documentation whenever  
12 possible, but if you have a lending institution that  
13 ends up with an equity interest of 25 percent in  
14 your business, well, then it's no longer just a  
15 lending institution, it's -- it's part owner. So  
16 that was the possibly. And forgive us for being  
17 obtuse on that question. It's a case-by-case basis.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, thank you very  
19 much, and I look forward to the second round of  
20 questions.

21 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

22 MR. ANTHONY: Next we have Lloyd Cueto.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi, Lloyd Cueto. The  
24 first name L-L-O-Y-D. Last name C-U-E-T-O.

25 Just two kind of general categories of

1 questions. One about the state's expectation for  
2 patient levels, and then two, questions about  
3 applying for multiple licenses and the preferred  
4 hopes the state has on the application process.

5 So first, does the state have a certain  
6 number or threshold that you're anticipating here at  
7 the outset of the program for patients?

8 MR. MORGAN: What we've said is we hope  
9 that anybody who's an eligible patient who's  
10 interested in participating is able to participate.  
11 Our -- our belief is that there's well in excess of  
12 a hundred thousand plus in Illinois residents that  
13 have medical conditions that are debilitating  
14 medical conditions under the statute that could  
15 potentially participate.

16 Looking at the experiences in other  
17 states, there's a wide variety of factors that lead  
18 to how many patients participate. We've seen states  
19 where if the program is too lax in enforcement, the  
20 patients don't feel as though they need to register.

21 So they might be participating,  
22 continuing in the black market, but not  
23 participating in registering with the state.  
24 Conversely, if we have too -- too high fees, for  
25 instance, and patients feel as though they can't

1 participate financially, that would discourage them  
2 from registering with the state as well.

3           So we're trying to find that balance of  
4 a robust program that fits the intent of the law,  
5 but also is not a barrier for anybody who's eligible  
6 to participate. So to directly answer your  
7 question, our best guess is somewhere in the  
8 ballpark of tens of thousands in the first year. It  
9 could be less or more than that.

10           Again, some of that depends on  
11 physician certifications, the financial barriers,  
12 not just with registrations, but the product costs.  
13 So there are a number of factors that are going to  
14 drive that, but we'll know more in the coming  
15 months.

16           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Kind of following up  
17 on that, is there any consideration of any changes  
18 to the patient application requirement to do  
19 fingerprinting?

20           MR. MORGAN: The question was is there  
21 any consideration to changing the applicant --  
22 application requirements for patients to do  
23 fingerprint background checks? That did come from  
24 the statute. That was very clearly legislative  
25 intent to require that.

1                   So I think that anybody interested in  
2    changing that, we'd defer them to the legislature,  
3    but we will be executing that -- that aspect of the  
4    law and requiring fingerprint background checks.

5                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And the last  
6    one about the patients and the release on  
7    August 8th, it looked like there was like a timeline  
8    for to divide the patient base by last names.

9                   Is that a cutoff date for patients or  
10   is that like a first round of patient applications  
11   or how is the state going to kind of feel taking  
12   those applications?

13                  MS. OBERDORF: So the question is  
14   regarding the application timeline for qualifying  
15   patients, and so beginning September 2nd patients  
16   with last names A through L may apply, and they may  
17   do so through October 31st, and then starting  
18   November 1st through December 31st applicants with  
19   last names M through Z may apply, and then beginning  
20   in 2015 it will be open application.

21                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

22                  MS. OBERDORF: So regardless of last  
23   name, patients will be able to apply at any time.

24                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And then as  
25   far as this kind of second category about any

1 business entity that's applying for multiple  
2 licenses, be that a dispensary and a grow or in  
3 multiple districts, the financial commitment  
4 requirements, for example, you know, the half a  
5 million dollars in an escrow account for a grow  
6 house or what it may be, does the business have to  
7 demonstrate a separate fund for each location that  
8 they're applying for, or can a generalized financial  
9 commitment statement work for each application?

10 MR. MORGAN: The question was for those  
11 interested in applying for more than one cultivation  
12 center or dispensary, would the financial  
13 requirements apply to each particular application or  
14 would it just be one time commitment.

15 MR. WATSON: We will be looking at each  
16 application independently, and so, for instance, if  
17 you apply for three licenses and you're successful  
18 for those three, we're going to want that -- that  
19 level of commitment from -- from you to operate all  
20 three of those.

21 We don't want to go through the process  
22 and then find out, oh, I really meant just one. I  
23 only had enough money for one, and then now we've  
24 got to go back and go to the second place person in  
25 the other two.

1                   Now, there is an opportunity, of  
2   course, if you apply for more than three because you  
3   think you may be more successful in different  
4   districts, and you are successful with more than  
5   three, you will have to pick which three you want to  
6   operate in.

7                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: And I guess just to  
8   kind of flush out a little bit more if I can, I  
9   mean, when you're saying demonstrate the wherewithal  
10   to actually financially back it, I guess  
11   specifically are you going to need to show if you  
12   apply for three grow licenses, three different  
13   escrow accounts with half a million dollars in it,  
14   or your financial, you know, background for  
15   everybody to just demonstrate they have the  
16   wherewithal to take that on so they can get it?

17                  MR. WATSON: Yes. And for the reasons  
18   that I mentioned, because if we give you three  
19   permits we want you to operate three facilities and  
20   have the ability to do so.

21                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you. I  
22   don't have any other questions.

23                  MR. MORGAN: And I guess just to touch  
24   on that, just to make sure I understood the  
25   question, are you asking whether you could have an

1 escrow account for -- for the instance of the  
2 Department of Agriculture cultivation center with  
3 1.5 million, whether one account would satisfy that  
4 requirement?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, kind of both. I  
6 mean, did you need the 1.5 million or did you need  
7 three separate accounts, and I think you've answered  
8 my question.

9 MR. MORGAN: Just want to make sure.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is it three separate?  
11 I didn't --

12 MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I don't know that we  
13 talked about that particular point.

14 MR. WATSON: No. I was -- I was  
15 talking about cumulative amount you have to have.

16 MR. MORGAN: I'll let Ray disagree with  
17 me if he feels differently. I think speaking with  
18 my DFPR hat today, I think the intent is to  
19 establish that you have the financial backing for  
20 each particular application.

21 Just because it's one account with  
22 three times the amount or in this case of DFPR  
23 400,000 or 1.2 million for three applications using  
24 that as an example, I think that that would satisfy  
25 the intent of establishing the financial assets.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

2 MR. MORGAN: Ray agrees.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

4 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

5 MR. ANTHONY: Ashlie Kuehen.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi, K-U-E-H-E-N.

7 My question was previously asked, but I  
8 just had a follow-up question on the letter of  
9 credit. So the letter -- so basically what I'm  
10 getting from your answer was a letter of credit was  
11 left in accidentally in the final rule.

12 So there's no -- so if it was an  
13 irrevocable letter of credit and that was the  
14 reference in a 1000.60 A in the amount issued by an  
15 Illinois financial institution that satisfies the  
16 provisions of a 1000.4 G, so that -- you can't  
17 accept that in lieu of a surety bond?

18 MR. WATSON: No.

19 MR. MORGAN: The question was, just to  
20 clarify, that there was at some point a change or  
21 removal in the rules that a letter of credit would  
22 no longer satisfy the requirement of the financial  
23 aspects, and Ray says?

24 MR. WATSON: Yes.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Got it. Thank you.

1 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

2 MR. ANTHONY: Stephanie Dalton.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi, Stephanie Dalton.

4 S-T-E-P-H-A-N-I-E, D-A-L-T-O-N.

5 I was inquiring about the bona fide  
6 relationship between the patient and the physician.  
7 As to whether there is a time limit, whether it's  
8 six months, one year, or a certain amount of visits  
9 to his office?

10 MS. OBERDORF: So the question is  
11 regarding the bona fide physician/patient  
12 relationship, and specifically for the physician  
13 that will be recommending the patient for the use of  
14 medical cannabis.

15 So we did not want to give a specific  
16 time frame for that relationship, and a big reason  
17 for that is because if a patient is newly diagnosed  
18 with a debilitating medical condition and would  
19 benefit from cannabis sooner rather than later, we  
20 wouldn't say you need to be seeing that same  
21 physician for up to twelve months.

22 And so our real intent with that is to  
23 make sure that the physician is reviewing the  
24 records, meeting in person, educating the patient  
25 about the use of medical cannabis, and also just not

1 doing one visit and certifying them. There do need  
2 to be multiple visits.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. So how are we  
4 able to show you that the patient has -- do we state  
5 how long a patient has been with us and how many  
6 visits they've -- a lot of our -- I work for  
7 Dr. Bodo Schneider in Marion, Illinois, and we have  
8 a lot of patients that are starting to hear about  
9 other patients that he is going to certify for, and  
10 we've got patients that are two hours away that live  
11 in St. Louis, and they have been driving down  
12 stating that they heard that he could do a  
13 certification letter, and he's explaining to them  
14 that he has to treat an underlying condition or  
15 treat them and he can't just write these  
16 certification letters.

17 So I just needed help understanding  
18 what you guys need to know so we can help these  
19 people that truly need the medicine to save their  
20 life.

21 MS. OBERDORF: So the question was just  
22 a little more clarity about that physician/patient  
23 relationship, and I think that the bottom line is we  
24 do need the physician to have a relationship with  
25 these people.

1                   And we do understand the difficulties  
2   of, you know, patients that might not live nearby  
3   their doctor, but we really do want to make sure the  
4   physician is the person responsible for them and  
5   their care.

6                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. Okay. Thank  
7   you very much.

8                   MR. ANTHONY: Next, Joe Chepely?

9                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'll just be brief,  
10   just medical question. I was just seeing about the  
11   connection you had to have between the doctor and  
12   the patient. How long do you have to --

13                  MR. ANTHONY: Would you mind coming up  
14   to the podium to ask your question? Thank you.

15                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Joe Chepely,  
16   C-H-E-P-E-L-Y.

17                  My question was just how long do you  
18   need to go see the doctor -- because I've already  
19   seen doctors in Texas. They recommended twelve,  
20   fifteen years ago. Here I have an MS doctor and I  
21   have a regular MD.

22                  Both of my doctors just kind of  
23   chuckled when I asked them about it because they  
24   said, oh, Illinois, it's going to take them years.  
25   Don't worry about it. And I was just wondering what

1 is the deal for an application?

2 MR. MORGAN: Well --

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Both my doctors don't  
4 know anything about it.

5 MR. MORGAN: Thank you for coming up.  
6 It won't take years. We expect the program to be up  
7 and running early 2015. So it's more months than  
8 years, but I think what Laura was saying is really  
9 the best way you can say it. There's no specific  
10 timeline of how long you have to be seeing a  
11 physician.

12 Our rules do account for the fact that  
13 you might have a patient seeing a new physician  
14 because they've changed doctors for any number of  
15 reasons we can all think of, but the key is for that  
16 physician to be doing an in-person physical exam of  
17 that individual, and also looking at the previous  
18 medical records whenever possible.

19 So I think that you -- any physician  
20 that thinks that it's going to be years I think  
21 would be incorrect, and we -- we hope that any  
22 physician looking to learn more can go to our  
23 website and speak with any physician advocacy  
24 organization and any -- any of the advocacy  
25 organizations that are here today.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Does it have to be a  
2 doctor in Illinois? Because my MS doctor is in  
3 Missouri.

4 MR. MORGAN: They have to be an  
5 Illinois-licensed physician.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So the Missouri MS  
7 doctor is no help?

8 MR. MORGAN: Correct. If we had a  
9 signature from a physician who is not practicing and  
10 licensed in the State of Illinois, we would need a  
11 physician certification from someone who is licensed  
12 and practicing in Illinois.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So I could go to my  
14 regular M.D. then?

15 MR. MORGAN: If your physician was  
16 comfortable signing it and certifying it, yes.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

19 MR. ANTHONY: Next, Donald Schreiber.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Donald Schreiber,  
21 D-O-N-A-L-D, S-C-H-R-E-I-B-E-R.

22 Thanks for taking my questions. More  
23 financial. In your regs for both cultivation and  
24 dispensaries, you talk about audited statements.  
25 Now, in most cases we're incorporating new entities

1 that have no historical financial statements. So I  
2 assume that this is for future, yes or no?

3 MR. MORGAN: There are a few sections  
4 that reference audited financials, and I believe if  
5 we didn't, it was in our error. We had intended and  
6 I believe have changed the rules to account for new  
7 business organization.

8 Does not have previously audited  
9 financials. We do expect a number of the applicants  
10 will be newly-created businesses that don't have  
11 financial statements.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

13 MR. MORGAN: We still require the  
14 financial at least tax reform -- tax forms and tax  
15 records of recent years for the primary financial  
16 backers.

17 So we need the information that we can  
18 find in order to make sure that those that are  
19 trying to demonstrate they're newly-created business  
20 with large amount of assets, that we're able to  
21 identify those that are meeting the requirements of  
22 the law.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. But if we have  
24 funded the -- the new entities with perhaps an  
25 existing business, as long as we show you those

1 financial statements, and they may be reviewed  
2 statements compiled, reviewed statements, they're  
3 not going to be audited, is that going to be an  
4 issue?

5 MR. MORGAN: If I understand your  
6 question, it's specifically when you have a  
7 preexisting business that's funding a new business.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

9 MR. MORGAN: And whether or not the --  
10 the nonaudited financials from the old business --

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

12 MR. MORGAN: -- would cause a problem  
13 with the new business?

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Correct.

15 MR. MORGAN: One moment, please.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. Sure.

17 MR. MORGAN: You know, actually, if we  
18 could take that under advisement, I think it's a  
19 question --

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Go ahead. To kind of  
21 follow up on the proof of financial resources, we've  
22 talked about, you know, \$500,000 for cultivation  
23 shown in the escrow account, \$400,000 for  
24 dispensary.

25 Now, some of us have already incurred

1 costs as we prepare for this endeavor. How do we  
2 show that, you know, take a dispensary, your number  
3 \$400,000, we're creating our own projections, and  
4 let's say it's a \$500,000 investment that we  
5 determine? We -- that may have entailed purchasing  
6 real estate, leasehold improvements.

7 How do we demonstrate that to you in  
8 the application that, hey, we may not have exactly  
9 400,000 liquid in an escrow account, but we've  
10 already incurred 250, \$300,000?

11 MR. MORGAN: I'll let Ray talk about  
12 ag, but for DFPR, I don't think preexisting and  
13 previously expended assets and expenses would count  
14 towards the liquid asset requirement.

15 So I understand your question. For  
16 those who didn't hear, what if you spend funds on  
17 property acquisition or any other aspect of just  
18 expenditures for developing your business prior to  
19 the application, can that be used to count towards  
20 the liquid asset requirement.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

22 MR. MORGAN: And from DFPR, I think the  
23 answer would be no because we're looking to  
24 establish at that time of application the asset  
25 requirements to demonstrate the potential for a

1 successful business.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. All right.

3 MR. WATSON: If I could go on a little  
4 bit further with the cultivation centers, there's  
5 going to be a period of time from permit approval to  
6 construction to production and finally sale, in  
7 which the entity is going to have to operate without  
8 any income --

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Correct.

10 MR. WATSON: -- coming in.

11 So we tried to set the liquid asset  
12 requirement at a level that we thought would be  
13 appropriate for -- to demonstrate that the company  
14 could stay in business until they started actually  
15 selling the product.

16 We don't want to give somebody with the  
17 bare minimum, you know, application fee and then  
18 he's spent all the money and has to close the doors  
19 because he doesn't have anybody to tend the plants.  
20 So that's why we set the amount where we did. And  
21 yes, it would have to be liquid.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. All right.

23 Moving to just a quick -- a few quick  
24 operational questions. One of the other questioners  
25 had asked about seeds, clones. And I may have

1 missed this in previous announcements, but how do we  
2 acquire -- first of all, can we use seeds, can we  
3 use clones, and how do we acquire them?

4 MR. MORGAN: The answer is that our  
5 rules and application don't address the initial  
6 seeds and clones. The product itself, what we've  
7 seen in other states, is typically much more clones  
8 in terms of what they're using for initial product.  
9 Beyond that, I think that would be as far as the  
10 state would be able to go to directly answer the  
11 question.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Again?

13 MR. MORGAN: That's as far as the state  
14 can go in terms of simply addressing the question.  
15 I would say it's a question that has come up in a  
16 variety of states that have medical cannabis  
17 programs, and there's -- our rules don't address it.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. All right.  
19 Fair enough.

20 Earlier you had talked about a quest --  
21 you responded to a question that, you know, you  
22 think there's perhaps a hundred thousand qualified  
23 patients in the state, and you were talking about  
24 the registration process.

25 Will we be able to -- again, I'm from

1 the medical industry, so I'm not asking for any  
2 HIPAA information, but will you disclose how many  
3 people have -- how many patients have registered, so  
4 we have a handle on our demand?

5 MR. MORGAN: Yes. So we will be  
6 providing rough numbers as time goes on  
7 sporadically. Certainly after the first wave of A  
8 through L, we'll have a pretty good sense of at  
9 least that first half of the population.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: By ZIP Code?

11 MR. MORGAN: No. We'd be providing  
12 that information statewide.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Statewide.

