BEFORE THE CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD STATE OF NEVADA

STATE OF NEVADA, CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD,

Case No. 2021-40

Petitioner.

VS.

NLVG, LLC,

Respondent.

STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR SETTLEMENT OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Cannabis Compliance Board (the "CCB"), by and through its counsel, Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General for the State of Nevada, L. Kristopher Rath, Esq., Senior Deputy Attorney General and Ashley A. Balducci, Esq., Senior Deputy Attorney General, hereby enters into this Stipulation and Order for Settlement of Disciplinary Action ("Stipulation and Order") with Respondent NLVG, LLC (hereinafter "NLVG" or "Respondent"), by and through its counsel of record, Derek Connor, Esq., of the Law Offices of Connor & Connor, PLLC. Pursuant to this Stipulation and Order, NLVG and CCB (collectively, the "Parties") hereby stipulate and agree that CCB Case No. 2021-40 (the "Administrative Action") shall be fully and finally settled and resolved upon terms and conditions set out herein.

PERTINENT FACTS

- 1. On July 27, 2021, CCB initiated this disciplinary action via the service and filing of a Complaint for Disciplinary Action (the "Complaint"). The Complaint alleges, inter alia, that, contrary to Nevada law, the NLVG medical and adult-use cannabis cultivation facility (C155 and RC155) failed to tag cannabis plants as required, failed to wash and sanitize cannabis product contact surfaces, allowed infestation by pests, improperly stored cannabis, and failed to maintain a required surveillance system.
 - 2. NLVG has not filed an Answer in the Administrative Action. Rather, NLVG

chose to engage in negotiations to resolve the matter prior to answering the Complaint.

- 3. The Parties have engaged in good faith negotiations to reach an agreement that is mutually acceptable to Respondent and counsel for the CCB for resolution of this matter, with the understanding that this Stipulation and Order must be approved by majority vote of the members of the CCB to become effective.
- 4. On or about September 13, 2021, the Parties agreed to a Stay of Proceedings pending negotiations, which was approved by the CCB Chair on or about September 14, 2021.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND APPLICABLE LAW

This Stipulation and Order is made and based upon the following acknowledgements by the Parties:

- 5. NLVG has entered into this Stipulation and Order on its own behalf and with full authority to resolve the claims against it and is aware of NLVG's rights to contest the violations pending against it. These rights include representation by an attorney at NLVG's own expense, the right to a hearing on any violations or allegations formally filed, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses called to testify against NLVG, the right to present evidence on NLVG's own behalf, the right to have witnesses testify on NLVG's behalf, the right to obtain any other type of formal judicial review of this matter, and any other rights which may be accorded to NLVG pursuant to provisions of NRS Chapters 678A through 678D, the Nevada Cannabis Compliance Regulations (NCCR), and any other provisions of Nevada law. NLVG is waiving all these rights by entering into this Stipulation and Order. If the CCB rejects this Stipulation and Order, or any portion thereof, NLVG reserves the right to withdraw any or all such waivers.
- 6. Should this Stipulation and Order be rejected by the CCB or not timely performed by NLVG, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration by the CCB of such proposed stipulation or other documents or matters pertaining to the consideration of this Stipulation and Order shall not unfairly or illegally prejudice the CCB or any of its members from further participation, consideration, adjudication, and/or resolution of these

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proceedings and that no CCB member shall be disqualified or challenged for bias.

- 7. NLVG acknowledges that this Stipulation and Order shall only become effective after the CCB has approved it.
- 8. NLVG enters this Stipulation and Order after being fully advised of NLVG's rights and as to the consequences of this Stipulation and Order. This Stipulation and Order embodies the entire agreement reached between the CCB and NLVG. It may not be altered, amended, or modified without the express written consent of the Parties and all alterations, amendments and/or modifications must be in writing.
- 9. In an effort to avoid the cost and uncertainty of a disciplinary hearing, NLVG has agreed to settle this matter. For purposes of settling this matter, NLVG acknowledges that the facts contained in the paragraphs in the above "Pertinent Facts" portion of this Stipulation and Order are true and correct. Without waiving any constitutional rights against self-incrimination, NLVG further acknowledges that certain facts contained in the CCB Complaint in Case No. 2021-40 could be found to constitute violations of Title 56 of NRS (NRS Chapters 678A through 678D), and the NCCR, with penalties up to and including suspension, and/or civil penalties of up to \$70,000 for C155 and RC155, if this matter proceeded to an administrative hearing.
- 10. In settling this matter the Executive Director for CCB and counsel for CCB have considered the factors set forth in NCCR 4.030(2), including: the gravity of the violations; the economic benefit or savings, if any, resulting from the violations; the size of the business of the violator; the history of compliance with the NCCR and Title 56 of NRS by the violator; actions taken to remedy and/or correct the violations; and the effect of the penalty on the ability of the violator to continue in business.
- 11. To resolve the Administrative Action, and only for those purposes and no other, NLVG specifically admits to the following violations with respect to the Complaint in CCB Case No. 2021-40 for certificate C155 and license RC155:
 - a. One violation of NCCR 4.040(1)(a)(14), for failing to maintain a required surveillance system, which constitutes one Category II

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violation.

