BEFORE THE CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD 1 STATE OF NEVADA 2 STATE OF NEVADA, CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD, 3 Petitioner, Case No. 2022-58 4 5 vs. 6 FAITH COSBY, Respondent. 7 8 COMPLAINT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION 9 The Cannabis Compliance Board of the State of Nevada (the "CCB"), by and through 10 counsel, Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General of the State of Nevada Emily N. Bordelove, Esq., 11 Senior Deputy Attorney General and Ashley A. Balducci, Esq., Senior Deputy Attorney 12 General having a reasonable basis to believe that FAITH COSBY ("COSBY" or 13 "Respondent") has violated provisions of Chapters, 678A through 678D of the Nevada 14 Revised Statutes ("NRS"), and the Nevada Cannabis Compliance Regulations ("NCCR"), 15 hereby issues its Complaint, stating the CCB's charges and allegations as follows: 16 17 JURISDICTION COSBY currently holds the following cannabis establishment agent registration 18 1. 19 cards: Cannabis 20 **Expiration Date Application Date** ID No. Establishment 21 January 11, 2023 December 15, 2020 Dispensary 22 . COSBY executed an In COSBY's application for Agent Card 2. 23 "Applicant Dispense/Divert Pledge" Form pledging not to "dispense or divert marijuana 24 or marijuana products to unauthorized persons." (emphasis added). 25 As set forth below, the events at issue in this CCB Complaint occurred after July 3. 26 1, 2020, COSBY applied for COSBY's Agent Card on December 15, 2020, and 27 the CCB issued the agent card to COSBY. Therefore, COSBY is subject to the jurisdiction 28 Page 1 of 6

 2

4. Pursuant to NRS 678A.500 and 678A.510(1), the CCB's Executive Director has transmitted the details of the suspected violations of COSBY to the Attorney General, and the Attorney General conducted an investigation of the suspected violations to determine whether they warrant proceedings for disciplinary action. The Attorney General has recommended to the Executive Director that further proceedings are warranted, as set forth in this CCB Complaint. The CCB has authorized proceeding with disciplinary action against COSBY, pursuant to NRS 678A.510(2)(b). Pursuant to NRS 678A.520(1), the CCB's Executive Director has authorized service of this Complaint upon COSBY.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 5. The CCB incorporates all prior Paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- 6. On or about April 28, 2021, Essence Tropicana, LLC ("ETL") dispensary transmitted a Cannabis Establishment ("CE") Incident Report to the CCB, identifying incidents of an underage individual purchasing and attempting to purchase cannabis at its dispensary located on 7260 South Rainbow Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada 89118.
- 7. According to the CE Incident Report, on or about April 15, 2021, an underage individual attempted to make a purchase at its dispensary, and her identification card did not successfully scan. At that time, ETL discovered that the individual was under 21 years of age, and ETL escorted her from its premises. ETL initiated an investigation and found that this same underage individual completed prior purchases at its adult-use dispensary. ETL reported that it had terminated the ETL employees who allowed these sales.
- 8. On or about April 29, 2021, the CCB's Chief of Audits and Inspections Karalin Cronkhite ("Chief Cronkhite") investigated the CE Incident Report. During Chief Cronkhite's investigation, she discovered that ETL hired COSBY to work as a Guest Consultant stationed at reception to verify guests' identification cards by utilizing the

¹ Specifically, the individual was twenty (20) years ten (10 months, and fourteen (14) days old.

VeriScan scanning device. ETL reported that, on or about April 15, 2021, video surveillance footage showed COSBY scanning the underage individual's identification card in VeriScan and, upon information and belief, that COSBY ignored the VeriScan notification that the individual was underage. COSBY proceeded to allow the underage individual to enter the cannabis dispensary.

9. ETL subsequently settled with the CCB regarding its role in these sales and attempted sale as reflected in the settlement agreement filed in Case No. 2021-50

VIOLATIONS OF LAW

- 10. The CCB incorporates all prior Paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.
- Agent Card, COSBY's actions as described in Paragraph 8 violated NCCR 4.040(1)(a)(3). Specifically, on or about April 15, 2021, COSBY scanned an underage individual's identification card in VeriScan, and upon information and belief, COSBY ignored the VeriScan notification that the individual was underage. Thereby COSBY failed to verify the age of a person less than 21 years of age using the VeriScan system or independent from the VeriScan system. Accordingly, COSBY's actions, as described in Paragraph 8 and this Paragraph, constitute one (1) Category II violation under NCCR 4.040(2)(a)(2), carrying a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000, and a suspension of COSBY's Agent Card for not more than twenty (20) days.
- 12. In the alternative, COSBY's actions, as described in Paragraphs 8 & 11, violated NCCR 4.040(1)(a)(4) by allowing a person who is less than 21 years of age to enter or remain in a cannabis establishment. Such a violation constitutes one (1) Category II violation under NCCR 4.040(2)(a)(2), carrying a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000 and a suspension of COSBY's Agent Card for not more than twenty (20) days. In an additional alternative, COSBY's actions, as described in Paragraphs 8 & 11, violated NCCR 4.050(1)(a)(7), by allowing activity which violates the laws of this State. Specifically, COSBY allowed an underaged individual to enter a cannabis dispensary. Such a violation constitutes one (1) Category III violation under NCCR 4.050(2)(a)(1) and carries a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000.