14 MR. MORGAN: I think for the same  
15 reason you just --

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

17 MR. MORGAN: Your disclaimer.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

19 MR. MORGAN: We wouldn't want to be  
20 providing specific information that can lead to the  
21 identification of a patient. The confidentiality  
22 requirements of the statute are quite specific and  
23 very robust for good reason.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Couple real  
25 quick questions on pricing. Is it all market driven

1 or will the state mandate what we can sell the  
2 cannabis for?

3 MR. MORGAN: It's market driven. It's  
4 a market driven program. Statute, rules, and  
5 operations. That being said, both DFPR and ag have  
6 references, some direct, some indirect, to the  
7 protocols that a dispensary and a cultivation center  
8 will have in place to make sure that the product is  
9 affordable. There are aspects of that throughout.

10 Certainly our objective is to have a  
11 competitive market where patients are able to afford  
12 the product. It won't be controlled by the state,  
13 though.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Last question.  
15 In terms of presenting the business plan to the  
16 application, can we identify ourselves? Can we  
17 present our story in the form of video or links to a  
18 website or does this all have to be blind tested?

19 MR. ANTHONY: We will be providing  
20 further instructions as we develop the applications.  
21 The applications -- portions of the applications  
22 will be evaluated blindly. So we won't know which  
23 company or who you are, for good reasons, I think.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

25 MR. ANTHONY: To make sure that things

1 are done fairly and impartially.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

3 MR. ANTHONY: So we'll provide you some  
4 specific instructions on how to de-identify certain  
5 portions of your applications and we're in the  
6 process of developing that right now.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Great. Thanks for  
8 taking my questions.

9 MR. ANTHONY: You're welcome.

10 MR. WATSON: Thank you.

11 MR. ANTHONY: Next we have Todd Hall.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's Todd Hall.  
13 T-O-D-D, Hall, H-A-L-L. I have a two-part question.  
14 Good morning.

15 One of the questions is can a caregiver  
16 be from another state, but operate in Illinois per  
17 se?

18 MS. OBERDORF: So the question is if a  
19 caregiver can be from another state, but operate in  
20 Illinois, and the answer is no. The caregiver must  
21 be an Illinois resident. And as part of the  
22 application they will need to prove their residency.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Second  
24 question. The cultivation center, how is the  
25 district set up? Can a cultivation center be able

1 to sell to other vendors, dispensaries, patients,  
2 and other states that have cultivation centers,  
3 almost like a commodity?

4 MR. MORGAN: The question was: How  
5 were the cultivation center districts set up, and is  
6 there an opportunity for a cultivation center to  
7 sell the product to other cultivation centers or  
8 other states? Was there another --

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, almost like a  
10 commodity. I know state of Washington and Colorado,  
11 dispensaries cannot sell to other dispensaries, per  
12 se.

13 MR. MORGAN: Right.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And one is does  
15 Illinois feel that the markets -- since you just  
16 said it's a market driven industry, not a regular --  
17 make it regulatory, of course, be able to sell and  
18 make more of a profit, right?

19 MR. WATSON: The cultivation centers  
20 will be required to sell only to licensed  
21 dispensaries in Illinois. So there won't be any out  
22 of state sales.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: But for the near  
24 future could that be open industry to sell to other  
25 states?

1 MR. WATSON: That's going to be up to  
2 the legislature.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Another  
4 question is: Will the plants be tagged with RFID,  
5 radio frequency identification, to keep monitoring  
6 how many plants a particular cultivation center,  
7 dispensary or caregivers will have?

8 MR. WATSON: That is certainly the  
9 plan. I'm not sure that the RFID is the exact  
10 method, but it's going to be marked somehow. Bar  
11 code, I believe, at a minimum is what -- at a  
12 minimum. We do intend to track from seed to sale.

13 So that -- for a number of reasons, one  
14 being security, and number two, for product quality.  
15 So if there is an issue with quality, we can trace  
16 it back to the cultivation center.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And the  
18 question was why now, would Illinois take or follow  
19 suit of other states and other municipalities and  
20 get into the cannabis industry? Is it something  
21 that we're in the forefront? Because I think it's a  
22 great idea. I just wonder why now at this  
23 particular time.

24 MR. MORGAN: Is the question why  
25 Illinois now is moving to a medical cannabis --

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Correct.

2 MR. MORGAN: -- program? I think the  
3 best answer is that that was something the  
4 legislature considered for a number of years.  
5 Legislature passed a bill now, just over a year ago,  
6 and the governor signed it in August of 2013 as a  
7 pilot program.

8 So we are the 21st state to have the  
9 law, and then operationally might be 22nd, 23rd  
10 state to get the program up and running. Very  
11 shortly it will be a majority of the states in the  
12 country that have some variable variation of a  
13 medical cannabis program.

14 I believe we're the only one with a  
15 pilot program. So it is designed to be a four-year  
16 terminable program so that at the end of the  
17 four years we'll be able to see was it successful,  
18 and by a number of measures is this something the  
19 state is looking to continue or expand?

20 So it is an experiment. It is a pilot  
21 program, and all of you in this room right now are  
22 part of that pilot program.

23 So thank you.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

25 MR. ANTHONY: Carlos Ponce?

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good morning. It's  
2 Carlos, C-A-R-L-O-S. Ponce, P-O-N-C-E.

3 My question is directed to the  
4 cultivation side and specifically about the  
5 application evaluation and award process. I  
6 understand that there are going to be folks that are  
7 going to be going after multiple licenses in  
8 different districts.

9 The word on the street is that there's  
10 some very deep pocketed individuals out there that  
11 are going after multiple licenses. And it's also  
12 evident that in the evaluation you're looking at  
13 experience. So what we're really talking about is  
14 out of state experience in another cannabis  
15 marketplace.

16 So the question becomes, if you're  
17 making awards to individuals that are going after  
18 multiple districts, if you've made an award in one  
19 district, to what extent are you going to evaluate  
20 and say we're going to try to spread these awards  
21 around?

22 If you've got palpable or close to  
23 palpable applications, and to what extent is the by  
24 Illinois component in there too, in terms of teams  
25 having folks from Illinois as the majority of their

1 ownership?

2 MR. MORGAN: So you had a couple  
3 questions in there dealing with our -- our  
4 expectations of experience and demonstration of  
5 experience for cultivation centers, given the  
6 limited number of licenses of up to 21 that we'll be  
7 issuing for the pilot program.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh.

9 MR. MORGAN: How we will be taking into  
10 consideration those that are applying for multiple  
11 licenses, as well as the -- what our intentions  
12 relative to by Illinois and those that are  
13 Illinois-based businesses, creating Illinois based  
14 jobs.

15 I'll give Ray the first whack at that.

16 MR. WATSON: Okay. Well, in the bonus  
17 point section we talk about the applicant's  
18 principal place of business being headquartered in  
19 Illinois. There will be bonus points for that.

20 Certainly we will be looking for jobs  
21 created in Illinois. So -- and then we're also  
22 going to be looking for local community and  
23 neighborhood support. In other words, do you have  
24 the support of the community? And I'm certain that  
25 local individuals would be able to get that support.

1                   And maybe outside individuals would as  
2 well, but if you're known in the community, then I'm  
3 sure you'll be able to get that support for, you  
4 know, for the bonus points section.

5                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: The other part was  
6 the concern that two or three major applicants would  
7 eat up most of the -- most of the licenses. And  
8 small to medium applicants aren't going to have a  
9 chance.

10                  MR. WATSON: Well, the -- we're  
11 limiting it to three per -- per successful  
12 applicant. And we are going to be having the -- let  
13 me step back for a second.

14                  This process is different than our  
15 normal permitting process where we have minimum  
16 requirements to say, run a livestock facility.  
17 Where if you make your application and you made the  
18 qualifications, you can operate.

19                  In this case we are going to have  
20 several people making applications that will be  
21 qualified, and well qualified. However, since we  
22 are limited to granting a permit, one per state  
23 police district, the only way that we can really do  
24 that is by giving it to the most qualified and the  
25 one that scores the highest.

1                   We have put points in the bonus section  
2   to account for Illinois-based companies, and the --  
3   as far as the experience, while experience raising  
4   marijuana is going to be helpful, we also mention  
5   horticultural experience. So it's not limited just  
6   to a company that's from Colorado, say, for  
7   instance.

8                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: I appreciate that. I  
9   hope that you understand the sensitivity of having  
10  two or three firms eat up most of the licenses.

11                  Next question in reference to MPE, WBE  
12  participations. Some of the folks that might be  
13  participating are from out of state.

14                  Would you be accepting out of state  
15  certifications or are you going to require that they  
16  go to get state certification? And as you probably  
17  know, they're usually running way, way, way late and  
18  behind in all of that, CMS.

19                  MR. MORGAN: So I would start by  
20  defending CMS because they're not here to defend  
21  themselves and they would tell you --

22                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: They do a fine job.  
23  They are overwhelmed, I'm sure.

24                  MR. MORGAN: You know, we've had a  
25  number of conversations with the Illinois Department

1 of Central Management Services. For those who  
2 didn't hear the question, it was how -- will the  
3 state permit documentation that shows minority  
4 participation or in Illinois it's BEP, Business  
5 Enterprise Program, certification of predominant  
6 minority, female or women owned businesses or  
7 individuals with disabilities.

8 In Illinois, we have that BEP process.  
9 It's from the Illinois Department of Central  
10 Management Services. So we've talked to CMS about  
11 this process.

12 Again, they would defend themselves and  
13 they would say their turnaround time is weeks even  
14 though it used to be much more delayed.

15 So for anybody looking to apply, it's a  
16 very quick turnaround. But to your specific  
17 question, we recently submitted Emergency Rule 19 to  
18 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. That  
19 will show up Friday.

20 Friday you'll see the Department of  
21 Agriculture and Financial Professional Regulations  
22 both filed emergency rules. One section you've  
23 already seen because it was documents sitting in  
24 codifying the points and scoring system that you've  
25 seen in the application.

1                   The other piece was it clarified a  
2 little bit on the MBE provision of things. It  
3 defined the word minority and female and individuals  
4 with disabilities, referencing back to the BEP law.  
5 But more specifically it says documentation shall  
6 include, but not be limited to.

7                   So to that specific question we would  
8 accept other documentation especially from out of  
9 state, that is a similar comparable program. It was  
10 a balancing test.

11                   We did consider a number of different  
12 ways to approach that because we wanted to have some  
13 sort of verification documentation as opposed to  
14 someone just saying, Sure, I'm 51 percent women  
15 owned business, without any documentation to prove  
16 it. But we would be accepting out of state.

17                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Last question  
18 is in reference to market demand. It's used  
19 throughout the regs, and in particular the section  
20 where a license can be pulled because a cultivation  
21 center is not meeting market demand.

22                   How is the state going to communicate  
23 that? Is it going to have a system where all the  
24 cultivation centers are going to be able to know  
25 what market demand is, because \$2 million is a lot

1 of money to be pulled if this ill-defined market  
2 demand and how is it that cultivation centers really  
3 watch themselves and are able to anticipate.

4 It's also I think in the regs that the  
5 state can come to a cultivation center and say, You  
6 need to ramp up even more from where you are, in  
7 order to meet market demand. And if you don't,  
8 would that be grounds to lose your license as well?

9 MR. MORGAN: So the question revolved  
10 around market demand and the expectations the State  
11 will have on a cultivation center's ability to put  
12 out supply to meet that demand, and what information  
13 would be available to a cultivation center to know  
14 whether or not the demand is being met.

15 And then also how the Department of  
16 Agriculture treats the cultivation centers that are  
17 licensed in terms of the expectations and demand for  
18 supply.

19 MR. WATSON: I think the section you're  
20 referring to is -- I think what the thought behind  
21 that was, is we wanted to make sure that we didn't  
22 have someone successfully apply for a permit and  
23 then sit on it. Our point was we wanted them to  
24 begin production and continue production.

25 We will have inspectors in the

1 cultivation centers on at least on a weekly basis.  
2 So there will be a fairly high level of  
3 communication between the department and the  
4 cultivation centers with regard to our expectations.

5 Certainly if we feel somebody is just  
6 kind of trying to park a permit to corner the  
7 market, that's where our concern is. But if we see  
8 a good faith effort to produce, you know, a good  
9 quality product for the patients, I don't believe  
10 you should be too concerned.

11 However, there is the efforts -- one of  
12 the aspects that we do cover in the application is  
13 if -- since we don't know what the market is going  
14 to be, one of the things that we may consider is  
15 your ability to expand, if all of a sudden we see  
16 the demand go way up and we're not meeting the  
17 demand.

18 We may be going to the cultivation  
19 centers and saying, you know, our -- there are a lot  
20 of patients out there that are not getting served,  
21 and certainly someone who has the opportunity to  
22 expand their operation is going to be looked upon  
23 favorably.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Ray, the reason I ask  
25 the question is because there's a part of the

1 regulations that specifically speak that you have to  
2 notify the department of when you're going to  
3 commence operations and grow.

4 MR. WATSON: Right.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And that's -- that --  
6 I guess that would be the trigger to know whether or  
7 not someone is sitting on a license, but my concern  
8 was this market demand and possible requests by the  
9 state to expand in order to meet market demand.

10 So if you could give some thought and  
11 perhaps come back to us, I'll ask again in Chicago,  
12 okay? Thank you.

13 MR. WATSON: Thank you.

14 MR. MORGAN: And I will just add one  
15 other part of all of this is we talked a little bit  
16 earlier about prices for patients, and I think if we  
17 have a shortage of supply.

18 And anyone who is paying attention to  
19 other states, you've seen this in other states where  
20 you find a shortage of product. Certainly when you  
21 look at Washington and Colorado had very, very quick  
22 start-up in a very short period of time, the impact  
23 of limited supply on pricing.

24 That is something that we're concerned  
25 about. Specifically in terms of when cultivation

1 centers and dispensaries have initial operations.  
2 So after we've issued our licenses and after the  
3 cultivation centers and the dispensaries are  
4 preparing to start, the state will be very involved  
5 with that timing because we don't want a dispensary  
6 to open months before product is available.

7 And conversely, we don't want a  
8 cultivation center developing consistent product for  
9 months before they can sell it to anyone. Again,  
10 for pretty obvious reasons.

11 But we will be involved with that  
12 process because we want to make sure patients are  
13 aware and able to get to the dispensaries when  
14 they're opened and purchase the product. But also  
15 that the product is not sitting around. That has  
16 quite a bit -- we're not controlling the market  
17 pricing, but we are going to be very interested in  
18 the timing and sequencing of all of that.

19 MR. ANTHONY: Next I'd like to hear  
20 from Jon Haselhorst.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's Jon, J-O-N,  
22 Haselhorst, H-A-S-E-L-H-O-R-S-T.

23 My question is around specifically to  
24 the security and the drawing in the application  
25 process of a cultivation facility.

1                   First off, in the application provision  
2 requiring local building codes should be complied  
3 with and shown in the applications. Does the  
4 department want permit level drawings to be  
5 submitted or will floor plan with design, call out,  
6 locations, things of that sort, be acceptable?

7                   MR. WATSON: This gets back to the  
8 point I made earlier, about this is not the type of  
9 program where we can tell you what the minimum  
10 requirements are. I think the applications that  
11 have the most information there are going to be  
12 probably scored better than others because we want  
13 to know as much about this program as we can.

14                   So if you're thinking about will this  
15 suffice, but you have the opportunity to provide  
16 more information, provide more information.

17                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Sounds good. And  
18 last question. In the security section 1000.445, it  
19 speaks to 90 days recorded on-site and video  
20 storage, but also 90 days off-site storage. Two  
21 questions there.

22                   One, is this combined total of  
23 180 days? Because in the actual -- and it's number  
24 seven, I'll read, additional 90 days, making sure  
25 that's not 180-day requirement.

1                   And then second phase of that question  
2   is what is considered off-site? Can it be within  
3   the owned land in a separate facility built on that  
4   location that doesn't house or produce or contain  
5   any cannabis or does it need to be off the entire  
6   property, which has significant cost implications?

7                   MR. WATSON: Now, in looking at the  
8   section that you referred to it says,  
9   Security regarding -- excuse me, security recordings  
10  shall be retained by the cultivation center for a  
11  minimum of 90 days at the permitted premises, and an  
12  additional 90 days off-site. So that would be a  
13  total of 180 days.

14                  And as far as off-site, where that  
15  would be, I think we would prefer off the property  
16  and -- but we have offered as an example cloud  
17  storage is one opportunity, but we are not limiting  
18  it to that. Again, we want you to tell us how you  
19  can do it.

20                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. Thank  
21  you.

22                  MR. ANTHONY: Next, Bob from Nature's  
23  Cafe.

24                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, Bob Geraghty,  
25  Herbal Farms Consulting. That's Bob, Geraghty,

1 G-E-R-A-G-H-T-Y.

2 Initial question would be banking. We  
3 hear and have read in other states it's been a cash  
4 business. I've heard some people have tried to open  
5 accounts with existing banks and they've had to move  
6 money out of state.

7 How is the state going to assist us in  
8 not being a cash armored car storage type of  
9 business?

10 MR. MORGAN: The question was in other  
11 states they face a number of challenges relative to  
12 banking and the ability to have ongoing accounts and  
13 active accounts in financial institutions. And what  
14 the state will be doing to assist cultivation  
15 centers and dispensaries with that issue.