- b. One violation of NCCR 4.050(1)(a)(4), for failing to tag plants as required, which constitutes one Category III violation.
- c. One violation of NCCR 4.055(1)(a)(8), by improperly storing cannabis or cannabis products, which is a Category IV violation.
- d. One violation of NCCR 4.055(1)(a)(11), by allowing infestation by pests, which is a second Category IV violation.
- 12. As to the remaining allegations in the Complaint, NLVG neither admits nor denies those allegations and no civil penalties shall be assessed as to the remaining violations.
- 13. With respect to C155 and RC155, NLVG further agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$48,0001 in consideration for its admitted violations in Paragraph 11, above, and in consideration of CCB's agreement to resolve the Administrative Action on the terms set forth herein. Said sum may be paid in installments, as set forth specifically in Paragraphs 18 through 19, below.
- If the CCB approves this Stipulation and Order, it shall be deemed and 14. considered disciplinary action by the CCB against NLVG.
- 15. Both parties acknowledge that the CCB has jurisdiction to consider and order this Stipulation and Order because NLVG holds privileged licenses/certificates regulated by the CCB as of July 1, 2020. NLVG expressly, knowingly, and intentionally waives the 21-day and/or 5 day notice requirements contained in the Nevada Open Meeting Law and acknowledges that this Stipulation and Order may be presented to the CCB for its consideration and potential ratification at the CCB's meeting on October 26, 2021.

¹ To be apportioned \$24,000 to C155 and \$24,000 to RC155.

Based upon the above acknowledgments of the Parties and their mutual agreement,

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the Parties stipulate and agree that the following terms of discipline shall be imposed by the CCB in this matter: 16. Violations: As to certificate C155 and license RC155, NLVG is found to have

- committed one Category II violation, one Category III violation, and two Category IV violations, as set forth in Paragraphs 11(a), 11(b), 11(c), and 11(d), above.
- Imposition of Civil Penalties. NLVG shall pay a total civil penalty in the 17. amount of forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000) within the time set forth in Paragraphs 18 and 19 below, to be apportioned as set forth in Paragraph 13, above.
- 18. Payment of Civil Penalties. NLVG must pay the civil penalty set forth in this agreement within the time frames set forth in this Paragraph and Paragraph 19. NLVG may pay the lump sum of \$48,000 in civil penalties within 30 days of the date the CCB approves this Stipulation and Order. In the alternative, NLVG may select to pay the civil penalties in five monthly installments of \$9,600.002 each month (the "Payment Plan Option"). Under the Payment Plan Option, NLVG must pay the first installment on the 15th calendar day of the month³ following the CCB meeting at which this Stipulation and Order is approved and then, thereafter, on the 15th day of each month4 for the next four months. For example, if this Stipulation and Order is approved at the October 26, 2021, CCB meeting, the payment of \$9,600 each month would be due as follows:

Monday, November 15, 2021	1st Installment
Wednesday, December 15, 2021	2 nd Installment
Tuesday, January 18, 2022	3 rd Installment
Tuesday, February 15, 2022	4 th Installment

² Said monthly payments shall be attributed \$4,800 to C155 and \$4,800 to RC155.

³ Payment must be physically received at the CCB's Carson City office no later than 5:00 p.m., Pacific Time, on the 15th day of the month on which it is due. If the 15th day of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday recognized by the State of Nevada, payment shall be due on the first following business day.

⁴ As set forth in footnote 3, above, if the 15th day of the months falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday recognized by the State of Nevada, payment shall be due on the first following business day.

NLVG may pay any installment prior to its due date.

