

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
Van Ness ▪ North Cleveland Park ▪ Wakefield ▪ Forest Hills ▪ Chevy Chase

3F01 – Amy Rofman, Secretary
3F02 – Sue Guzman, Treasurer
3F03 – Mitchell Baer, Vice Chair
3F04 – Claudette David
3F05 – Adrian Iglesias
3F06 – Courtney Carlson, Chair



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PROTEST RESOLUTION OPPOSING CANNAART, A CANNABIS RETAIL LOCATION AT 5008 CONNECTICUT AVENUE

WHEREAS, CannaArt LLC (ABCA-130807) has applied for a medical cannabis license at 5008 Connecticut Avenue, NW, a busy commercial strip containing restaurants, a bookstore, and a bank--businesses which are frequented by neighborhood residents of all ages;

WHEREAS, the ANC notified District agencies, including the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), ABCA, and others, regarding potential illegal cannabis trafficking associated with CannaArt;

WHEREAS, Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration (ABCA) issued a Warning Letter dated August 6, 2024, to CannaArt regarding illegal cannabis operations at 5008 Connecticut Avenue;

WHEREAS, the ABCA Warning Letter specifically identifies observed unlicensed and illegal cannabis operations in violation of Chapter 16B of Title 7 of the D.C. Official Code and D.C. Official Code §48-904.01;

WHEREAS, the ABCA Supervisory Investigator observed the following unauthorized and illegal activities (as indicated by checked boxes in the Warning Letter):

- Illegally selling cannabis or offering to sell or distribute cannabis without a valid license;
- Engaging in the sale or distribution of cannabis at a location not authorized by a valid license;

WHEREAS, at the time of this enforcement action ABCA employed only one enforcement agent which limited the agency's ability to respond to reports of illegal activity;

WHEREAS, granting a license to entities with a documented history of illegal operation could be interpreted as condoning past illicit activity, and thereby possibly encourage future violations;

WHEREAS, the operation of an illegal cannabis business and the Agency's lack of enforcement agents undermines the legal cannabis framework established by the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, Mr. Green, a legal medical cannabis business approximately 1100 yards from 5008 Connecticut Avenue and also in ANC 3F, set the responsible precedent of working within the legal cannabis framework and in cooperation with the ANC, to negotiate a settlement agreement prior to opening;

WHEREAS, a settlement agreement necessitates good faith and adherence from all parties;

WHEREAS, CannaArt has already demonstrated a disregard for the laws of the City and this neighborhood;

WHEREAS, this ANC has a responsibility to represent the interests of its residents and ensure a safe and orderly community;

WHEREAS, hundreds of students commute daily from Murch Elementary, Alice Deal Middle School and Jackson-Reed High School at Connecticut Avenue and Fessenden Street, a busy corner approximately 100 feet from CannaArt;

WHEREAS, that intersection is identified as a DDOT designated “Safe Route to School” and includes the positioning of a DDOT employed crossing guard due to both the number of students crossing and the traffic volume on this major commuting corridor;

THEREFORE the ANC has reason for concern that “..school-aged children..in proximity to the medical cannabis retailer will be unduly attracted to the retailer while present at, or going to or from, the daycare center [schools].”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3F strongly protests the establishment of a cannabis retail location at 5008 Connecticut Avenue or any location operated by CannaArt within our ANC boundaries due to:

- a. the documented history of illegal cannabis operations.
- b. school-aged children frequenting the daycare center or centers [public schools listed above] in proximity to the medical cannabis retailer who will be unduly attracted to the retailer while present at, or going to or from, the daycare center [schools].
- c. Pedestrian safety
- d. Adverse impact on peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 3F requests that the ABCA provide this ANC with further updates on the status of their investigation and enforcement actions related to this applicant including an overdue FOIA request, and the ANC can amend this protest upon receipt of additional information.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 3F Commissioners Courtney Carlson (3F06@anc.dc.gov) and Sue Guzman (3F02@anc.dc.gov) are authorized to speak on behalf of the Commission on this matter.

ANC 3F ***approved*** this resolution at its meeting on May 20, 2025 which was properly noticed and at which a quorum of 4 Commissioners were present, in a ***unanimous vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 absent.***



Courtney Carlson
Chair, ANC 3F