16 It's definitely a concern for the  
17 state. We're not -- as you noted, we're not unique  
18 in dealing with this problem. It is a cash business  
19 throughout the country, medical cannabis states. We  
20 are working on that with our local and state  
21 partners, also private institutions and working on  
22 finding a number of solutions.

23 The market itself, to my knowledge, is  
24 working on a number of innovations following the  
25 recent U.S. Treasury guidance in February that laid

1 out the number of different opportunities for banks  
2 that are FDIC insured to continue to hold these  
3 accounts for a medical cannabis organization.

4 That's obviously a very early stage.  
5 It's still being tested and playing itself out in  
6 states that have had cannabis much longer than we  
7 have. So we are working on that regularly, and I  
8 think -- go ahead.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Does the state have a  
10 list of banks that they might be aware of that are  
11 in-state banks that aren't concerned with crossing  
12 interstate traffic that might be providers?

13 MR. MORGAN: Sorry. I was just asking  
14 the question, there was an article, I believe it was  
15 yesterday, that it was released by the Treasurer's  
16 Office, U.S. Treasury, to detail how the compliance  
17 is going with this recent memo detailing the  
18 possibilities for complying with those requirements.

19 So we don't have a list of banks that  
20 are complying. It's more anecdotal and will  
21 continue to be from our perspective for a while, but  
22 I do know a number of banks in other states, local  
23 banks that are attempting this type of work, and I  
24 assume that Illinois will follow suit. But we hope  
25 that you have success and everyone in the room has

1 success in their local and national banks bringing  
2 on those accounts.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. And to  
4 the earlier question, Section 1000.40, Paragraph 10,  
5 it states in there a doctor cannot own a financial  
6 interest if he prescribes, his associates. So if he  
7 doesn't do any of those things, a doctor can own,  
8 have a financial interest in the business. And  
9 that's the way it reads.

10 MR. MORGAN: I believe there's a  
11 statutory provision that talks about even if a  
12 physician is not referring, if a physician cannot be  
13 a board member.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

15 MR. WATSON: I've got it. I had a  
16 little time, so I was able to look up the section in  
17 the statute itself. And it's under Section 35 of  
18 the statute, and it is under B. Starts with a  
19 physician may not, and you get down to number four,  
20 physician may not hold a direct or indirect economic  
21 interest in a cultivation center or dispensing  
22 organization if he or she recommends the use of  
23 medical cannabis or has a partner that does.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. So if he  
25 doesn't, he can.

1 MR. WATSON: But then it goes on --

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm sorry.

3 MR. WATSON: -- to number five, a  
4 physician may not serve on the board of directors or  
5 as an employee of a cultivation center or dispensing  
6 organization.

7 Now, that section is not limited to  
8 those who recommend the use. That would be any  
9 physician may not serve on the board of directors or  
10 be an employee. However, a physician who is not  
11 recommending the use may hold a direct or indirect  
12 interest.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: He may hold. So a  
14 doctor that does not recommend, does not have  
15 partners or associates that recommend, can have an  
16 economic interest or ownership --

17 MR. WATSON: Right.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- but he cannot  
19 serve on the board or be an employee.

20 MR. WATSON: Right.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: But then in the next  
22 paragraph, eleven, he could be hired as a consultant  
23 if in fact part of his use was for studies or his  
24 capabilities would allow studies of the product.

25 MR. MORGAN: That's correct. And I am

1 sure many of the people in the room have read that  
2 statute and tried to understand what the intent was  
3 there, and the legislative intent -- if I could  
4 speak on behalf of the legislative intent -- it was  
5 really designed to model an anti-kickback situation  
6 so we don't have physicians self-referring, which  
7 is, in the healthcare world, a very common  
8 phenomenon from a federal CMS perspective.

9 So I think that was the intent, but  
10 certainly that language left some ambiguity. So we  
11 appreciate the question.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And would the state  
13 allow any Missouri doctors, as some sort of  
14 registration that they could simply utilize to  
15 allow -- because again, you know, a lot of downstate  
16 residents here use Barnes-Jewish. You got one of  
17 the best ten hospitals in the country. Nothing  
18 against Illinois-side hospitals.

19 So can a doctor become affiliated with  
20 Illinois through some sort of permits, without  
21 having to do a state board or something or whatever?

22 MR. MORGAN: I don't think there's that  
23 kind of quasi permitting. I would refer you to the  
24 actual people who work at the Department of  
25 Financial Professional Regulations. I know there

1 are a number of visiting physician type programs  
2 that you can work that out with the DFPR, but it  
3 does require an Illinois-licensed physician to be  
4 the certifying physician.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: But I mean, a  
6 Missouri doctor can get that. That is somewhat --  
7 is it readily available? Is it simple? Is it just  
8 a matter of a permitting fee?

9 MR. MORGAN: The specific question of  
10 what it would take for an out of state physician to  
11 become an Illinois-licensed physician under the  
12 Illinois Medical Practice Act, I would have to defer  
13 you to DFPR experts on that. I apologize.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you for your  
15 answer.

16 MR. MORGAN: Thanks.

17 MR. ANTHONY: Next, Marie Dancu from  
18 Grand Prairie.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi, my name is Marie  
20 Dancu. M-A-R-I-E, D-A-N-C-U. And thank you guys  
21 for holding this panel. We really appreciate all  
22 the clarification that has been given.

23 My first question is: Is there going  
24 to be any kind of -- let's see. Is there any  
25 priority to when you submit your application or is

1 this an open period and after it closes, all of the  
2 applications will then start to be scored?

3 Can you expand on that process a little  
4 bit?

5 MR. MORGAN: The question was whether  
6 or not there will be any priority or favored -- any  
7 preferential treatment?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, like if you put  
9 it in the first day versus the last day.

10 MR. MORGAN: And I assume you're  
11 referring to dispensaries and cultivation center  
12 applicants.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And cultivation.

14 MR. MORGAN: There will be no  
15 preference given. We will open a window of time,  
16 and the website had alluded to is September 8  
17 through September 22nd --

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Correct.

19 MR. MORGAN: -- time frame. And we  
20 expect that to be the same --

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Are you expecting  
22 that to hold up?

23 MR. MORGAN: Yes.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

25 MR. MORGAN: Anything can change.

1 That's why we said expecting, but that is what we  
2 plan for and are planning for, and there would not  
3 be a preference to those that apply by September 8th  
4 versus the 22nd, so long as all the materials that  
5 are required are received by the departments,  
6 respective departments, by September 22nd.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it's kind of an  
8 open window and after that period closes those will  
9 be -- start to be scored and reviewed? They're not  
10 going to be reviewed as they're submitted?

11 MR. MORGAN: That's correct.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. There's a  
13 little bit of ambiguity about the transportation  
14 between the cultivation and dispensaries. Is  
15 that -- is it -- is there a requirement that it has  
16 to be an outside party that does the transportation  
17 or can that be done in-house by a cultivation  
18 center? And is that up to us?

19 MR. WATSON: Well, I -- to tell you the  
20 truth, I don't recall the exact regulatory -- the  
21 language of the rules.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, I can't refer  
23 you to the exact regulation.

24 MR. WATSON: Yeah. And I don't believe  
25 it requires -- Bob is saying it doesn't require

1 either one -- but certainly an employee would be  
2 permitted to transport.

3 MR. MORGAN: Sorry. It has to be an  
4 agent that's registered with the Department of  
5 Agriculture. And if we -- one of the requirements  
6 is to registered agents that are transporting.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Transporting. Is  
8 there any requirement for an armed vehicle or not?

9 MR. MORGAN: The requirements are for a  
10 locked container, but it's not for an armored  
11 vehicle. We expect there will be a number of  
12 applicants that plan for armored vehicles, but it's  
13 not a requirement of the rules.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not a requirement,  
15 okay.

16 How do patients select centers before  
17 the centers are open? And then how does the patient  
18 change centers if their needs are not being met?

19 MS. OBERDORF: So the question is  
20 regarding --

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: As far as  
22 dispensaries.

23 MS. OBERDORF: Yeah, patients being  
24 able to select their dispensary. So on the  
25 application on our website, currently what we're

1 doing is we're asking patients to select the  
2 dispensing organization's region.

3 And that's basically organized mostly  
4 by county, and so what they would do is select that  
5 place where they expect they would receive the  
6 medical cannabis. And then once we have  
7 dispensaries up and running, the Department of  
8 Public Health will contact that patient for them to  
9 decide on the specific dispensary they want.

10 So if they say, I'm still interested in  
11 receiving my medical cannabis in the city of  
12 Chicago, we would then let them know which medical  
13 cannabis dispensaries are in the city of Chicago and  
14 they would pick one.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Does that in any way  
16 limit the choice of availability that the patients  
17 will have regarding the medical cannabis, by  
18 limiting them to a specific site?

19 MS. OBERDORF: So the question is  
20 regarding limiting the patients to a specific  
21 dispensary and if that's going to limit their  
22 choice.

23 And patients will be able to switch  
24 their medical cannabis dispensary at any point. So  
25 if you pick one and you want to switch it a month

1 later, you may. You're not bound to it. So that  
2 will give the patients choice in terms of where they  
3 go to receive the medical cannabis. They will just  
4 need to register with the Department.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Then going  
6 back to the surety bonds, what constitutes  
7 demonstrating an ability for the surety bond? Is  
8 that a letter from the insurance company? Is that  
9 some sort of certification because we're not a legal  
10 company in the legal -- you know, we're not legally  
11 operating as a cannabis organization. Therefore,  
12 the surety companies will not, you know, bind  
13 coverage until after the approval of a license.

14 MR. WATSON: Well, we're going to want  
15 to see some commitment on the part of the surety  
16 company that they'll do that.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So a letter or  
18 something like that from the insurance company?

19 MR. WATSON: Something that we can rely  
20 on.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. It needs to  
22 come from the insurance company, though?

23 MR. WATSON: Oh, yes.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. Then what  
25 involvement will the Illinois State Police have in

1 swearing the security application portion of the  
2 cultivation and dispensary applications?

3 MR. MORGAN: The Illinois State Police  
4 will be involved in scoring and reviewing the  
5 security plans that are proposed for both  
6 cultivation centers and the dispensaries. That  
7 review will -- they will then make a recommendation  
8 to the departments.

9 So Department of Agriculture for the  
10 cultivation centers, and to DFPR for the  
11 dispensaries. That review will be taking place  
12 concurrently through the rest of the selection  
13 process, but the exact mechanics of that are still  
14 being worked out much to my -- similar to my  
15 recommendation of exactly how many people will be on  
16 the selection process. It's going to be more than  
17 one.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Will it be the  
19 licensed police officers or some type of committee  
20 that's formed through them or is that still being  
21 kind of hammered out?

22 MR. MORGAN: That's still being  
23 hammered out. It will be within the state police.  
24 And similar to the rest of the aspects of this  
25 program, there are a number of agencies that are not

1 represented at this table that have been very  
2 integral to the program and the development of it.  
3 Illinois State Police; Department of Revenue; CMS  
4 that was -- that got a little hit on their BEP  
5 process earlier; Secretary of State; even lately  
6 Treasurer, Comptroller's Office.

7                   So we have a number of sister agencies  
8 and constitutional officers that have been very  
9 helpful and we -- as agencies get a lot of the  
10 credit that are the three primary agencies, but  
11 there have been a lot, including state police, that  
12 have been really helpful to get the program up and  
13 running.

14                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you very  
15 much.

16                   MR. ANTHONY: Jill Poimboeuf indicated  
17 you maybe would like to ask a question. Do you  
18 still wish to do so?

19                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's Jill Poimboeuf.  
20 J-I-L-L, P-O-I-M-B-O-E-U-F.

21                   And my question was: Are there size or  
22 output limitations for a cultivation center?

23                   MR. MORGAN: No.

24                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: No? Okay. And  
25 earlier you mentioned that the price was going to be

1 market driven, but did you also say there were going  
2 to be some protocols eventually put in place to make  
3 sure it's affordable?

4 MR. MORGAN: The question was -- we had  
5 indicated previously that this would be a market  
6 driven economy and pilot program, but eventually  
7 there might be some state controls in the pricing.  
8 There won't be state controls in the pricing.

9 There are a number of factors that lead  
10 to the price. The application itself asks for any  
11 application about the affordability, especially at  
12 cultivation centers, of ensuring there will be an  
13 affordable product.

14 For dispensaries, there are plans for,  
15 I believe it's charity care type programs for  
16 patients that might have difficulty with the  
17 affordability of the product. So we'll be  
18 soliciting a lot of information.

19 And similar to what Ray said earlier,  
20 there's no -- there's no right or wrong answer  
21 there. We're looking for creativity, ingenuity and  
22 then certainly keeping in mind the patients.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

24 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I had one more

1 question that I couldn't quite hear earlier when you  
2 were answering. Did someone ask where the seeds  
3 would come from for the product or how we would  
4 acquire those? I missed that answer.

5 MR. MORGAN: The question was: Did we  
6 previously address where the seeds and clones will  
7 come from? And my answer was that the rules and  
8 statute don't address that, and so we -- we are not  
9 addressing that directly.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. But we should  
11 just assume that they will be available? We can  
12 acquire some?

13 MR. MORGAN: Well, we're expecting that  
14 any applicant that is proposing an operations plan  
15 is going to have a plan for getting the operations  
16 started. And given the limited pilot program, we  
17 need to make sure that we're getting most qualified  
18 applicants that are going to be able to start as  
19 they commit to us that they will.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

21 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

22 MR. ANTHONY: Jacqueline Brown.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Jacqueline Brown.

24 J-A-C-Q-U-E-L-I-N-E, B-R-O-W-N.

25 I had a question: Will the

1 dispensaries have access to the physicians' written  
2 certification forms for those patients that select  
3 them? And will the debilitating conditions be on  
4 their register card?

5 MS. OBERDORF: So the question is  
6 regarding dispensaries, and if they will have access  
7 to the physician written certification, and also  
8 that patient's debilitating medical condition, if  
9 that will be on the patient's card, and the answer  
10 is no.

11 The dispensary will see the card for  
12 the patient, but they will not see the specific  
13 physician written certification form, and the  
14 patient's condition will not be listed directly on  
15 their registry card.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. When do you  
17 apply for cultivation center agent identification  
18 cards? Will that be after the permits are awarded?  
19 Like do you know how long it will take to receive  
20 those cards?

21 MR. WATSON: The -- I guess -- could  
22 you repeat the question?

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. When do you  
24 apply for the agent, the cultivation center agent  
25 cards? Like do you want to know who we will be

1 having working in our center, I guess with the  
2 application or will it be permits awarded and then  
3 you start applying for those cards?

4 MR. WATSON: If I understand it, you're  
5 talking about the employees, not someone who has a  
6 financial stake in the business. Because we're  
7 going to want the information about those with a  
8 financial interest at the time of the application  
9 because we need to know what the background is and  
10 make sure that we don't have someone who should not  
11 be in this business getting a permit.

12 But as far as the employees, I think  
13 that's -- it almost sounds like it should be a  
14 two-stage process. Number one, we get the  
15 application and permit awarded. And then you can  
16 start submitting the applications for the  
17 cultivation center agents.

18 Obviously, there would be no need for  
19 you to go through the exercise of getting the  
20 employees certified, if you're not successful in  
21 getting a permit.

22 MR. MORGAN: I would also point out for  
23 an agent in charge for a cultivation center, that  
24 would be something that they would be looking for in  
25 an application. You may have an idea of your

1 initial managers of employees, but as Ray was  
2 saying, it's really a two-piece process versus for  
3 the application establish your being the highest  
4 quality in your respective ISP district.

5 And with that would take some sort of  
6 justification of your cultivation abilities, which  
7 really is going to come into play if you're agent in  
8 charge. So that information is -- part of that will  
9 come in the application, but a complete list of all  
10 your employees would not be required upon  
11 application.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I don't know if this  
13 has been asked, but can a registered patient work in  
14 a cultivation center or dispensary?

15 MR. MORGAN: I believe the statute  
16 prohibits that.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

18 MR. MORGAN: Sorry. The question was  
19 can a registered patient be an employee of a  
20 cultivation center or dispensaries, and the statute  
21 prohibits that.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you elaborate  
23 more on the status of this lab, like what the  
24 turnaround time will be? The frequency of picking  
25 up the samples? If they will be sampling baked

1 goods, cookies, or just the raw materials, the THC  
2 levels?

3 MR. MORGAN: So the -- there will be  
4 two categories of labs involved with this process.  
5 There will be private state licensed labs, as well  
6 as Department of Agriculture will have its own  
7 independent lab. All will be independent, but there  
8 will be a state Department of Agriculture lab.

9 The independent labs that will be  
10 licensed with the Department of Agriculture, the  
11 rules lay out a number of factors that they will be  
12 looking for to approve a license for those  
13 independent labs. We haven't obviously accepted  
14 those applications yet. We'll be putting more  
15 information out about that.

16 So that has yet to be determined, how  
17 many labs will be licensed, where they will be  
18 located, etc., but the rules do lay out that each  
19 batch is tested by an independent lab.

20 In addition to that, the Department of  
21 Agriculture will always reserve the right to test  
22 the product similar to the earlier question of how  
23 will we ensure one product is what it says it is.

24 The Department will always maintain the  
25 opportunity to go back and test additional products

1 and make sure there is consistency and  
2 predictability in the product.