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19. Penalties for Failure to Comply with Payment Plan Option. NLVG acknowledges that it is critical to comply with the strict requirements of the Payment Plan Option. NLVG agrees that, should it fail to timely make any installment payment the following penalties and procedures will be in effect:

- a. CCB will allow a five-business day grace period for late payment⁵.
- b. If payment is not physically received by CCB at its Carson City office by 5:00 p.m., Pacific Time, on the last day of the grace period, NLVG shall be deemed in default and deemed to have admitted all allegations in the CCB Complaint in Case No. 2021-40 and shall pay all penalties and receive all discipline set forth under the "Relief Requested" section of the Complaint, inclusive of a 20 day suspension of certificate C155 and license RC155 (effective on the date of the order of default) and civil penalties of \$70,000. The CCB will enter an order of default to this effect after default and all amounts due under this subsection shall be immediately due and payable to CCB. If all amounts set forth in this section are not paid within 20 days of the date of the order of default, Respondent's licenses and certificates shall remain suspended until payment is made in full. If all amounts due under this section are not paid within 90 days after the date of the order of default, certificate C155 and license RC155 shall be deemed voluntarily surrendered. NLVG agrees it cannot and will not file any petition for judicial review and/or any action in any forum for relief from this order of default and that CCB may file any judicial action necessary to recover the amounts owed under this subsection, along with its attorneys' fees and costs for

⁵ If a check or other form of payment is returned for insufficient funds, or otherwise rejected, the failed payment will not be considered a payment and no additional time beyond the five day grace period will be granted for payment.

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recovery of amounts owed.

- c. NLVG may petition the CCB for an extension of 30-days to pay any of the installments set forth in Paragraph 18. However, for the CCB to consider any such petition, the CCB must receive said petition no later than 5 business days prior to the installment deadline (which does not include any grace period). The CCB is not required to grant such a petition. In such a petition, NLVG must demonstrate to the satisfaction of CCB that there are extraordinary and unusual circumstances necessitating the extension requested. CCB may delegate the decision as to whether to grant such a petition to the CCB Chair.
- d. If an extension is granted under Paragraph 18(c), there shall be no grace period on the new payment date or dates. If NLVG does not pay by the new payment date or dates, the provisions and penalties of Paragraph 18(b) apply.
- 20. Plan of Correction. Respondent represents and warrants that it has submitted a plan of correction, which CCB staff has approved, that will remedy and prevent the recurrence of the violations set forth in this Stipulation and Order. In summary, the plan of correction includes the following: (1) NLVG has cleaned out the vault room and removed the shelf that was blocking the sole camera's view of that entire room; (2) NLVG has tagged all plants which should have been tagged and will continue to tag all plants over 8 inches high; (3) NLVG has gathered and properly destroyed the loose cannabis pieces found on the shelves of the packing room. It has also instructed its staff on the proper cleaning and destruction of cannabis waste in the packaging room on a daily basis; and (4) NLVG has instituted policies and procedures to remove all fly traps daily, weekly, and/or as needed, to maintain proper pest control, and has instructed all staff on proper pest control procedures. Respondent further represents and warrants that it is now, as of the date it has executed this Stipulation and Order, operating in full compliance with NRS Title 56 and NCCR.

- 21. Contingency if Approval Denied. If approval of this Stipulation and Order is denied by CCB, NLVG and counsel for the CCB agree to resume settlement negotiations in good faith and attempt to reach an agreement to amend this Stipulation and Order and resubmit an amended Stipulation and Order to the CCB to review for approval at its next regularly scheduled meeting. If such an agreement cannot be reached, the Parties agree to proceed with the Administrative Action, which shall include a disciplinary hearing before the CCB or its assigned hearing officer. NLVG shall file its answer to the Complaint no later than November 19, 2021. Should the Administrative Action proceed for the reasons set forth in this Paragraph, CCB preserves all its claims and arguments in the Administrative Action as set forth in its Complaint and NLVG preserves all its defenses and arguments set forth in its Answer (to be filed) and withdraws all waivers set forth herein. An unapproved Stipulation and Order shall not be admissible as evidence or referenced in argument at any disciplinary hearing in CCB Case No. 2021-40 or any other matter involving the CCB.
- 22. Contingency if Approval Conditioned. If the CCB approves this Stipulation and Order, but said approval is contingent on certain conditions, the parties will undertake further good faith negotiations to include said conditions in an amended stipulation and order for execution by the CCB Chair. If NLVG does not agree to the certain conditions imposed by the CCB, the parties will undertake additional negotiations and attempt to reach an agreement to amend this Stipulation and Order and resubmit an amended Stipulation and Order to the CCB to review for approval at its next regularly scheduled meeting. If such an agreement cannot be reached, the Parties agree to proceed with the Administrative Action, which shall include a disciplinary hearing before the CCB or its assigned hearing officer. NLVG shall file its answer to the Complaint no later than November 19, 2021. Should the Administrative Action proceed for the reasons set forth in this Paragraph, CCB preserves all its claims and arguments in the Administrative Action as set forth in its Complaint and NLVG preserves all its defenses and arguments asserted in its Answer (to be filed) and withdraws all waivers set forth herein. An unapproved

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Stipulation and Order shall not be admissible as evidence or referenced in argument at any disciplinary hearing in CCB Case No. 2021-40 or any other matter.