3

4

5 6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

1415

16

1718

19

2021

2223

2425

26

27

28

DISCIPLINE AUTHORIZED

Pursuant to the provisions of NRS 678A.600, NCCR 4.020, 4.030, 4.035 through 4.060, and 5.100, the CCB has the discretion to impose the following disciplinary actions:

- 1. Suspend COSBY's Agent Card; and
- 2. Impose a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000 for each separate violation of NRS
 Title 56 and the NCCR on COSBY's Agent Card; and
 - 3. Take such other disciplinary action as the CCB deems appropriate.

The CCB may order one or any combination of the discipline described above.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Based on the foregoing, counsel for the CCB respectfully requests the CCB impose the penalty of a twenty (20) day suspension for COSBY's Agent Card; and impose civil penalties against COSBY in the amount of \$25,000.

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that Respondent has a right to request a hearing on the charges set forth herein, pursuant to NRS 678A.510 through 678A.590. Failure to demand a hearing constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing and to judicial review of any decision or order of the Board, but the Board may order a hearing, even if the Respondent so waives its right. NRS 678A.520(2)(e).

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, you, as the Respondent, must Answer this Complaint within twenty (20) days after service of this Complaint, unless granted an extension. Pursuant to NRS 678A.520(2), in the Answer Respondent:

- (a) Must state in short and plain terms the defenses to each claim asserted.
- (b) Must admit or deny the facts alleged in the Complaint.
- (c) Must state which allegations the Respondent is without knowledge or information to form a belief as to their truth. Such allegations shall be deemed denied.
- (d) Must affirmatively set forth any matter which constitutes an avoidance or affirmative defense.
 - (e) May demand a hearing. Failure to demand a hearing constitutes a waiver of the

right to a hearing and to judicial review of any decision or order of the Board, but the Board may order a hearing even if the Respondent so waives its right.

Failure to Answer or to appear at the hearing constitutes an admission by the Respondent of all facts alleged in the Complaint. The Board may take action based on such an admission and on other evidence without further notice to the Respondent. NRS 678A.520(3).

The Board shall determine the time and place of the hearing as soon as is reasonably practical after receiving the Respondent's Answer. The Board may assign a hearing officer to conduct the hearing under NCCR 2.070, 4.095, and 4.110. The Board or its assigned hearing officer shall deliver or send by registered or certified mail a notice of hearing to all parties at least ten (10) days before the hearing. The hearing must be held within forty-five (45) days after receiving Respondent's Answer unless an expedited hearing is determined to be appropriate by the Board, in which event the hearing must be held as soon as practicable. NRS 678A.520(4). The Chair of the Board or the assigned hearing officer may grant one or more extensions to the forty-five (45) day requirement pursuant to the request of a party or an agreement by both parties.

Respondent's Answer and Request for Hearing must be either: mailed via registered mail, return receipt; or emailed to:

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director Cannabis Compliance Board 700 E. Warm Springs Rd, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89119 tklimas@ccb.nv.gov

If serving its Answer and Request for Hearing via email, Respondent must ensure that it receives an acknowledgement of receipt email from the CCB as proof of service. Respondent is also requested to email a copy of its Answer and Request for Hearing to the Senior Deputy Attorneys General listed below at abalducci@ag.nv.gov and ebordelove@ag.nv.gov.

As the Respondent, you are specifically informed that you have the right to appear and be heard in your defense, either personally or through your counsel of choice at your

own expense. At the hearing, the CCB has the burden of proving the allegations in the Complaint. The CCB will call witnesses and present evidence against you. You have the right to respond and to present relevant evidence and argument on all issues involved. You have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, and cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues involved.

You have the right to request that the CCB issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify and/or evidence to be offered on your behalf. In making this request, you may be required to demonstrate the relevance of the witness's testimony and/or evidence.

If the Respondent does not wish to dispute the charges and allegations set forth herein, within thirty (30) days of the service of this Complaint, Respondent may pay the civil penalties set forth above in the total amount of \$ 25,000 and surrender Agent Card

on notice to:

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director Cannabis Compliance Board 700 E. Warm Springs Rd, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89119

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to immediately cease the activity described above which is a violation of Nevada law.

DATED: February 15. 2022.

STATE OF NEVADA CANNABIS COMPLIANCE BOARD

By:

Tyler Klimas, Executive Director Nevada Cannabis Compliance Board 700 E. Warm Springs Rd, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89119 (775) 687-6299

AARON D. FORD Attorney General

By:

Emily N. Bordelove (Bar No. 13202) Senior Deputy Attorney General Ashley A. Balducci (Bar No. 12687) Senior Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for the Cannabis Compliance Board

Certified Mail: 7014 2870 0001 8497 8512

1 27

28

DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF

2	(Service via Mail)
3	I, Amber Virkler, hereby certify and affirm that:
4	1. I am over the age of 18 years old.
5	2. I am a Board Agent of the Cannabis Compliance Board ("CCB"), as defined in NCR
6	1.068.
7	3. Pursuant to NRS 678A.520 and NCCR 4.075, I have served the Respondent herein with
8	the Complaint for Disciplinary Action ("Complaint") in the above captioned matter as
9	follows:
0	By placing a true and correct copy of the Complaint to be deposited for mailing in
.1	the United States Mail in a sealed envelope via registered or certified mail, prepaid
2	in Las Vegas, Nevada, to Respondent's point of contact with the CCB under NCCR
.3	2.050 at Respondent's address on file with the Board as follow:
4	Name of point of contact served: Faith Cosby
5	Address on file with CCB:
6	Date of Service: February 28, 2022
$\lfloor 7 \mid$	I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
.8	Executed on February 28, 2022
9	(date) (signature)
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
$_{26}$	