3 MR. ANTHONY: Rich Meyers.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's Mitch Meyers,  
5 M-E-Y-E-R-S. We previously talked about the state  
6 system that is going to check patient usage by the  
7 month. Did you say that there's nothing in the  
8 works at this point or no company has been  
9 developed?

10 MR. MORGAN: The question is for the  
11 product tracking system?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: If a patient comes to  
13 a cultivation center and they give us their card, my  
14 understanding is there will be a database that the  
15 state maintains, knowing how many ounces that they  
16 have gotten.

17 MR. MORGAN: That's correct. There  
18 will be a system that will be in place at the time  
19 of initial product availability. So by the time we  
20 start the program, there will be systems in place so  
21 that the dispensaries will be able to track an  
22 individual patient's purchases.

23 And that card will be tracked -- traced  
24 back to the purchase volume. For the specific  
25 reason of ensuring they don't purchase more than two

1 and a half ounces every 14 days. We are still  
2 working through a lot of the IT components. So the  
3 procurement has not been established yet.

4 We will have more information about  
5 what those requirements will be, but it also is not  
6 likely to be a mandated particular system. Instead,  
7 it will be more of this is what the state system is.

8 Your responsibility as a dispensary or  
9 a cultivation center is to have a system that's  
10 compatible with it. So there should be a number of  
11 options that the applicants will have.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. How long after  
13 we submit applications for cultivation and  
14 dispensary do you think we'll be advised of who gets  
15 the license?

16 MR. MORGAN: That is a very good  
17 question.

18 The question was: How quickly after an  
19 application for a dispensary or cultivation center  
20 is -- is submitted to the state, will the ultimate  
21 licenses be awarded.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Correct.

23 MR. MORGAN: It really is going to  
24 depend. It's my favorite legal answer. It depends.  
25 But seriously, it really will depend on the volume

1 of applications we receive.

2           Again, we will have a team at both  
3 Agriculture and DFPR that will be reviewing those  
4 applications. We'll be moving as quickly as we can,  
5 certainly keeping in mind that we have a four-year  
6 pilot program and we don't want to delay or dither,  
7 but it will take some time.

8           All of that, keeping in mind that our  
9 anticipated start date is early 2015, and even  
10 before we start the program we will have to issue  
11 licenses and give those licensees the ability to  
12 start the cultivation and establish their  
13 dispensary.

14           So we're hoping to move as quickly as  
15 we can, but we can't commit to a particular  
16 timetable until we know how many applications we  
17 receive.

18           AUDIENCE MEMBER: So if a cultivation  
19 center gets notice that they have an approved  
20 license, and they pay the fees, and they start the  
21 construction of their buildings, however they're  
22 going to grow it, would they be permitted to start  
23 growing product prior to the finished building?

24           Get a final, you know, building permit  
25 so that the provocation could potentially happen in

1 a small construction trailer or something while  
2 you're building your building?

3 MR. WATSON: I think if you're going to  
4 do that, that probably should be included in the  
5 application. If you have a process that you want to  
6 do that -- because one of the things that we're  
7 going to have to evaluate is security.

8 Obviously, security in a trailer is  
9 going to be much different than security in a  
10 permanent building, and -- but yet at the same time,  
11 we can see the benefit of starting as soon as you  
12 get the permit because that would get the product to  
13 market earlier.

14 So if you can give us a plan that can  
15 demonstrate that you can keep the product secure, I  
16 think we're probably going to be okay with that.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. In regards to  
18 the application instructions that just came out, it  
19 seems that there's a bit of redundancy in terms of  
20 what's being asked in each section. Is that because  
21 you're going to have different people judge the  
22 different sections and we should repeat all the  
23 information? It will make it quite a bit more  
24 lengthy, but is that the design of that?

25 MR. MORGAN: Well, I think part of it

1 is going to be -- one thing to keep in mind is we  
2 anticipate an electronic process for the  
3 application. So the application that you have seen  
4 at this point is a paper static copy.

5           Given that, an electronic application  
6 by its nature is going to have different components.  
7 The ability to draw the same document in multiple  
8 different places. So I wouldn't rely too heavily on  
9 additional documents that look to be redundant and  
10 identical.

11           We'll provide more guidance on that in  
12 the coming weeks and that's part of the process on  
13 our end in trying to ensure how the IT backbone is  
14 going to happen.

15           AUDIENCE MEMBER: And does that mean  
16 you want our submission electronically only?

17           MR. MORGAN: Well, we are still working  
18 through that, but we are not going to mandate that.  
19 We're going to expect and hope that if we are  
20 providing electronic means, it certainly will be  
21 easier for us to manage that review process.

22           For patients, sorry, September 2nd  
23 they'll be able to apply electronically. For those  
24 that don't have electronic means, we will make  
25 available paper copies, but it certainly will be

1 easier and quicker for us to review the applications  
2 electronically.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Electronically, okay.

4 MR. WATSON: Excuse me. For just as a  
5 follow up to that. We do recognize, however, that  
6 there may be, say blueprints that you're going to  
7 have to submit directly to the Department, and not  
8 electronically. That may not be available. So --  
9 and then certainly the -- the check that you'll be  
10 delivering will be delivered.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No, it will be cash.

12 MR. WATSON: Okay.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Unless a bank  
14 takes --

15 MR. MORGAN: Well, for the dispensaries  
16 and cultivation centers they require a certified  
17 check or money order. That's in the rules and in  
18 the application.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: If we can find a bank  
20 to sell us a money order for 25,000 we'll do that,  
21 but it's a struggle.

22 Will the cultivation center and the  
23 dispensary be permitted a website that's password  
24 protected, only for the cultivation centers to  
25 promote to the dispensaries and then for the

1 dispensary to promote to patients?

2 MR. MORGAN: That's a good question. I  
3 think that's something we would have to look at. I  
4 don't think our rules specifically address that and  
5 I'm not sure -- we do address marketing. Right,  
6 Ray? But that doesn't really directly address your  
7 question.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So for patient  
9 education, I would think that the dispensaries could  
10 offer just a password protected site that if I do  
11 have a card, that would be a unique number on that  
12 card I could enter to get in, to at least learn  
13 about the types of medicines that are available and  
14 what treats what affliction.

15 MR. WATSON: As far as the cultivation  
16 centers marketing to the dispensaries, the rule --  
17 and I'm sure you've read it, I'm not telling you  
18 anything new -- but for those others who are  
19 listening, we did have Section 425 in the rules, and  
20 it talks about cultivation centers may not advertise  
21 through any public medium, including but not limited  
22 to newspapers, television, radio, or any means  
23 designed to market its products to the public.

24 Cultivation centers may market the  
25 products directly to registered dispensaries or

1 physicians through direct mail, brochures or other  
2 means directed solely to the dispensaries and not  
3 available to the public.

4 So if you could give us a plan that  
5 demonstrates that you can do that.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Great.

7 MR. MORGAN: I would also say it's  
8 slightly different for dispensaries, and there is a  
9 gray area between marketing and education.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

11 MR. MORGAN: So -- and I think that's  
12 something we can go back on and try and consider  
13 different options and try to find more guidance.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So that will come out  
15 in the next -- the instructions on the application,  
16 you will give us direction on that?

17 MR. MORGAN: We'll try and address that  
18 in additional Frequently Asked Questions.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. So the last  
20 question is: You say specifically that all product  
21 has to be individually packaged at the cultivation  
22 center. So I understand for edibles and  
23 ingestibles, that's totally understandable.

24 For the bud itself, does that mean  
25 everything has to be packaged in specific gram

1 level, and then every dispensary could potentially  
2 have 21 different versions of OG Kush in all the  
3 different measurement levels because that will  
4 become a very big inventory issue?

5 MR. MORGAN: We spent a lot of time  
6 considering packaging. We've visited a number of  
7 states that have medical cannabis and we evaluated  
8 the process that they have. We've also spoken to  
9 every state in the country that has a cannabis  
10 program to see the manner in which they do that.

11 The packaging requirements were driven  
12 by our goal to have a chain of custody and control  
13 of the product so that we're not having any kind of  
14 diversion. That is not perfect science, and the  
15 flip side of that coin is what you're talking about,  
16 which is the business consideration and the ability  
17 to with any -- without wasting a ton of money and  
18 resources and materials -- package the material in a  
19 way that's productive and usable and appropriate for  
20 dispensaries.

21 So we're not dictating what precise  
22 measurement you could be packaging in, but to your  
23 question, if the difference between a gram package  
24 versus an ounce package, a number of ounces will  
25 equal a gram -- excuse me, a number of grams will

1 equal an ounce, in that packaging we're trying to  
2 protect the product going out the door of the  
3 cultivation center for tracking purposes, is what  
4 we're getting at.

5 We have and will be providing more  
6 information for dispensaries in terms of what the  
7 sample procedures are and what to do with waste once  
8 you open a package. If it's opened before selling  
9 it to a patient, that you dispose of it in the  
10 manner for that.

11 But we are trying to create a system so  
12 that we have a real control over the product going  
13 out the door from the cultivation center and the  
14 receipt from the dispensary.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'd say you've done  
16 it. The last one is delivery. You just mentioned  
17 that if we were to hire a third party delivery  
18 security company to pick up product and deliver  
19 around the state, are you saying that one of our  
20 employees, an agent in charge, has to be on that  
21 vehicle?

22 MR. MORGAN: A registered agent or two  
23 registered agents, would be a part of the  
24 cultivation center, would need to be part of that  
25 transport.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

2 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

3 MR. ANTHONY: Next, Sam Clement? Stan  
4 Clement?

5 Ray -- I can only make out the first  
6 letter, D. Ray D. Ray Darren?

7 Mary Williams?

8 Mike, first letter an A?

9 I apologize. I'm having a hard time.

10 Okay. Ross Willey?

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: First name is Ross,  
12 R-O-S-S. Last name is W-I-L-L-E-Y.

13 First question would be -- and you  
14 might have answered this a little bit ago, about  
15 limitations on how much can be grown. Was that --  
16 is that a no, there was no limitation?

17 MR. MORGAN: There is no limitation on  
18 the amount that a cultivation center will be  
19 growing. It is market driven and there will be an  
20 expectation that the cultivation center will be  
21 tracking every single batch that they grow, but  
22 there is no limitation.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

24 Pesticides, any restrictions there?

25 Can regular commercial farming type pesticides be

1 used?

2 MR. MORGAN: The question was can  
3 pesticides -- what are the requirements and the  
4 expectations of pesticides and can they be used in  
5 the growth of the product.

6 MR. WATSON: We just published -- I  
7 believe what the emergency rules -- a list of  
8 approved pesticides that we're going to allow for  
9 now. That's subject to change, obviously, but we'll  
10 have to -- we've been told we need to do it by rule  
11 making.

12 So this is a pilot program, and the  
13 limitations that the Department of Agriculture has  
14 is that there are no federally approved pesticides  
15 for marijuana because it's a federally illegal  
16 product. So we've had to kind of follow the lead of  
17 other states. And we have scientists on our staff  
18 that have gone over the various options, and this is  
19 a list they've come up with.

20 Like many aspects of this program,  
21 since it is a pilot program, things may change as we  
22 go along. And we're certainly going to be learning,  
23 like the industry is, you know, how to do things  
24 better.

25 And so, as I said, we're going to be in

1 the cultivation centers on at least a weekly basis.

2 So we'll have very close contact with the -- with  
3 the cultivation centers.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thanks. We talked  
5 about RFID and bar code tagging systems. Would that  
6 be implemented by the state or a third party or  
7 would that be something that the business owner  
8 would implement?

9 MR. MORGAN: That question was for the  
10 RFID tagged tracking bar code system to track the  
11 plants. Would that be something that the  
12 cultivation centers would be responsible for  
13 implementing or would that be a state system that  
14 the applicants will be required to purchase?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Colorado uses a third  
16 party company that does that.

17 MR. MORGAN: The specific details of  
18 that I think are going to be driven by the  
19 procurement that we have. But again, the intent is  
20 if we will -- the state will have its own system for  
21 product tracking, and that the expectation and  
22 requirements for the cultivation centers will have a  
23 system that is compatible with that.

24 So we will have more information, but I  
25 think the specific mechanics of that would be left

1 to the procurement process.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thanks. And  
3 then on the -- I think in the bonus area it talks  
4 about environmental plan focus. Should there be  
5 more concentration on like energy and water  
6 conservation or should it be waste disposal  
7 responsibility or would that may be -- be all?

8 MR. MORGAN: The question is for the  
9 environmental section of the bonus points. Would  
10 there be an expectation that -- would there be --  
11 are we looking for more of a solar energy type of  
12 requirements or expectations? Renewable energy  
13 or --

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, kind of water  
15 and energy conservation.

16 MR. MORGAN: Or waste.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Or should it be more  
18 towards waste disposal?

19 MR. MORGAN: And I think I'll use Ray  
20 Watson's comment earlier, you know, one of those  
21 areas, especially when it comes to the bonus points,  
22 we're not going to dictate a process. We're going  
23 to look for creativity.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Add as much detail,  
25 creativity and those things.

1 MR. MORGAN: That's right.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

3 MR. MORGAN: There are a number of  
4 processes that other states are exploring and we're  
5 looking for creative ways to address that.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Great. Thank  
7 you.

8 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

9 MR. ANTHONY: Brian Corr.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My question is  
11 answered. Thank you.

12 MR. ANTHONY: Thank you.

13 John Baker?

14 Dawn Sullivan.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi, my name is Dawn,  
16 D-A-W-N. Last name Sullivan, S-U-L-L-I-V-A-N.

17 I apologize, I was late. So if this  
18 question has already been answered, I'm a Livescan  
19 vendor and I've had some out of state investors  
20 question whether they have to actually come to the  
21 State of Illinois to be fingerprinted.

22 I've advised that it is from what I  
23 know to be considered, there's no way they can send  
24 in fingerprint cards?

25 MR. MORGAN: That's right. What we

1 said earlier, and you said it exactly right, we're  
2 requiring anybody who is going to be going to a  
3 Livescan vendor in Illinois, our Livescan vendors  
4 that are licensed are only located within Illinois,  
5 but that scan can take place within the state.

6 We understand there are out of state  
7 applicants that are interested in the program, but  
8 after conversations with state police and a number  
9 of Livescan vendors, the only way that we can ensure  
10 the integrity of that process was to require people  
11 to come in person.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

13 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

14 MR. ANTHONY: Mark Schauerte?

15 Bodo Schneider?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes. My name is  
17 Bodo, B-O-D-O. Last name is Schneider,  
18 S-C-H-N-E-I-D-E-R. I run a compassion care clinic,  
19 and I have two questions.

20 And I apologize for not being dressed  
21 appropriately for this. I do thank the panel for  
22 allowing me to have the opportunity to speak.

23 Please envision me in a pinstripe suit with a nice  
24 tie. Okay.

25 First question, how long after applying

1 should a patient expect, if approved, their card?

2 And is there a provision for the use of a copy of  
3 the application form, copies of cash, checks,  
4 payment approved?

5 And by way of reference, I refer to the  
6 State of Michigan's process. When they first  
7 started five years ago, there was about a six-month  
8 delay between patients applying and then finally  
9 receiving their card.

10 In the state of Michigan they quickly  
11 realized that given the percentage of their patients  
12 that were terminal, that they would receive their  
13 card posthumous. So they put a provision in where  
14 they could use the copies of the application, a copy  
15 of the physician's recommendation, and a copy of a  
16 cashed check through the State of Michigan by way of  
17 proof of the application.

18 And then given the 21-day period  
19 between the check being cashed and the state not  
20 denying it, they then allow the patients to use that  
21 format to go to a dispensary and with proper  
22 identification obtain medicine.

23 MS. OBERDORF: Okay. So there were  
24 quite a few questions. I'm going to start with the  
25 first one, which is when a patient applies, if

1 they're approved, how long will it take them to get  
2 that card? And so initially the Department of  
3 Public Health, when we're approving patients, we  
4 will not be sending the physical registry cards. We  
5 will not be doing that until the dispensaries are in  
6 operation.

7 So what patients will be receiving is  
8 an approval letter from the state, saying that their  
9 application has been approved and we will be in  
10 contact with them as soon as medical cannabis is  
11 available for purchase.

12 So that they may select their  
13 dispensary, and upon receiving a complete  
14 application, so all the different parts that the  
15 Department of Public Health needs, we have 30 days  
16 to approve or deny that application. And then at  
17 the end of that 30-day time period if we approve  
18 someone, we then have 15 days to issue them  
19 approval. So that -- if that makes sense.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So after the  
21 dispensaries are open, that is then the procedure,  
22 they have 30 days to respond and 15 days to issue  
23 the card?

24 MS. OBERDORF: It will be -- it should  
25 be quicker. So once the dispensaries are open, the

1 Department of Public Health will contact all of the  
2 approved patients to let them know that dispensaries  
3 will be opening and ask them to select one in  
4 particular.

5 And then upon making their selection,  
6 the Department of Public Health will be sending them  
7 their card for the purchase of medical cannabis.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Second  
9 question, are there any provisions for use of  
10 cannabis in clinical trials, i.e., for the physician  
11 office or in hospital emergency departments or is  
12 there any way for physicians to have access to the  
13 medicinal marijuana to use in a patient setting?