- 23. <u>Closure of Disciplinary Action</u>. Once this Stipulation and Order is fully performed by NLVG, the Administrative Action will be closed.
- 24. Communications with CCB Members. NLVG understands that this Stipulation and Order will be presented to the CCB in open session at a duly noticed and scheduled CCB meeting. NLVG understands that the CCB has the right to decide in its own discretion whether or not to approve this Stipulation and Order. The CCB's counsel, which is the Nevada Attorney General and its staff attorneys, will recommend approval of this Stipulation and Order. In the course of seeking CCB acceptance of this Stipulation and Order, counsel for CCB may communicate directly with individual CCB members. NLVG acknowledges that such communications may be made or conducted ex parte, without notice or opportunity for NLVG to be heard on its part until the public CCB meeting where this Stipulation and Order is discussed, and that such contacts and communications may include, but may not be limited to, matters concerning this Stipulation and Order, the Administrative Action, and any and all information of every nature whatsoever related to these matters. NLVG agrees that it has no objections to such ex parte communications. CCB agrees that NLVG and/or its counsel may appear at the CCB meeting where this Stipulation and Order is discussed and, if requested, respond to any questions that may be addressed to NLVG and/or the Attorney General's staff attorneys. NLVG agrees that, should the CCB decline to approve this Stipulation and Order, NLVG will not contest or otherwise object to any CCB member, and/or CCB appointed hearing officer, hearing and adjudicating the Administrative Action based on the aforementioned ex parte communications with anyone from the Nevada Attorney General's Office.
- 25. Release. In execution of this agreement, Respondent agrees that the State of Nevada, the CCB, the Office of the Attorney General, and each of their members, staff, attorneys, investigators, experts, hearing officers, consultants and agents are immune from any liability for any decision or action taken in good faith in response to information and

data acquired by the CCB. Respondent agrees to release the State of Nevada, the CCB, the Office of the Attorney General, and each of their members, staff, attorneys, investigators, experts, hearing officers, consultants and agents from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, known or unknown, in law or equity, that Respondent ever had, now has, may have or claim to have against any and/or all of the persons, government agencies or entities named in this Paragraph, arising out of, or by reason of, CCB's investigation of the matters set forth in its Complaint, the matters set forth in this Stipulation and Order, or the administration of CCB Case No. 2021-40.

26. No Precedence. The Parties agree that this Stipulation and Order shall not constitute a precedent for any other issues or proceedings before the CCB and/or in any other forum, other than those set forth in this Stipulation and Order. Furthermore, this Stipulation and Order shall not be admissible in any other proceeding or action with respect to proof of fact or any other matter and/or any other licensee and/or cannabis establishment registered agent, except proceedings brought to enforce this Stipulation and Order under its terms and/or for the CCB's consideration of future disciplinary action against this Respondent.

The CCB may consider the discipline imposed herein in any future disciplinary action against Respondent, as required under NCCR 4.030(2), along with the other factors set forth in NCCR 4.030(2), and possible progressive discipline pursuant to NCCR 4.035 through 4.060. As every case concerns different facts and details, this Stipulation does not act as precedence to bind CCB to impose any particular penalty, to charge or allege any particular violation, and/or to impose any particular disciplinary action in the future for this Respondent, or any other respondent, for violations of the same statutes and/or regulations addressed in this Stipulation and Order. Likewise, CCB is not bound by any previous settlement agreements it has approved in entering into this Stipulation and Order.

27. Attorneys' Fees and Costs. The Parties each agree to bear their own attorneys'

fees and costs.

