

Nunez, Guille

From: martin117a@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:06 PM
To: Terry Tornek; Tyrone Hampton; Margaret McAustin; John J. Kennedy; Gene Masuda; Victor Gordo; Madison, Steve; Andy Wilson
Cc: Mermell, Steve; Reyes, David
Subject: false statements from city staff to you and the public
Attachments: 20-Letter-from-Harvest-7.10.19.pdf; mermell report to council.mp4

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City Council:

On Monday, July 15 the City Manager reported the following to you and the public:

“Every communication that we have received and all of our responses to those communications have all been posted publically on our cannabis webpage.” (see attached video excerpt)

In fact, this statement was false.

The City Manager had received correspondence from Harvest on July 10 (see attached) and withheld that document until today (July 17) and it was posted on the City’s website only after I had issued a public records act request for it.

As you may know, there is a substantial ongoing controversy over the applications submitted by Harvest and city staff’s processing of that application.

As you now certainly know, city staff is not telling you the truth regarding what the process is and what is happening.

HARVEST

July 10, 2019

By email only: smermell@cityofpasadena.net

Mr. Steve Mermell, City Manager
City of Pasadena
100 North Garfield Avenue, Room S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

Re: Inquiries Regarding Harvest and the City's Release of Material Non-Public Information

Mr. Mermell,

Thank you for your letter dated June 25, 2019, identifying a few letters that the City has received during the cannabis permit screening process, and copies of the City's responses. To date, we have been appreciative of the professionalism and impartiality the City has exhibited during this competitive screening process.

At this time, we are solely focused on moving forward with the processing of our application, and subsequently opening for business in the great City of Pasadena. It is unnecessary and inappropriate to engage in mud-slinging against competitors. Accordingly, we will not respond to these negative attacks by our competitors who were unsuccessful in the screening.

We were confident that our correspondence with the City would be the only relevant information that would be made public. We assumed the City would see any requests made by others, demanding that the City make any single C.U.P. Application available to the public, as a material event.

We are proud to have a very talented team that worked very hard to collectively complete and submit our application. Accordingly, any release of our submitted application reveals non-public, proprietary, private financial details, and trade secrets.

Sincerely,



Steve White
CEO

cc: Brad Franklin, Harvest
Nicole Stanton, Harvest
Ben Kimbro, Harvest
Michael Gonzales, Gonzales Law Group
Patrick Perry, Allen Matkins
Geoffrey Etnire, Esq., Venable