14 MR. ANTHONY: I don't believe that the  
15 statute addresses that specific circumstance. I  
16 know that there is a federal approval process if you  
17 wanted to -- if you want to do clinical trials using  
18 cannabis. I think there are some federal approval  
19 steps that you need to take. I don't know if the  
20 state statute provides for that. I don't think it  
21 does.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Would one need -- if  
23 one got federal approval, would one need state  
24 approval as well?

25 MR. MORGAN: There was an earlier

1 question about the physician involvement with  
2 cultivation center or dispensary, and one of the  
3 ways that they could be involved specifically would  
4 be through research studies. So that really is more  
5 on the dispensary and cultivation side.

6 Did everyone hear the question? I'm  
7 sorry. I didn't repeat it. Okay.

8 So the fact that there would be a  
9 physician that's interested in doing clinical  
10 studies is relatively determined by federal  
11 approvals as opposed to state approvals.

12 The tracking -- the dispensaries and  
13 cultivation centers are still going to be expected  
14 to track all the product, and any product that goes  
15 out the door for purposes of that study, but beyond  
16 that it wouldn't -- as Tyler mentioned, it wouldn't  
17 be coming to the state for approval.

18 Notification, wouldn't hurt to let us  
19 know if any clinical studies were going on. And the  
20 applications would probably be referencing any  
21 pendant or potential studies. So it's going to be  
22 an ongoing expectation of notice, but it's much more  
23 of a federal side of things.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. One final  
25 question. And this may have been answered already

1 and I apologize if I'm repeating a question.

2                   Given the premise that marijuana is a  
3 medicine, how will the recommending physician be  
4 able to guide patients as to strains useful to their  
5 condition or symptoms? And follow on that, B, what  
6 communications will be allowed between physicians  
7 and dispensaries/growers?

8                   MR. MORGAN: So two parts to that  
9 question. To just repeat it, one is what  
10 opportunities will a physician have for recommending  
11 particular strains and usage of medical cannabis.

12                   And conversely, what opportunities will  
13 a physician have to communicate directly with a  
14 dispensary about a patient's use? Is that the  
15 questions.

16                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

17                   MR. MORGAN: The first part, our  
18 system, for a number of reasons, is driven by a  
19 patient decision-making process as opposed to a  
20 physician prescription. So it's important to  
21 distinguish between a prescription from a physician  
22 and a physician certification of someone's medical  
23 condition.

24                   It might seem similar, but there are  
25 quite significant differences in what a physician is

1 certifying on a form. They're certifying a  
2 patient's potential benefit from use of medical  
3 cannabis, but specifically the certification is  
4 designed to certainly just confirm the medical  
5 condition of the individual. It's really what it's  
6 designed for in the physician certification.

7           The patient is not only going to be  
8 getting the majority of their education from a  
9 dispensary, certainly we expect they will be in  
10 regular communication with their physician, so that  
11 they understand the actual impact on their body from  
12 the medical cannabis. Particularly relevant to  
13 additional medications they might be on and the  
14 impact of that. So I think there are going to be a  
15 number of conversations going on.

16           The physician to dispensary  
17 conversation is unlikely to be happening for a  
18 number of reasons. Most importantly because of  
19 patient confidentiality. So the physician is most  
20 likely not going to have a direct relationship with  
21 the dispensary about what a patient is using. And  
22 again, it goes back to the question of whether it's  
23 prescription or not. It's more of a certification.  
24 So the physician certainly will be able to help  
25 guide the patient.

1                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: I understand the  
2   distinction, and I applaud the State of Illinois's  
3   decision to allow and empower the patients to decide  
4   what and when they use their medicine. I think  
5   that's very, very beneficial to the patient because  
6   it allows them to self-medicate, and the experience  
7   in Michigan is that they are very responsible.

8                   But the follow up there is given that  
9   these patients are long-term patients of our  
10  practice and that they come back to us for follow up  
11  and follow-up treatment for their cannabis use.

12                  How are we going to be able to guide  
13  and change that, if we see something that would  
14  benefit them or we learn something that may be  
15  beneficial to them?

16                  MR. WATSON: This goes back to an  
17  earlier question. As far as cultivation centers,  
18  they are permitted to market directly to registered  
19  dispensaries or physicians through direct mail,  
20  brochures or other means directed solely to the  
21  dispensaries and not available to the public.

22                  The idea there is that the cultivation  
23  centers would not be marketing so much to the  
24  patient, but would be giving the physicians the  
25  information about the products that they are

1 developing, whether it be the infused products or  
2 the varying strains of the smokeable product.

3 And the physician then would have some  
4 idea as to what's available out there and could make  
5 recommendations to the patients.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's great.

7 MR. MORGAN: And in addition to that  
8 too, I think the reality is that a patient is going  
9 to have continual follow ups with their physician.  
10 And so one of the reasons we require that bona fide  
11 patient/physician relationship is because of the  
12 issues you're talking about.

13 It's going to be part of the continuous  
14 relationship and tracking of that patient's health,  
15 based on the cannabis they're using and the impact  
16 on their body and their medical condition.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That I think answered  
18 that, how that interaction would then happen there.

19 All right. Thank you.

20 MR. MORGAN: Thank you very much.

21 MR. ANTHONY: At this point I think  
22 we're starting to circle back through individuals  
23 who have previously spoken.

24 I have the next person was Stephanie  
25 Dalton. She'd like to come up and give additional

1 comments. Thereafter, if --

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You didn't call me.  
3 I'm on there.

4 MR. ANTHONY: I apologize. I'm so  
5 sorry.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm Tanya Griffin.

7 MR. ANTHONY: Would you mind?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm Tanya Griffin.  
9 T-A-N-Y-A, G-R-I-F-F-I-N.

10 So my first question is probably  
11 directed to -- to Ray. I understand there's going  
12 to be five independent labs. Do you prefer or  
13 recommend that we have our own internal lab with  
14 regard to cultivation?

15 MR. WATSON: I'm not sure where the  
16 number five came from.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I think it was  
18 mentioned. I just wrote it down as you were  
19 talking. There's not a number five, then?

20 MR. WATSON: But certainly we want more  
21 than one.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

23 MR. WATSON: I think that was Bob's  
24 answer to a different question, more than one.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

1 MR. WATSON: But it -- okay. Now I  
2 forgot your question.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: With regard to having  
4 our own on-site lab and cultivation.

5 MR. WATSON: Okay. I think that that's  
6 helpful. And if you want to make that part of your  
7 cultivation plan, to be able to do your own testing,  
8 and maybe that would help product development, maybe  
9 that would be part of the program that you want to  
10 present.

11 But as far as the labeling, we are  
12 going to want the independent labs to --

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. That was my  
14 real question.

15 MR. WATSON: -- to be setting that for  
16 you, for obvious reasons.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. Again for  
18 you, Ray, with regard to the variance on having a  
19 cultivation site and a dispensary within a thousand  
20 feet, the language was somewhat unclear. Can you  
21 expand on that at all?

22 MR. WATSON: I'm so surprised.  
23 Everything else was so clear. Hang on just one  
24 second. Let me take --

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm trying to

1 remember what section it is. It's --

2 MR. WATSON: It's early.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You know, the  
4 language kind of reads, just to kind of see the  
5 variance, and as the draft rules came out it changed  
6 a little bit, but not significantly.

7 MR. WATSON: Oh, yes. That's right.  
8 Correct. No. I got it right. Here. Okay.

9 So if you have a specific question  
10 about the language.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, what kind of --  
12 if I remember correctly, there's a thousand feet  
13 variance and I don't know if that's coming from the  
14 direction of the township or the municipality or if  
15 it's driven by the rules. It's a very short kind of  
16 response to whether or not these two can function  
17 even on the same parcel of land.

18 MR. WATSON: Well, there is a  
19 requirement in 210 A1, and I should probably flip  
20 through that before I comment on it. Let me grab  
21 this one second.

22 Well, I think we just found an error in  
23 the reference. We did correct some of those. So  
24 I'm not sure what it is, but --

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can look on-line.

1 MR. WATSON: Yeah. But anyway, I do  
2 recall it. There is a thousand foot setback between  
3 the dispensaries and cultivation centers.

4 We had several comments about whether  
5 or not we could, you know, waive that, and we  
6 decided to put this into one of the two areas that  
7 we would allow a variance from the rules.

8 But we're going to want to have to  
9 submit that to a three person panel within our  
10 department to see if it's a good idea, essentially  
11 is what it amounts to.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. That's good.  
13 I think that's -- so kind of work through -- if we  
14 wanted to do it, work with the municipality and then  
15 continue the conversation, basically?

16 MR. MORGAN: I don't know that the  
17 1,000-foot difference and separation between the  
18 dispensary and the cultivation center was less of a  
19 municipal zoning consideration, and much more of a  
20 programmatic policy question of having just very --  
21 two very different types of facilities. A  
22 dispensary with a great deal of foot traffic and  
23 access, public access for eligible patients.

24 Versus a cultivation center which has  
25 minimal, if any, public access, and that separation

1 between the two. It was in part a byproduct of our  
2 allowing vertical integration, organization to own  
3 both cultivation center and dispensary, that might  
4 want to have it located on the same parcel of land.

5 We do want to have separation there for  
6 security reasons. That was one of the several  
7 reasons that we discussed. But we can also always  
8 be providing more information through FAQs.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. That's great.  
10 Thank you. I think that answers -- just a couple  
11 real quick more.

12 With regard to minority ownership, so  
13 if we've got the component parts, of over 51 percent  
14 being female, minority, and veteran ownership, how  
15 do we navigate CMS, you know, with those composite  
16 parts of owner/managing members?

17 MR. MORGAN: I'm not sure -- so it  
18 doesn't require that you manage CMS.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: There's no --

20 MR. MORGAN: The BEP certification is  
21 not required. It's one of the ways to establish  
22 that you have those respective percentage  
23 ownerships.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

25 MR. MORGAN: There are a number of

1 other ways, and working through CMS there are a  
2 number of documents that generally would support  
3 those backgrounds.

4           Again, I mean, going through CMS, BEP  
5 procurement or BEP certification is, from what I  
6 understand, a relatively straightforward process  
7 that does happen quite promptly and CMS is prepared  
8 for applications for this program.

9           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

10           MR. MORGAN: They know that might be  
11 coming. If at any point you have any additional  
12 questions or challenges for CMS, certainly  
13 contacting our agency at DFPR will let us know what  
14 those problems will be.

15           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. So we can just  
16 -- we'll navigate it and then come back to you.

17           MR. MORGAN: Absolutely.

18           AUDIENCE MEMBER: So I understand the  
19 conflicts with physicians. So in our group we have  
20 pharmacists as part of our owner managing members.  
21 We also have healthcare companies that have Medicare  
22 licenses. Are we going to see any -- do you foresee  
23 any conflict with the federal government with regard  
24 to our other companies that have Medicare licenses?

25           MR. MORGAN: I don't think we can

1 address the questions about what the federal  
2 government would or would not have issues with.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

4 MR. MORGAN: I would recommend you look  
5 at what other states have had challenges and  
6 successes with. It certainly falls in the bucket of  
7 ongoing tensions, with the difference between what  
8 the state and federal government address this  
9 problem.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Almost done.  
11 So on -- just understanding what other states have  
12 done, and you should answer this to limited, but a  
13 number of the other states' applications we have  
14 gone through have put a word limit on the  
15 application. Are you guys going to put a word limit  
16 on the application?

17 MR. MORGAN: We're still working  
18 through it. It's certainly one of the things we're  
19 considering. We would make sure that before the  
20 application process actually starts that that was  
21 very clear to everybody. So we'll make sure that  
22 that comes out prior to the application process  
23 starting.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Bob, this one  
25 is for you.

1 MR. MORGAN: I'm ready.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So any chance you can  
3 further clarify the words tens of thousands on the  
4 first year number of patients coming out?

5 MR. MORGAN: What clarification  
6 would --

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I mean, I know  
8 there's numbers thrown out of 12,000. There's some  
9 documents that are kind of hitting that 11,500,  
10 12,000 number on a number of patients in the State  
11 of Illinois in the first year.

12 You know, as we build financials, if  
13 they pull a number like 12,000 or 20,000 or 30,000,  
14 it drives the entire process. But we're still  
15 trying to get an idea, and having talked to many  
16 other groups of where we should sort of land in  
17 terms of our projections on how many patients are  
18 going to roll out in the first year, no idea.

19 MR. MORGAN: I completely understand  
20 the question --

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

22 MR. MORGAN: -- of the benefits of  
23 having a much more defined patient population and  
24 consumer population --

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

1 MR. MORGAN: -- to build your business  
2 plan. Unfortunately, the state won't know either  
3 and we really don't have an idea. We really also  
4 don't have a specific number of people in Illinois  
5 that have all the medical conditions, given the  
6 limited number of tracking.

7 The Department of Public Health  
8 specifically tracks a few of these conditions, but  
9 not all. So we don't know the total population and  
10 nor do we know exactly how many people will apply.  
11 But we will know more in September, October.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. Okay. Great.  
13 Thank you so much.

14 MR. MORGAN: We're going to take a  
15 five-minute break for those that have additional  
16 questions.

17 MR. ANTHONY: I'm going to put an  
18 additional sign-in sheet outside, so during the  
19 break if you'd like to come up and speak again, you  
20 guys can sign up.

21 Sorry. If you guys want to speak  
22 again, I'm going to put the sign-up sheets outside  
23 on the table. See you in a minute.

24 (WHEREIN, a recess was taken.)

25 MR. ANTHONY: First, we'd like to hear

1 from Ellen Becker.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Ellen  
3 Becker, E-L-L-E-N, B-E-C-K-E-R.

4 I'm the executive director of the  
5 Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Southern Illinois.  
6 We cover 34 counties in the State of Illinois so we  
7 cover over just about a third of the State of  
8 Illinois from Interstate 70 all the way down to the  
9 bottom of the state and across.

10 For the clients we represent, we do  
11 have questions for the growers and also with the  
12 application. You talked about the fact that for the  
13 patients they're going to have to show that they  
14 have a specific relationship with a doctor that is  
15 certified in Illinois.

16 One of the great problems that we see  
17 with that is, and we're wondering how the law  
18 applies to this, many of the individuals that we  
19 serve see specialists who specialize in nothing but  
20 epilepsy. Those are neurologists who specialize in  
21 epilepsy. They are only located in St. Louis;  
22 Paducah, Kentucky; Terre Haute, Indiana; probably  
23 there's one in Springfield, Illinois; and all the  
24 rest of them are in Chicago.

25 And the people that we serve in greater

1 Southern Illinois are going to ask me if they are  
2 seeing those specialists that are out of state,  
3 especially over in St. Louis, if they have that  
4 established relationship for their epilepsy, and  
5 they want to see about the cannabis, how are they  
6 going to then be able to have a specific  
7 relationship with a doctor here in Illinois, when  
8 those specialists are in Missouri, other states that  
9 are not licensed for here in Illinois?

10 How would that have to be done for  
11 patients with epilepsy?

12 MS. OBERDORF: So the question has to  
13 do with physicians and patients, and if that patient  
14 sees a specialist that is not located in Illinois.  
15 And so it is a requirement, of course, that the  
16 physician must be licensed to practice in Illinois.

17 And it does not have to be a  
18 specialist, so if those patients also have general  
19 primary care physicians or another type of physician  
20 that is located in Illinois, they could certify them  
21 for the medical cannabis. So that is one option.

22 It doesn't have to be a certain type of  
23 physician, but it is a requirement that they must be  
24 an Illinois practicing.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. My second

1 question has to do with Illinois passed, very late,  
2 the addition of the cannabidiol for children. What  
3 we would like to know is, under the law, will the  
4 growers and the dispensaries be required to carry  
5 cannabidiol and the other cannabis?

6 I realize there are a lot of medical  
7 conditions, but is there any requirement that their  
8 dispensaries and growers must have that available.

9 MR. MORGAN: Thank you for your  
10 question. And Ellen, we're really appreciative of  
11 you being here and the epilepsy foundation  
12 statewide, both -- all the different regions were  
13 very instrumental in passing SB 2636, which was  
14 recently enacted by the governor.

15 The statute doesn't require CBD  
16 specific cannabis. It requires nonsmokeable  
17 cannabis. So the CBD, cannabidiol side of things is  
18 not a requirement under the statute.

19 So the best answer to your question  
20 would be there's nothing that prohibits cultivation  
21 centers specializing in high CBD products. In fact,  
22 we expect that there will be a number that attempt  
23 that and propose that, but it is only a requirement  
24 that children under the age of 18 that become  
25 eligible patients and registered patients, are using

1 nonsmokeable products.

2                   So that is the requirement as opposed  
3 to some states have required CBD only or use similar  
4 language. We fortunately don't have that type of  
5 restriction, which is very difficult to create a  
6 product CBD only, as everyone knows.

7                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: And my final  
8 question. I know that you have said 23 states have  
9 approved the medical cannabis. And we know Missouri  
10 is right behind us in approving it, but I know  
11 they're not yet in the process.

12                   I know one of the questions I'm  
13 probably going to get is how long is it required to  
14 be a resident of the State of Illinois before you  
15 can then be considered -- if you move in, because we  
16 have people moving to Colorado and other states who  
17 have children with epilepsy who are trying to get  
18 the cannabidiol. So how long is the residency  
19 requirement for Illinois?

