Policy on Laboratory Registration

December 19, 2017

This document was issued originally by the Department of Public Health (DPH). As part of the transfer of the medical-use of marijuana program on or before December 31, 2018, the Commission adopted this document. We suggest that you remain current with the applicable medical-use marijuana laws, which include M.G.L. c. 94I and 935 CMR 501.000, and periodically check for revisions to this document before relying on its contents. Questions with regards to this document may be directed to CannabisCommission@Mass.gov.

Circular Letter: DHCQ

SUBJECT: 17-12-675 Policy on Laboratory Registration

DATE: December 19, 2017

The purpose of this circular letter is to clarify the timeline for Independent Testing Laboratories (ITL) to register with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and obtain a Certificate of Registration.

On December 1, 2017, regulatory amendments to 105 CMR 725.000, Implementation of an Act for the Humanitarian Medical Use of Marijuana, went into effect. The revised regulation includes a new provision that ITLs must apply to DPH to obtain a certificate of registration in order to serve as an independent testing laboratory for a Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD).

Pursuant to 105 CMR 725.031(A)(2), an ITL must meet all testing requirements of the Department, including but not limited to:

1. Accredited to International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 17025 by a third party accrediting body that is a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement; or
2. Certified, registered, or accredited by an organization approved by the Department.
The application and instructions for an ITL to register with DPH are located here: https://www.mass.gov/medical-use-of-marijuana-program.

ITLs in existence as of December 1, 2017 must submit their application materials and any related waiver requests to DPH by January 15, 2018 for review by the Department.

Should you have any questions, please contact RMDcompliance@state.ma.us.