- 28. <u>Further Assurances</u>. The Parties shall cooperate in executing such additional documents and performing such further acts as may be reasonably necessary to give effect to the purposes and provisions of this Stipulation and Order.
- 29. Voluntary and Informed Agreement. The Respondent represents that its owners, officers, and/or its directors, who are responsible for and able to legally bind NLVG have read completely and understand fully the terms of this Stipulation and Order, that such terms are fully understood and voluntarily accepted by Respondent in advance of and as memorialized by the signing of this Stipulation and Order, and that the Respondent's signature to this Stipulation and Order indicates same. Respondent further represents that it has voluntarily entered into this Stipulation and Order to make a full, final, and complete compromise upon the terms and conditions set forth herein. Respondent further represents that any releases, waivers, discharges, covenants, and agreements provided for in this Stipulation and Order have been knowingly and voluntarily granted and without any duress or undue influence of any nature from any person or entity. The Parties, and each of them, hereby expressly acknowledge that they are each represented by counsel of their own choice in this matter and have been advised by counsel accordingly.
- 30. Warranties of Authority. The Parties to this Stipulation and Order, and each of them, expressly warrant and represent to all other Parties that each has the full right, title, and authority to enter into and to carry out its obligations hereunder, with the sole exception of the required approval of this Stipulation and Order by the CCB. The Parties also expressly acknowledge the foregoing authority.
- 31. <u>Binding Effect</u>. This Stipulation and Order shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and the Parties' respective successors, predecessors, parents, affiliates, shareholders, employees, heirs, executors, assigns, and administrators.
- 32. <u>Construction</u>. The headings of all Sections and Paragraphs of this Stipulation and Order are inserted solely for the convenience of reference and are not a part of the Stipulation and Order and are not intended to govern, limit, or aid in the construction or

interpretation of any term or provision of this Stipulation and Order. In the event of a conflict between such caption and the paragraph at the head of which it appears, the paragraph and not such caption shall govern in the construction of this Stipulation and Order.

- 33. Governing Law. This Stipulation and Order shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada, without reference to conflict of law principles.
- 34. Jurisdiction and Forum Selection. The Parties consent to the jurisdiction of the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, in and for Clark County, to resolve any disputes related to the terms or enforcement of this Stipulation and Order. The successful or prevailing Party or Parties in such action shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees, costs, and expenses actually incurred in initiating or responding to such proceeding, in addition to any other relief to which it may be entitled.
- 35. Interpretation. This Stipulation and Order is the result of negotiations among the Parties who have each negotiated and reviewed its terms. In the event a Court ever construes this Agreement, the Parties expressly agree, consent, and assent that such Court shall not construe this Agreement or any provision hereof against any Party as its drafter for purposes of interpreting any ambiguity or uncertainty in this Stipulation and Order.
- 36. <u>Time is of the Essence</u>. Time is of the essence in the performance of all terms of this Stipulation and Order.
- 37. <u>Severability</u>. If any portion of this Stipulation and Order, or its application thereof to any person or circumstance, shall be deemed to any extent to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable as a matter of law, all remaining clauses of this Stipulation and Order and its application thereof shall be not affected and shall remain enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- 38. <u>Counterparts and Copies</u>. This Stipulation and Order may be executed in counterparts, each of which when so executed and upon delivery to counsel of record for the Parties shall be deemed an original ("<u>Counterparts</u>"). This Stipulation and Order shall be

deemed executed when Counterparts of this Stipulation and Order have been executed by all the Parties and/or their counsel; such Counterparts taken together shall be deemed to be the Agreement. This Stipulation and Order may be executed by signatures provided by electronic facsimile or email, which signatures shall be binding and effective as original wet ink signatures hereupon. All fully executed copies of this Stipulation and Order are duplicate originals, equally admissible in evidence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Stipulation and Order has been executed by the Parties and attested by their duly authorized representatives as of the date(s) so indicated.

The Effective Date of this Stipulation and Order shall be the date it is ordered by the CCB.

ı	The reflective Date of time Submation and Order	snan	be the date it is ordered
)ate: _	10/08/2021
ĺ	Derek Connor (Nev. Bar No. 12194)		
ŀ	Counsel for Respondent NLVG		
,	(printed name: Julity Woodward		10/00/0001
	Dodward D)ate: _	10/08/2021
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ľ	On behalf of Respondent NLVG		
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	LICS Roots	Date: _	10/8/2021
ĺ	L. Kristopher Rath (Nev. Bar No. 5749)		
	Ashley Balducci (Nev. Bar No. 12687)		
l	Senior Deputy Attorney General		
	Counsel for Cannabis Compliance Board		
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Tyler Klimas, Executive Director for the

Cannabis Compliance Board

ORDER WHEREAS, on 26th day of October, 2021, the Nevada Cannabis Compliance Board approved and adopted all the terms and conditions set forth in the Stipulation and Order for Settlement of Disciplinary Action with NLVG. IT IS SO ORDERED. SIGNED AND EFFECTIVE this 26 day of ______, 2021. STATE OF NEVADA, CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD MICHAEL L. DOUGLAS, CHAIR