20                   MR. MORGAN: So it's not a length of  
21 time. There are a number of documents that -- the  
22 application details a couple of the different pieces  
23 of documentation that help establish residency in  
24 Illinois. But none of them have -- I don't believe  
25 any of them have a time restriction.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

2 MR. MORGAN: So you would be able to  
3 relocate and change your residency to Illinois.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

5 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

6 Jason Lesko.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Jason Lesko.

8 J-A-S-O-N, L-E-S-K-O.

9 My first question is if we're planning  
10 on hiring a third party security company to  
11 transport cannabis, is it within our right to  
12 provide or register some of those third party  
13 security employees as agents in a cultivation  
14 center, for the purposes of complying with the law?

15 MR. WATSON: I believe the rule right  
16 now says employees, that there should be two  
17 employees that would transport. So I think under  
18 the rules right now you're restricted to having at  
19 least the two employees. Now, if you want to have a  
20 third party assist them, I suppose you could do  
21 that, but --

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They have to work at  
23 the cultivation center?

24 MR. WATSON: -- but you've got to have  
25 two employees of the cultivation center.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. My next  
2 question is about information, providing information  
3 to the public, and what is the state doing to  
4 provide information to educate both doctors and  
5 patients about the law or about the act of the pilot  
6 program, and about how to apply to become a  
7 licensing doctor or a licensed patient?

8 MR. MORGAN: I think the first part of  
9 that, the question is what is the state doing to  
10 educate physicians and patients for what it takes to  
11 certify patients and become an eligible patient  
12 under the program?

13 Relative to physicians, we are -- we  
14 have been doing, and will continue to do outreach to  
15 any physician that has specific questions, but also  
16 statewide and regional organizations representing  
17 physicians to try and get the word out.

18 There are a number of advocacy  
19 organizations that are attempting as well to educate  
20 physicians. Medical research facilities. We've  
21 received outreach from a number of hospitals.  
22 Trying to educate physicians on that side of things.  
23 And we will continue that education.

24 It won't be specific to information  
25 about what is the best type of cannabis. That we

1 will be relying on the expertise of a physician to  
2 determine that. But in terms of educating a  
3 physician of what the law requires and what the  
4 application requires for their certification, we  
5 will continue that outreach.

6 The first step was just releasing the  
7 draft physician certification a few weeks ago or a  
8 week and a half ago, at this point. And we will  
9 continue that education all the way through early  
10 spring, when we have the program up and running so  
11 that we will have educated physicians.

12 And when it comes to educating  
13 patients --

14 MS. OBERDORF: Also just a point of  
15 clarification for the physicians. Physicians don't  
16 need to register with the Department of Public  
17 Health or do anything. If you're licensed and meet  
18 the requirements of the Act, you can certify  
19 patients for medical cannabis.

20 So that's also something we're saying  
21 when we receive calls from physicians saying, I want  
22 to sign up, how do I certify? We say as long as you  
23 meet these requirements, you're able to.

24 In terms of patient advocate -- patient  
25 in general, patient education, we're in the process

1 of hiring a few different people at the Department  
2 of Public Health.

3 One of those positions will be  
4 specifically for someone to help educate the  
5 patients, take those calls, etc. We've also been  
6 updating our website. We're developing our  
7 frequently asked questions.

8 We've been receiving lots of calls and  
9 e-mails and we're making sure that we respond to  
10 everyone. We also see these town hall meetings as a  
11 great opportunity to help get the word out.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Were you planning  
13 these town halls for that purpose, for patients, for  
14 example?

15 MS. OBERDORF: This one is for patients  
16 as well. This one is for anyone.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. I got a  
18 softball question for you now.

19 MS. OBERDORF: And just in terms of  
20 that town hall meeting, you know, we did our e-mail  
21 blast to anyone that was signed up on  
22 mcpp.illinois.gov in order to publicize those  
23 meetings.

24 I know that some of our different  
25 partner organizations might have heard about those,

1 contacted people that they knew would be interested  
2 in applying for a variety of different things.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No media, no TV?

4 MS. OBERDORF: No.

5 MR. MORGAN: We'll get back to that.

6 Let's -- if you want to sign up, we'll make sure we  
7 answer additional questions.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I have a follow up to  
9 this question and it's -- is it -- are cultivation  
10 centers or dispensaries allowed to advertise -- not  
11 advertise what they sell, but to inform the public  
12 about the Act and about application processes?

13 MR. MORGAN: Well, right now anyone can  
14 educate the public and we encourage everyone to  
15 educate the public about the different components of  
16 the laws, rules, and the applications themselves.  
17 There's no prohibition on that.

18 Once we issue licenses there are a  
19 number of provisions in our rules about what kind of  
20 marketing and public outreach the cultivation center  
21 and the dispensary will do.

22 MR. WATSON: This is again on the  
23 advertising. Cultivation centers may not advertise  
24 through any public medium, including but not limited  
25 to newspapers, television, radio, or any means

1 designed to market its products to the public.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Its products.

3 MR. WATSON: Right.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And final  
5 question, this is about the bonus scoring for the  
6 application process, so is a female disabled  
7 Hispanic veteran worth four points in the bonus or  
8 just one?

9 MR. MORGAN: The ownership is based on  
10 a combination of all of the owners. An individual  
11 person will only be counted once.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

13 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

14 MR. ANTHONY: Dan Linn.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is still Dan  
16 Linn, D-A-N, L-I-N-N.

17 A number of questions here. If you  
18 guys can answer them all, great. If not, I  
19 understand that some of it might not be information  
20 that you can answer.

21 The first one, are there plans to issue  
22 a 22nd cultivation license for that 22nd Illinois  
23 State Police District?

24 MR. MORGAN: No. And as Mr. Linn is  
25 familiar, there were a few attempts and will

1 continue to be attempts through legislative fixes.

2 The law requires that no more than one cultivation  
3 center will be issued per state police district.

4 One thing during the drafting that was  
5 not clear at the time, but has since become very  
6 abundantly clear, is one of the state police  
7 districts is the Illinois Tollway, which would not  
8 have any physical property that would meet our  
9 requirements to be an eligible piece of property for  
10 an applicant, given that we will only have 21  
11 cultivation centers until there's a legislative  
12 change.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So nothing in any of  
14 the open oases?

15 MR. MORGAN: No.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Next question.  
17 If we're planning on adding or petitioning for the  
18 addition of new conditions in January, should we  
19 expect an advisory board to be filled by then,  
20 concerning those nominations just opened up?

21 MR. MORGAN: Yeah. If you go to  
22 appointments at illinois.gov, it's the central  
23 website for the state of Illinois for all open  
24 boards and commissions, you'll find there the  
25 Medical Cannabis Advisory Board for the Department

1 of Public Health.

2 We're welcoming and encouraging  
3 applicants at this time for the number of  
4 different -- for -- sorry, repeat that.

5 For the different positions that are  
6 listed in the rules, so we are encouraging everyone  
7 to apply now. It's an open process and we do hope  
8 and plan to have that filled and in training for  
9 that advisory board, so that January 1st we're  
10 prepared for applications.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Does the state plan  
12 to widespread reject some of the strip mills that  
13 have already opened up in Illinois or recommendation  
14 mills?

15 MR. MORGAN: The question is will the  
16 state do a widespread wholesale rejection of  
17 certifications from -- or patient applications or  
18 which part are you talking about?

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah. There's a  
20 couple of clinics that have opened up in a high  
21 profile manner or fashion. Does the state plan on  
22 rejecting those wholesale or will they look at each  
23 of those patients on an individual basis?

24 MR. MORGAN: We'll be looking at each  
25 application on an individual basis. We are paying

1 very close attention to any organization that holds  
2 itself out to be a medical cannabis clinic,  
3 prescribing and certifying for patients.

4 As everyone has seen, there have been a  
5 number of actions already by the Illinois Department  
6 of Financial and Professional Regulations taken  
7 against those that are alleged to have been taking  
8 the side of being a medical cannabis clinic without  
9 really being -- having bona fide patient/physician  
10 relationship. So we will continue to closely  
11 monitor that.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And this one is a  
13 little bit more complicated, I would say. If the  
14 Department of Agriculture is going to do weekly  
15 inspections, would that commence as soon as licenses  
16 are issued or once production begins? And can you  
17 confirm that the budget has been zeroed out for this  
18 program for the Department of Agriculture, and all  
19 the moneys for it would have to come from the fees?

20 MR. MORGAN: I'll take that one. The  
21 weekly on-site inspections -- I think the language  
22 was designed to be once the cultivation center is  
23 licensed and operational. Once a license is issued,  
24 by the Department of Agriculture, there will be  
25 quite a substantial amount of feedback and review

1 and constant communication with all those licensees  
2 through inspections as the physical plant gets up  
3 and running, as the plants are being grown.

4 So there will be close cooperation and  
5 collaboration between the department following the  
6 moment of license.

7 For the financial assets, in the budget  
8 of fiscal year 2015, the Department of Agriculture  
9 has specific line items in there, two aspects  
10 relative to the medical cannabis program that was  
11 zeroed out specifically. But at the same time, we  
12 don't anticipate any issues with our ability to fund  
13 the program and implement the program, given our  
14 financial resources at the moment.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Excellent. Glad to  
16 hear that. Will the patient applications, when they  
17 signify what county they plan on purchasing the  
18 medicine, will that have any impact on the  
19 dispensary applications and who is awarded that  
20 license?

21 I don't think there's any points  
22 allocated for it, but would that have any type of  
23 influence?

24 MR. MORGAN: No.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay, next. On the

1 application, why does the state want to know who  
2 assisted with the application?

3 MR. MORGAN: Good question. The  
4 application, for those of you who have seen it,  
5 requires additional documentation for consultants,  
6 counsel, attorneys, and lobbyists that might have  
7 assisted the applicant.

8 Part of that was generated from our  
9 experience observing other states and some of the  
10 challenges that they faced. It goes in line with  
11 more information we have, the better off we will be  
12 in identifying the best applicants.

13 We did add a character of fitness  
14 provision that we'll be drawing on all the  
15 information that comes in through our applicants to  
16 identify again the most qualified dispensaries and  
17 cultivation centers.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And forgive me  
19 for not being as familiar with the revolving door  
20 act and ethics laws in Illinois. Will currently  
21 sitting judges, police officers, and elected  
22 officials be allowed to be principals or owners of  
23 cultivation centers and dispensaries?

24 MR. MORGAN: There is no prohibition of  
25 any of those in the rules or statutes.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And then what  
2 will happen in the event that a patient has a  
3 registry card with the State of Illinois, but has  
4 not purchased any medicine from the State of  
5 Illinois, and is found to be in possession of  
6 cannabis?

7 Is there any specific rule that you  
8 guys plan on implementing for that? Essentially it  
9 would be illegal medicine that they would have.

10 MR. MORGAN: That really is going to be  
11 a law enforcement, both state and local law  
12 enforcement question. It's going case by case  
13 specific.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And then in  
15 your tours and reviewing other states' medical  
16 cannabis programs, did you guys visit the University  
17 of Mississippi?

18 MR. MORGAN: I'm going to cut you off  
19 on that question, Dan, and make you go to the end of  
20 the line. But we have not -- we have not physically  
21 visited the University of Missouri, no.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Did you have any  
23 conversations with the federal government about  
24 their investigational drug program?

25 MR. MORGAN: I'm sorry, have we had

1 conversations with the federal government?

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: About the  
3 investigational new drug program with those few  
4 patients that do get federal medical cannabis?

5 MR. MORGAN: We've had a number of  
6 conversations with the federal government. I'm not  
7 sure at what point if we've had specific  
8 conversations about that program.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you very  
10 much for your time. I appreciate the town hall  
11 meeting. I'll see you in Peoria.

12 MR. MORGAN: Thank you. That was like  
13 rapid fire.

14 MR. ANTHONY: Carlos Ponce.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's Carlos Ponce.  
16 P-O-N-C-E. C-A-R-L-O-S. Thank you very much for  
17 saving me a trip to Peoria for this second go-round.

18 I guess I was going to ask a question  
19 of Ray, but he is gone, and I apologize for going  
20 back to the third party security and transportation  
21 question.

22 You have repeated several times that  
23 you have to have two employees of the cultivation  
24 center in any transport of product. Is that  
25 statutory or is that regulatory determination?

1 MR. MORGAN: That's part of the  
2 administrative rules.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So administrative  
4 rules. So it is possible at some point in the  
5 future that administratively we could, for example,  
6 license or recognize specific transport for security  
7 firms that are certified to be able to do this  
8 separately because having two employees starts  
9 raising the operational costs. Or are you just  
10 hiring part-time people to do transport? So it's --  
11 if it's administratively, you could in the future  
12 certify security firms or transport firms to do  
13 this?

14 MR. MORGAN: The best way I could  
15 answer your question is the only part of the  
16 transport that is part of the statute is it applies  
17 to the cultivation centers being responsible for the  
18 transportation to the dispensaries. Beyond that, it  
19 is part of the administrative rules.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Next one. I  
21 apologize, I confuse easily. The fingerprint  
22 background checks, are they due at the time of  
23 application or I thought I heard some conversation  
24 say that they would be happening during application  
25 review process?

1 MR. MORGAN: Well, to distinguish, the  
2 first segment, which is most important from our  
3 perspective, is for patients and caregivers, that  
4 will be -- that can be happening now. Now that the  
5 Livescan vendor arrangements have been made.

6 The Department of Public Health issued  
7 the Livescan vendor form that they bring in to a  
8 Livescan vendor. We had somebody here earlier from  
9 a Livescan vendor. That process has also been put  
10 in place for agriculture and DFPR. But those forms  
11 have not been issued yet.

12 So the response earlier was that there  
13 may be some employees that might want to go through  
14 agent registration at this time, given that they  
15 might be central to the application, agent in  
16 charge, the grower, things of that nature. But  
17 there's also now a requirement that every employee  
18 go through a background check before they apply.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. So all the  
20 investors, principals, etc. have to go have their  
21 fingerprint Livescan stuff at the time of  
22 application for cultivation centers?

23 MR. WATSON: Yeah. But we -- yes. We  
24 bought the -- he says yes.

25 But as a follow up, we're going to want

1 you to go get the Livescan before you make the  
2 application if you're one of those -- one of those  
3 people, the investors, etc. And we're going to want  
4 to see that you've done so, with the application.

5 It's not -- the background check won't  
6 be complete, most likely, because it will have been  
7 submitted to the state police, and then the state  
8 police will, based upon the information you give us,  
9 will be able to advise us what the results are.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And the -- and  
11 the requirement that only the Illinois State Police,  
12 is that -- is that statutory or administrative?

13 MR. MORGAN: Could you further  
14 elaborate on your question?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Again, if you've got  
16 out-of-state investors, why couldn't they go to a  
17 state police in a -- in a state where cannabis is --  
18 is allowed, and have those records transferred over?  
19 It's very expensive to go back and forth.

20 MR. MORGAN: The statute requires a  
21 Livescan vendor, Illinois defines.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it's a statutory  
23 requirement?

24 MR. MORGAN: It is. It also -- it also  
25 blends into the policy behind it of trying to ensure

1 that we are doing -- conducting a background check  
2 in a process that the state is comfortable with.  
3 And the states use other processes and other  
4 vendors.

5 So the Illinois Livescan vendors,  
6 they're licensed by Illinois, are ones that we have  
7 the confidence in to rely upon those background  
8 checks.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Well, I'll  
10 appeal if you guys would look at it and think about  
11 other states, Colorado, etc., etc., it would be very  
12 helpful to a lot of people. Thank you.

13 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

14 MR. ANTHONY: Kenyatta Beverly.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hello. Just a couple  
16 of really quick questions. Sorry. Yeah, it is an  
17 interesting name. K-E-N-Y-A-T-T-A. Beverly,  
18 B-E-V-E-R-L-Y.

19 Is there any type of fire protection or  
20 sprinkler system that's required for the cultivation  
21 center?

22 MR. MORGAN: No. They ask for  
23 information about the plans for all that, but it's  
24 also going to be a local building code requirement.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Okay. And

1 last question, are there any specific regulations or  
2 requirements regarding the greenhouse themselves?

3 Some states have requirements that they be opaque.

4 I mean, is there any type of requirement like that?

5 MR. MORGAN: I believe the cultivation  
6 centers cannot be visible from the outside.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What's the question?  
9 I didn't hear.

10 MR. MORGAN: I'm sorry. The question  
11 is whether or not for the cultivation centers there  
12 are any requirements or descriptions regarding  
13 whether it's opaque or visible. And the  
14 construction of the greenhouse, in and of itself.

15 Our -- our view -- and I'll speak for  
16 Ray, unless Ray wants to step in. It's generated by  
17 a security concern. So the construction of the  
18 facility has to be secure. Something that is  
19 visible from the public, from the eye of somebody  
20 walking by, the facility would not meet the  
21 requirements of security.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Great. Thank  
23 you.

24 MR. MORGAN: Thank you. Hammering  
25 through them.

1 MR. ANTHONY: Mark Schauerte.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's Mark, M-A-R-K,  
3 Schauerte. That's S-C-H-A-U-E-R-T-E.

