



July 9, 2019

Arlo Stockham
Reno City Hall
PO Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505

Dear Mr. Stockham,

On behalf of The Empowerment Center (TEC), we are writing to ask for your assistance and support in opposing the licensing of the Thrive Dispensary at 7300 S. Virginia Street. TEC, a residential substance abuse treatment center for women. TEC is directly next door to the proposed dispensary; our buildings are less than 15' apart. We believe the establishment of a cannabis dispensary would undermine the sobriety of a vulnerable population of women who reside next door at our facility.

TEC has been serving women in recovery from substance abuse for over 14 years. It is the only state licensed halfway house in northern Nevada. There are numerous licensed halfway houses in southern Nevada, but none offers the extent of support services found at The Empowerment Center. When clients are admitted to the center, they are often in very early recovery with little time being substance free. They are in their most vulnerable time, some still deciding if change is needed or desired.

We are sure you can imagine how concerned we are that a cannabis dispensary is attempting to establish itself just 15 feet from our well-established treatment center. For most, if not all clients, a dispensary will be a major trigger and may compromise their success in the program, their sobriety, and jeopardize the work they have already accomplished. Something as simple as the smell that extends past a typical dispensary in Reno could be too much to bear for an individual recently in recovery.

I ask that you stand with us and put a stop to the licensing for this dispensary for the sake of our clients.

If you are in support of recovery and desire to make a difference in our community, please take this opportunity to take a stand. Furthermore, I would like to seek a new city ordinance that prohibits dispensaries from establishing within a 600-foot radius of any treatment center or halfway house.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cameron Duncan DNP, MS, APRN, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC
Board of Directors Member

Roxanne DeCarlo
Executive Director