

STATE OF NEW MEXICO MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR Linda M. Trujillo, Superintendent Clay Bailey, Deputy Superintendent

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 13, 2023

Media Contact: Bernice Geiger, Bernice.Geiger@rld.nm.gov

New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department Revokes License of Albuquerque Cannabis Dispensary

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department announced today that Paradise Distro, LLC, a cannabis retailer in Albuquerque, has had its license revoked for selling out-of-state cannabis products. The retailer, located at 4615 Menaul Blvd. NE, was ordered to end public sales immediately after a <u>final decision and order</u> was sent.

"In the interest of public safety, the department is holding true to the intent of the Cannabis Regulation Act and taking action upon licensees that have violated the law," said New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department **Superintendent Linda Trujillo**. "This revocation should serve as a warning to those selling or receiving out-of-state cannabis products. Our compliance officers are ramping up inspections and we will work to remove bad actors from within the New Mexico cannabis industry."

Upon inspection of Paradise Distro, Cannabis Control Division compliance officers found numerous violations including: possessing, receiving, and selling cannabis products that were not native to New Mexico and were marked with California stampings; displaying products such as edibles and concentrates that were not properly documented on the required shipping manifests; and inaccurately reporting sales data, including more than \$56,000 in cash and \$8,338 in additional funds that were reported in the licensees third-party point-of-sale system but not in BioTrack, the state's required track and trace system.

Representatives of Paradise Distro did not attend the evidentiary hearing on April 27. The hearing officer overseeing this case found sufficient evidence of the violations identified by the Division and signed over the recommendation of revocation on June 30, 2023. This is first license revocation NMRLD has issued to a cannabis business. Reports have also been made to appropriate law enforcement and other regulatory state agencies.

To file a complaint against a cannabis business, please visit <u>rld.nm.gov/cannabis/report-a-violation</u>.

###

About NMRLD:

The New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department which houses the Cannabis Control Division, regulates more than 500,000 individuals and businesses in 35 industries,

professions, and trades across the state. Its goal is to assure that New Mexicans receive quality services from qualified individuals and businesses while also ensuring fair and prompt administrative process. To learn more visit rld.nm.gov.