4 Just to follow up on the background  
5 check questions that were discussed previously, I  
6 believe in the rules there was a requirement that  
7 the verification by the state police be completed  
8 upon application? Just want to clarify that form.  
9 That it's going to be the submission must be  
10 completed upon application, just to clarify.

11 MR. WATSON: Right.

12 MS. OBERDORF: To clarify, are you  
13 talking about cultivation centers?

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, for cultivation  
15 centers. And then -- I'm sorry, go ahead.

16 MR. MORGAN: No, go ahead.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: On the definition of  
18 physicians, I just wanted to clarify that that is  
19 only for physicians licensed by the Medical Practice  
20 Act of Illinois, correct?

21 MR. MORGAN: Yes.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The financial  
23 disclosure requirements -- excuse me. This is a one  
24 definitional question. I did not see a definition  
25 of compensation agreements in the regulations. With

1 respect to that in the recent -- recent edition of  
2 the requirements to disclose for lobbyists, counsel,  
3 etc., the intent of the regulations for any  
4 consultants that have advised in the process or  
5 other engagement agreements.

6 Are there specific financial  
7 arrangements that need to be disclosed or is it just  
8 the disclosure that that kind of consultant was  
9 used?

10 MR. WATSON: I'm sorry, I didn't catch  
11 the last part.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Just to disclose that  
13 there was indeed legal counsel or a lobbyist or some  
14 sort of, you know, third party cultivation  
15 consultant used.

16 MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I think that's a  
17 good question. We'll go back and look at that. I  
18 think some clarification as to what specific  
19 information would be required for any of those  
20 compensation agreements and what that means. We'll  
21 do our best to clarify that.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What's the question?  
24 I'm sorry.

25 MR. MORGAN: The question was for the

1 questions in the application that require disclosure  
2 and/or possible documentation for consultants,  
3 lobbyists, lawyers, other contractual relationships,  
4 what information, documentation is required?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm sorry. Back on  
6 the background check, just to clarify on that, for  
7 individuals who have and perhaps going to be  
8 providing advice in the context of legal counsel  
9 consultants, etc., the background checks, I believe,  
10 are for financial interests in the actual entity,  
11 correct?

12 It's not -- it's not -- it's not -- so  
13 perhaps a principal board member, officer, someone  
14 with an equity stake in the actual entity, not  
15 someone who's deriving a fee or income from the  
16 entity?

17 MR. MORGAN: At least from DFPR, I  
18 believe that's right.

19 MR. WATSON: Now, when you say income,  
20 are you talking about income based upon sales or  
21 just --

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No, no. Income for  
23 purposes of providing services.

24 MR. WATSON: A specific service. I  
25 don't believe so.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. One other  
2 question.

3 MR. WATSON: But if you do have someone  
4 who, you know, may be questionable, let us know.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Of course.

6 Absolutely. I believe that goes without saying.

7 One other question on the product. It  
8 may have been addressed earlier with respect to the  
9 registration of the product.

10 Is that -- is the intent of the  
11 registration requirement, I think it's 1000.420  
12 where you register the product with the department,  
13 is the intent of that the type of strain or not  
14 actually each individual packaged product? I guess  
15 if you could elaborate a little on that, that would  
16 be helpful. What the product actually means.

17 MR. WATSON: Well, certainly we're  
18 looking at -- I suppose the easy one would be the  
19 infused products. You know, if you're going to be  
20 marketing a tea, we're going to want to know that.  
21 And you probably are going to have a name for that,  
22 and you register the name with us and tell us what  
23 it is.

24 If it's a butter or if it's a cookie or  
25 brownie, you know, we're going to want those

1 products registered with us so that we know  
2 what's -- what you're selling. And then it will aid  
3 us in our tracking system to know what products will  
4 be leaving the cultivation center.

5 Certainly if you have different strains  
6 of the smokeable cannabis, we're going to want to  
7 have those registered as well. I know that there  
8 will be -- very likely be marketing based upon the  
9 name of a particular strain, so we would want to  
10 have those be -- each of those registered with us.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. I guess follow  
12 up on that, then. So, for instance, in the example  
13 of a tea or a butter or cookie, you would want to  
14 know each of those separately.

15 MR. WATSON: Yes.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You do not need to  
17 know -- for packaging purposes, you need to know  
18 cookie one, cookie two, cookie three, cookie four  
19 that will be coming out, but each individual cookie,  
20 one, two, three, four, for lack of a better example,  
21 doesn't need to be registered?

22 MR. WATSON: Are you talking about a  
23 different type of cookie or --

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No, no.

25 MR. WATSON: -- or a different size

1 cookie?

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Exactly. Same  
3 cookie. Same cookie, same size, a different cookie.

4 MR. WATSON: It's the type of product  
5 we're looking for so that we know what category  
6 you're selling.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you very  
8 much.

9 MR. ANTHONY: Marie Dancu.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: M-A-R-I-E, D-A-N-C-U.

11 And I just have just a couple of follow  
12 ups. One is that regarding the labs, since you're  
13 saying that that is still kind of being developed,  
14 the applications haven't even gone out for labs to  
15 apply to be certified, is that going to hold up the  
16 cultivation centers, then?

17 We are not allowed to sell or move our  
18 product to the dispensary until they are tested? Is  
19 that going to be a holdup for the cultivation  
20 centers, since the labs haven't even been instituted  
21 yet in Illinois?

22 MR. MORGAN: I wouldn't characterize it  
23 as a holdup, in that we do have some time before  
24 those labs have to be up and running. The rules  
25 dictate and describe in pretty good detail what the

1 requirements will be, but the applications should be  
2 coming out pretty quickly.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

4 MR. MORGAN: So we don't anticipate any  
5 delay.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. Okay. I'm more  
7 concerned about the time frame of getting those up  
8 and running and having our products tested before  
9 they go off to dispensaries.

10 MR. MORGAN: Yeah, just repeating the  
11 question for those who didn't hear it. Will there  
12 be a potential for delays -- will cultivation  
13 centers have to wait till independent labs are  
14 available to conduct the testing of their products  
15 before they can sell anything to dispensaries? The  
16 answer to that is yes.

17 So it's incumbent on the state to make  
18 sure that we have those independent labs that are  
19 applying licensed prior to when a cultivation center  
20 would otherwise be ready.

21 So we are working on that concurrently  
22 with a number of other issues, just with getting the  
23 program implemented, but we don't anticipate that to  
24 be a delay.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Are they going to be

1 dispersed throughout the State of Illinois or are  
2 they all going -- have you not figured that out yet?

3 MR. MORGAN: It depends on the  
4 applicants. It will be a market driven. Though we  
5 are pretty confident there will be at least a few  
6 applicants. There could be many more than that.  
7 And the distribution of that is going to be driven  
8 by the market.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. The other  
10 question I have is on the applications per district.  
11 So let's say you have -- just pick a district,  
12 District 20. You only have one person apply for  
13 District 20, and that application is subpar.

14 Does that mean that person gets that  
15 license or will that be opened up again to other  
16 applicants to apply for that district?

17 MR. WATSON: There is a process  
18 described in the rules for the situation you  
19 described, where we have -- I think the example we  
20 were using was say we have three or four applicants  
21 and none of them are as qualified as we would want  
22 them to be.

23 We will plan on meeting with the top  
24 scoring one and see if they can come up to the  
25 qualifications that we require. So -- but if they

1 cannot, because maybe they don't have the financial  
2 wherewithal or the -- maybe they don't have the  
3 zoning, maybe -- you know, there may be a number of  
4 reasons why they may not be able to meet our  
5 requirements. At that point we would reopen the  
6 process and that would start the whole new  
7 application process for that district only.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: According to your  
10 rule, in an answer to your question on the  
11 laboratory testing rule, page 1000.510 just says it  
12 needs to be available for testing, not being tested  
13 prior to shipment. So in other words, if a growth  
14 facility --

15 MR. MORGAN: Hold on. Sir, I think  
16 there are a couple people, but we'll make sure you  
17 have an opportunity to address -- I hear your  
18 question and it's going back to a previous comment.  
19 We'll make sure you have a chance to address that.  
20 Thanks.

21 MR. ANTHONY: Ashlie Kuhene.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: A-S-H-L-I-E,  
23 K-U-H-E-N-E. Thank you.

24 Okay. So the applications will  
25 obviously require the applicant to disclose a lot of

1 proprietary information. Is there some sort of  
2 statement that the applicants can make, within their  
3 application, that would prevent such proprietary  
4 information from being disclosed, say in a FOIA  
5 request?

6 MR. MORGAN: So the -- the statute, the  
7 Compassionate Use Act, does exempt from FOIA the  
8 applications and the application materials. Further  
9 than that, the applications themselves -- and as we  
10 get more to the specifics of what documents have to  
11 be uploaded and mailed in, etc., there's details and  
12 there will be more details about identifying records  
13 in particular that are deemed to be proprietary and  
14 confidential, so that they will be withheld in the  
15 event of any future, etc. But the intent is to keep  
16 those confidential across the board.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

18 MR. ANTHONY: Alan Gaffner.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you very much  
20 for the follow up and for your patience. I've got  
21 to tell you this is definitely an example of both  
22 user friendly and accessible government. So thank  
23 you.

24 Returning again to the scoring and the  
25 selection process, if I may, on the cultivation

1 centers. And I found some of the other information  
2 that you shared applicable and provided me a little  
3 greater insight. And now perhaps you can help fine  
4 tune that a bit more.

5           You mentioned that, for instance,  
6 security scoring would involve the Illinois State  
7 Police. Is it then a logical assumption that there  
8 will be related reviews performed by the Department  
9 of Revenue, Secretary of State, Treasurer's Office,  
10 etc., as it applied to each part of the application?

11           MR. MORGAN: I would say not in the  
12 same way and certainly not in every -- every  
13 instance where there's overlap with a different  
14 state or governmental agency. We are doing  
15 everything we can to make it in-house for a number  
16 of reasons. Expertise, resource management,  
17 integrity of the process.

18           So it would be quite limited to number  
19 of outside entities, even other state agencies that  
20 will be involved with the process, but again, we're  
21 still finalizing the specific details on that.

22           AUDIENCE MEMBER: If I'm understanding  
23 you correctly, then, the scoring would more than  
24 likely fall -- fall or be attributed to the  
25 Department of Agriculture?

1 MR. MORGAN: That's right. That's a  
2 good way to characterize it. Ultimately it will be  
3 a licensing decision by the Department of  
4 Agriculture.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's why I didn't  
6 know whether the security scoring then -- let's say  
7 it's a 25, that comes from ISP and then is placed on  
8 the application within ag, but that's not likely how  
9 that would occur?

10 MR. MORGAN: Right. It will be  
11 recommendations from -- from consultants and experts  
12 in a number of fields, but it will be ultimately  
13 Department of Agriculture and DFPR decision.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Sure. And after  
15 the -- let's just call it the scoring committee is  
16 composed, will that be identified pre app or will  
17 that be shared post app or will there be some  
18 blinding or just generic Department of Ag employee,  
19 15 years cultivation expertise, Department of Ag,  
20 quality expertise?

21 MR. MORGAN: I think at this point  
22 we're much more focused on the details of the  
23 applications as opposed to --

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Sure.

25 MR. MORGAN: -- disclosure of the

1 individuals that will be involved with the scoring.  
2 Internally we're working through all that right now.  
3 And I think that we're probably going to be much  
4 more focused on answering questions about the  
5 application itself in substance, as opposed to the  
6 internal resumé of an individual on a scoring  
7 selection team within the Department of Agriculture.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Sounds like the  
9 design is to have it be objectively do the scoring  
10 process so let's say a legislative process or the  
11 governor's office or something like that would not  
12 be part of some review or some scoring.

13 MR. MORGAN: Well, again, we're still  
14 working through a lot of the mechanics right now.  
15 So I would hold back on further clarifications or  
16 specifics about it, as we still figure that out  
17 internally.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And my last  
19 question, do you have an estimate of when the  
20 transcript will be available from today's meeting  
21 and then should that be requested on-line or will it  
22 be available on-line or in hard copy? That would be  
23 helpful.

24 MR. MORGAN: Many thanks to our  
25 transcriber here today, who has worked very

1 diligently through all of our questions and back and  
2 forth, as we talk very quickly. We are very, very  
3 appreciative.

4           The timing is going to be -- it's  
5 open-ended, it takes time to request the transcript  
6 and post that transcript. We also have two other  
7 public hearings.

8           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Correct.

9           MR. MORGAN: So we will be attempting  
10 to share all of this information as all of this is  
11 designed for information sharing, as soon as we can,  
12 but I can't give a specific timetable on that.

13           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is there a place that  
14 I could just occasionally check or what would be my  
15 best way to know when it's available and the other  
16 available?

17           MR. MORGAN: As with everything else  
18 that we've done, the best place is to monitor the  
19 marijuana policy -- the mcpp --

20           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

21           MR. MORGAN. -- .illinois.gov website.

22           AUDIENCE MEMBER: That special medical  
23 marijuana website.

24           MR. MORGAN: That's correct.

25           AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you again. I

1 appreciate the second opportunity.

2 MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

3 MR. ANTHONY: David Ittel.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is David  
5 Ittel. That's I-T-T-E-L.

6 I have a question about the  
7 administrative rules in regards to aisles. In there  
8 it says that the aisles have to be maintained  
9 completely around the garden area, but it doesn't  
10 say anything about limiting the size of that garden  
11 area.

12 So my question is: If a building  
13 inspector would allow the installation in an  
14 enclosed warehouse building of something that's used  
15 in commercial greenhouses to maximize space, which  
16 is rolling benches that roll twelve inches this way,  
17 twelve inches that way, and you can make an aisle  
18 when you need to access the plants, will the state  
19 have any problem with that?

20 MR. WATSON: I've heard some discussion  
21 about that, and I'm not a scientist, so please bear  
22 with me on this. But from what I've been told, that  
23 type of system may create other issues with regard  
24 to moisture and mold, if you do not allow the air to  
25 circulate around the tables.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh.

2 MR. WATSON: And that's one of the  
3 reasons why you would want to have the aisles,  
4 rather than having all the tables pushed up against  
5 the wall and having one aisle that, you know, for  
6 the whole facility, and then just moving them to the  
7 side when you want to get down there. From what I  
8 understand, that could create issues with the  
9 possible mold and moisture.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That is an issue, but  
11 there is ventilation techniques, particularly  
12 vertical ventilation, where if you have a space  
13 between -- say this big, between the rolling benches  
14 and a vertical ventilation system, it will pull air  
15 up from the floor and circulate it.

16 MR. MORGAN: We won't get into  
17 specifics of what we would approve from the  
18 cultivation method. Again, that goes to Ray's  
19 earlier point of not trying to be prescriptive and  
20 limited.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

22 MR. MORGAN: That provision was also  
23 based on what we saw in other states, in terms of  
24 cultivation, that there were not clear pathways,  
25 that the plants were overgrown between the aisles.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

2 MR. MORGAN: There was not a clear path  
3 to observe and inspect. So that it's a security  
4 component as well --

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh.

6 MR. MORGAN: -- in terms of tracking  
7 the plants and keeping the plants in an identifiable  
8 location throughout the process, which is why the  
9 aisles were defined.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I can understand  
11 that. If somebody had techniques that they have in  
12 their application that would address those specific  
13 issues, the size of the space of the garden, would  
14 the state have an issue with using technology that's  
15 manufactured here in Illinois, that's used in  
16 commercial greenhouses all over Illinois?

17 MR. WATSON: Well, getting back to the  
18 whole theme of our application process.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh.

20 MR. WATSON: We're not going to be so  
21 specific as to tell you what you can and cannot do,  
22 but we will be judging based upon the best plan that  
23 we're given. And if -- if you've got a plan that  
24 you think would be the best, go ahead and submit it.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right.

1 MR. WATSON: But that's not to say  
2 that, you know, we would agree.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

4 MR. WATSON: Okay?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: One last question.

6 Again, this goes back to the administrative rules.  
7 What the proper procedure would be, the vegetative  
8 list for pesticides, if an applicant wanted to add  
9 something that is organically listed and  
10 nonpoisonous, would be the desire to use that  
11 product be -- the application to be the proper form  
12 or should that be after they receive a license, a  
13 discussion directly with the Department of Ag.

14 MR. WATSON: Are you asking whether we  
15 could add another product to the list in the rules?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

17 MR. WATSON: Okay. The rule making  
18 process is not something that is totally within the  
19 control of the Department of Agriculture.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh.

21 MR. WATSON: There -- as many of you  
22 who have been following the process, it is a fairly  
23 complicated process.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

25 MR. WATSON: I don't think we're going

1 to be -- you know, going in for a rule change on one  
2 or two particular products, you know, every six  
3 months or every three months or every month.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh.

5 MR. WATSON: We've got a list that's  
6 already there. We're going to work with that list.  
7 And if through -- through our conversations with the  
8 approved permittees --

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Uh-huh.

10 MR. WATSON: -- we find that, you know,  
11 there may be other products that would be better,  
12 then we would consider a rule making process. But  
13 that's going to take several months in order for  
14 that to happen. It's not going to be an overnight  
15 decision.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So the application  
17 process would not be the venue for that?

18 MR. WATSON: No. The application  
19 process should be the place to demonstrate that  
20 you're going to be acting within the rules as we  
21 have them.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well, thank you.

23 MR. ANTHONY: Brian Corr.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Brian, B-R-I-A-N.  
25 Corr, C-O-R-R.

1                   And I'd like to echo what everyone  
2   said. Thank you very much for sticking with us.  
3   This has been a long haul. I'm going to go back to  
4   something that's been asked a couple times regarding  
5   the applications for both cultivation and  
6   dispensaries.

7                   The -- the rules ask for site plans and  
8   elevations. How much more information are you  
9   needing? Specifically, is it electrical, is it  
10  plumbing, is it mechanical? What sort of  
11  architectural renderings do you need for a  
12  successful application?

13                  MR. WATSON: I think this gets back to  
14  is this a permit that has minimum requirements? And  
15  no, it's not. I can't sit here and tell you, okay,  
16  if you submit these things you're going to get  
17  approved.

18                  What we're looking for is you give us  
19  the best description of your site, and we certainly  
20  want to know as much information as we can possibly  
21  have. And so if there's a choice between giving it  
22  or not giving it, I would recommend giving it.

23                  So -- and that may or may not answer  
24  the question, but we're -- we're expecting  
25  blueprints and we're expecting, you know, location

1 of, you know, security apparatus. We're expecting  
2 the plan for disposal of any waste, you know.

3 And we're expecting, you know, what  
4 kind of separation you're going to have between the  
5 various areas of the facility. You know, which  
6 would be obviously a design of, you know, all the  
7 rooms in the buildings.

8 So certainly we want to know that you  
9 have adequate water to -- to -- you know, to raise  
10 the plants. And, you know, whatever detail you can  
11 provide on that would be helpful. Like I said, we  
12 could get a lot of applications, but I mean, we  
13 could have someone not be approved simply because  
14 they did not provide as much information as someone  
15 else may have.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So if I can  
17 paraphrase, there's no penalty for putting more?

18 MR. WATSON: No, no.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: But there is a  
20 penalty for not hitting the minimum.

21 MR. WATSON: Yeah. Yeah, that's true.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

23 MR. WATSON: Okay.

24 MR. ANTHONY: At this point we have no  
25 further people signed up, so I suppose we could open

1 up the floor. Please come up to the podium, if you  
2 don't mind.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Bob  
4 Geraghty, G-E-R-A-G-H-T-Y. Global Farms Consulting.  
5 With regard to the lab testing, let me read Section  
6 1000.510. It just says the cultivation center,  
7 cannabis-infused product or cannabis itself for  
8 packaging and sale, we just need to make it  
9 available.

10 In other words, I read that to be, we  
11 can grow product, if it's going to happen every day,  
12 is a different batch, theoretically, in a growth  
13 facility. And when that product is ready for sale,  
14 it appears that we just have to keep a certain  
15 amount of that available for testing for your lab,  
16 after the fact.

17 In other words, it can be out our door,  
18 but that's paragraph A of Section 1000.510. Make  
19 available at the cultivation center. There is no  
20 further restriction.

21 MR. MORGAN: There is under Section  
22 510, part J, a cultivation center shall provide to a  
23 dispensary organization the laboratory test results  
24 for each batch of cannabis product purchased by the  
25 dispensary.

1                   To me, that's implicit that you be  
2 testing each batch. I also believe there was a  
3 reference to that somewhere else, but at least  
4 there, that's indicated that each batch would be  
5 tested.

6                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. But each  
7 batch tested, if you have in-house labs that's been  
8 tested, you've got statistics. If you keep a sample  
9 of that batch, then the state would have access to  
10 it, but the state may not test, they may not test  
11 every batch; is that -- I would read this.

12                  MR. MORGAN: The state will not be  
13 testing every batch.

14                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

15                  MR. MORGAN: Earlier I tried to  
16 distinguish between the independent labs and the  
17 Department of Agriculture labs.

18                  So the Department of Agriculture will  
19 have random, periodic sample tests that are done and  
20 the -- but the testing will still be expected of  
21 every batch --

22                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

23                  MR. MORGAN: -- of the cultivation  
24 center from independent labs.

25                  AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. But that

1 doesn't preclude it from being shipped, as long as  
2 that testing has been done, they don't have to go  
3 back to the state.

4 MR. MORGAN: To be clear, so you're  
5 asking will the state require approval of that test,  
6 that lab -- independent lab test before anything is  
7 sent to a dispensary? The answer is no.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Then my next  
9 question, when you say on the point system, and this  
10 isn't regarding ownership, but say we have an  
11 individual -- they stressed in the application  
12 veterans would be ideal.

13 If I have an Illinois resident, one  
14 company, one applicant and an Illinois veteran  
15 resident on another application, is this two points  
16 because he's both a resident and a veteran?

17 And that's where I was trying to get  
18 the differentiation earlier. It's conceivable that  
19 one person could be a female, an Hispanic, disabled  
20 vet.

21 MR. MORGAN: Well, but you're --

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is that one point or  
23 four points conceivably? And if you're not making  
24 it four points, separate items, then doesn't an  
25 Illinois resident carry more weight than a Wounded

1 Warrior or vice versa? Does a Wounded Warrior carry  
2 more weight for points than an Illinois resident?

3 MR. MORGAN: So you're referencing two  
4 different parts -- there's two different specific  
5 sections of the bonus points. One dealing with  
6 Illinois based applicants.

7 So that's about those -- that's about  
8 the business headquarters being in Illinois, and  
9 also creating Illinois-based jobs. The agents that  
10 reside in Illinois, that's all under the Illinois  
11 based applicant section. That's in the DFPR rules.

12 Agriculture didn't at this point  
13 provide as much specificity in terms of their  
14 Illinois based applicants section.

15 But then there's a separate section  
16 with its own respective bonus point possibilities  
17 for minority owned, female, etc. So those would be  
18 separately considered bonus points.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Ownership. But what  
20 about employees, people that you're hiring. I'm  
21 sorry. I don't mean to step away from that. So  
22 again, I was under the impression in reading that,  
23 if we have a -- everything being equal, somebody has  
24 an Illinois employee, say the agent in charge, for  
25 example, that would be somebody that would be

1 identified at the time of application.

2 If that agent in charge is a veteran  
3 and the other competition is -- again, it's just an  
4 Illinois resident, both of them are Illinois  
5 residents, this gentleman is an Illinois resident  
6 and a veteran, do you distinguish -- is this more  
7 beneficial having those two qualities or not? If  
8 I'm being clear.

9 MR. MORGAN: The minority, female,  
10 veteran and disabled individual ownership  
11 question --

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's not ownership.  
13 It's an employee question. I got the impression you  
14 want this to be an Illinois based business, hire  
15 Illinois employees and hire Illinois veterans.

16 MR. MORGAN: The veteran consideration  
17 is not part of the Illinois based bonus points.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it's strictly an  
19 ownership situation where those points come in?

20 MR. MORGAN: Correct.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nothing to do with  
22 our agent in charge or anybody else?

23 MR. MORGAN: That's correct.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. The -- if this  
25 is an electronic application, and you expect

1 blueprints to be hand delivered, I would assume, how  
2 are you guys going to marry -- how are you going to  
3 identify to make sure that you get the right stuff  
4 with the right application, and you have 500  
5 applications?

6 MR. MORGAN: We'll be providing more  
7 specific details for the application in the coming  
8 weeks. And again, as we mentioned earlier, we  
9 commit to everybody that that information and those  
10 specific application instructions will be available  
11 prior to the start of the September 8th application  
12 process. So everyone has a chance to adequately  
13 prepare.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. And my last  
15 question would be just rumors, but we have heard  
16 that there -- you know, if there were a political  
17 change within the state, is this subject to  
18 politics?

19 In other words, say the new governor  
20 comes in and happens to be a Republican. I'm not  
21 suggesting or hoping by any means, but my question  
22 would be, would they have the opportunity to stop  
23 this program or to end it in its tracks? Isn't that  
24 possible?

25 MR. MORGAN: You know, I would not

1 directly answer the question, other than to  
2 reiterate that the state is committed to complying  
3 with the law and the rules we've adopted.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Can  
5 somebody --

6 MR. MORGAN: That's really as far as we  
7 can go in terms of answering a question because this  
8 is focused on a regulatory side of things and as  
9 members of state government, our objective and  
10 requirements are to comply with the law and the  
11 rules. So I wouldn't go into specifics about  
12 anything that are outside circumstances.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So can you be  
14 stopped, I guess would be a question?

15 MR. MORGAN: My answer would be, I  
16 couldn't answer that.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. So does that  
18 mean -- well, it's a possibility?

19 MR. MORGAN: That's really my answer.  
20 I really can't answer that question.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I have one question  
22 about --

23 MR. MORGAN: Come on up to the podium.  
24 Would you state your name again.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Mitch Meyers,

1 M-E-Y-E-R-S.

2                   You said something about if it's a  
3 greenhouse cultivation you can't be able to see  
4 through it. What does that mean?

5                   MR. MORGAN: Well, the question that  
6 came up was in the context of whether a greenhouse  
7 would be opaque or visible. I answered that  
8 question in terms of the visibility from the outside  
9 of the facility in terms of public access, and  
10 visibility of what's going on in that facility.

11                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: So if you -- if  
12 opaque walls, and you can see that there's something  
13 in there, but you don't really see definition, you  
14 know, it's not clear, but it's an opaque --

15                   MR. MORGAN: We couldn't -- I couldn't  
16 answer specific approvals of the building structure  
17 because that goes to Ray's point about what details  
18 that we're going to be looking for, creativity and  
19 descriptions from the applicants.

20                   But what's permissible in terms of  
21 security plan is quite clear in terms of our  
22 expectation that it's not penetrable from the  
23 public. So it's a secure facility that you  
24 couldn't -- you know, if it's opaque, it begs the  
25 question, well, if it's visible from the outside,

1 what are they looking through and what's that --

2 what are those materials?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So because the whole  
4 perimeter is fenced, that could technically block  
5 the line of sight of a pedestrian. Would that solve  
6 that problem?

7 MR. MORGAN: We would not specifically  
8 address the materials used for the building  
9 structure security. That goes to the security  
10 proposal and how you would have that structure.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So as long as the  
12 building is secure, if someone -- I mean, you know  
13 what greenhouses look like. You can see that  
14 there's plants in there, but you may not be able to  
15 see that it's a mum because it's an opaque side.

16 MR. MORGAN: We would be considering  
17 all those factors with the security review. And  
18 that would go towards the review of the security of  
19 the facility in terms of how it's constructed, but  
20 we wouldn't directly address what was okay and what  
21 isn't.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thanks.

23 MR. MORGAN: Thank you. Yes, come on  
24 up.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Hi, Francesca,

1 F-R-A-N-C-E-S-C-A, Cooper, C-O-O-P-E-R.

2 I just wanted to clarify. I walked in  
3 today and I understood that we needed two million  
4 for cultivation in escrow, and 50K in escrow for  
5 dispensary or a surety bond. But did I hear someone  
6 say today that the -- it needed to be cash on hand  
7 or is that --

8 MR. MORGAN: There are two different  
9 requirements for both dispensaries and for  
10 cultivation centers. Ray can correct me if I'm  
11 wrong.

12 So for a cultivation center the  
13 requirements are \$500,000 in liquid assets.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.

15 MR. MORGAN: And \$2 million in a surety  
16 bond once the license is issued. Or is it at --  
17 okay. So upon application you have to show both  
18 500,000 in liquid assets and a \$2 million bond,  
19 surety bond.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Both -- sorry.

21 MR. MORGAN: I'm sorry, go ahead.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No, no, go ahead.

23 Finish up.

24 MR. MORGAN: And for dispensaries it is  
25 \$400,000 in liquid assets and I believe, correct me

1 if I'm wrong, but in the rules the process is after  
2 you're issued a registration, then you demonstrate  
3 the \$25,000 surety bond for the dispensaries.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And the state is not  
5 going to offer these bonds, correct?

6 MR. MORGAN: The state is not offering  
7 surety bonds, that's correct.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And are there any  
9 plans that they may or that's totally not a  
10 consideration?

11 MR. MORGAN: I mean, we're open for  
12 consideration if you want to submit a public  
13 comment, and we can consider that, but at this point  
14 we haven't considered that.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Great. Thank  
16 you.

17 MR. MORGAN: Thank you. I think we're  
18 exhausting everyone's patience.

19 Come on up if you had a question.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Bill Bailey,  
21 B-A-I-L-E-Y.

22 As I read the regs that came out about  
23 a week or so ago, it said the bonding would be  
24 required within 15 days of preliminary approval.  
25 Now, are you saying that you have to have the

1 bond --

2 MR. WATSON: No. You're right.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- during  
4 application?

5 MR. WATSON: No, you're correct.

6 The -- we want -- I think in answer -- in response  
7 to an earlier question, I indicated that we wanted a  
8 commitment from the surety company that they would  
9 have that bond available because I think the point  
10 that was being made was that bond -- the company  
11 would not issue the bond until the permit was  
12 approved, and so we want to know that that will  
13 happen, that there is a commitment from the bonding  
14 company to issue an approval of the permit, and  
15 you'll have 15 days to get that to us.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The other question  
17 would be that in speaking of bonding companies, they  
18 want to see the bonding form and requirements the  
19 state has. Are you going to have a specific -- I  
20 think you said before you were not going to have a  
21 specific application or a form.

22 There's got to be something that has  
23 the outlines for the bonding company to cover; is  
24 that correct?

25 MR. MORGAN: So the question: Is there

1 a specific form and will we be issuing a specific  
2 form and specific requirements for the surety bond?

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

4 MR. MORGAN: So we've considered that.  
5 And we'll continue to consider it. One of the  
6 things we're trying to avoid is have such a  
7 prescriptive requirement in a form or a language  
8 that ultimately it would have the adverse impact and  
9 we would create a language a surety bond company  
10 would not ultimately issue.

11 So it goes clear back to our previous  
12 comments of trying not to be so limited so as to  
13 restrict anything from happening, in this case the  
14 bond being issued. We had not planned for that.

15 If there's specific language that  
16 anyone in this room or anyone public considers that  
17 we should add and inquire or put out in some fashion  
18 that a bonding company would become more comfortable  
19 issuing a bond, those would be all things we would  
20 consider.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: In searching for  
22 bonding companies around the country, they've all  
23 asked for a state list of requirements for what has  
24 to be covered by the bond, and it would be very  
25 convenient if -- if it -- the department could

1 produce something like that.

2 MR. MORGAN: Understood. And we'll  
3 take that back and consider it.

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you. One last  
5 thing. It says that a bond has to be issued by a --  
6 an institution that is regulated by the State of  
7 Illinois. Would that include, for instance, a stock  
8 brokerage firm, for instance, UBS or somebody like  
9 that, who is chartered to be in the state but  
10 they're not necessarily a bank or a bank  
11 institution?

12 MR. MORGAN: The Department of  
13 Insurance keeps a list of institutions -- is that  
14 correct -- that are licensed to issue bonds in  
15 Illinois. So that would be what we -- and I believe  
16 our application refers to that, but that's the basis  
17 for which we're looking to -- what's an appropriate  
18 financial institution.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Great. Thank  
20 you very much.

21 MR. MORGAN: Thank you. If I keep  
22 asking questions, people will keep coming up.

23 Last question unless somebody  
24 screams --

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: S-E-G-G-E-B-R-U-C-H.

1 Les, L-E-S.

2 As far as the bonding requirement, is a  
3 cash bond, is \$2 million cash with the Illinois  
4 Treasury Department considered a bond or do you have  
5 to have a specific bonding company issue a bond?

6 MR. WATSON: An escrow account is  
7 acceptable.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. At a  
9 banking institution or with the State of Illinois?

10 MR. WATSON: I don't know that we have  
11 a mechanism for --

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motor fuel has a  
13 bonding company, and they accept cash on bonds.  
14 Illinois Motor Fuel.

15 MR. WATSON: That's something to  
16 consider.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: So it could be a cash  
18 bond, two million?

19 MR. WATSON: Could you follow up with  
20 some information on that? Could you send that to  
21 our Department of Agriculture website?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, sure will.

23 MR. WATSON: Yeah. Thank you.

24 I will make one last question. It's  
25 literally limited to just one question.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: T.J. Singer.

2 S-I-N-G-E-R.

3 When you do a valuation, if we have an  
4 escrow account that say has a half million dollars  
5 worth of stock in it, is it valued at the half  
6 million or is this 70, 80 percent of that, as far as  
7 liquid assets? Is there a percentage?

8 MR. MORGAN: I really think we would  
9 have to consider that. I'm not sure of the  
10 financial answer to that.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thanks.

12 MR. MORGAN: So we will consider the  
13 question and do our best to answer it in FAQs  
14 on-line.

15 We very much thank everybody for coming  
16 here today. For any questions that have not been  
17 answered or any questions you haven't had an  
18 opportunity to ask, you can always reach us through  
19 the e-mail addresses of [mccp.illinois.gov](mailto:mccp.illinois.gov).

20 And we look forward to seeing you at  
21 future hearings. Thank you.

22 (Ending time: 1:11 p.m.)

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I, William L. DeVries, a Certified Court Reporter (MO), Certified Shorthand Reporter (IL), Registered Diplomate Reporter, and a Certified Realtime Reporter, do hereby certify that the meeting that appears in the foregoing transcript was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this meeting was taken, and further that I am not financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of any action.

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