# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Office of Medical Marijuana Use

# Low-THC Cannabis & Medical Marijuana

Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida Celeste Philip, MD, MPH, Surgeon General and Secretary

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# WEEKLY UPDATE – January 12, 2018

The Florida Department of Health's (DOH) top priority is the health and safety of Florida's families. Through the DOH Office of Medical Marijuana Use (OMMU), we are working diligently every day to implement the many requirements in Amendment 2 and those set by the Florida Legislature in Senate Bill 8A and are dedicated to ensuring patients have safe access to low-THC cannabis and medical marijuana. We remain committed to moving this process forward, and will do so in an expedient and thoughtful manner. To keep the public informed of the latest updates, DOH will issue a weekly update on this issue.

#### OMMU by the Numbers

Patients in the Registry: 67,385*	Processing Time for Complete Paper Application: 30 days
Qualified Physicians: 916	<b>Processing Time for Complete Online Application:</b> 20 days
Approved Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers: 13	Approved ID Card Applications: 45,204 *
Approved Retail Dispensing Locations: 25	Applications in Processing: 3,500

#### Implementation Updates

- Low-THC cannabis and medical marijuana has been and continues to be available for qualified patients. Patients may search for qualified ordering physicians using the new search tool on the OMMU Patients Page. Patients and caregivers may fill their orders at any of the 25 dispensing locations, or via delivery from approved MMTCs below.
- On Monday, January 8, the call center officially transitioned to the third party vendor. With that transition, the phone number changed to a toll-free number 800-808-9580. The call center is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding state holidays.
- During the 2017 Special Legislative Session, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 8-A which included many changes to creating physician certifications for qualifying patients. Updates have been made to the Medical Marijuana Use Registry as required by 381.986, F.S. Updated user

\*Note, not all patients entered into the medical marijuana use registry apply for medical marijuana use identification cards.

guides are available at: <u>http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/office-of-medical-marijuana-use/medical-marijuana-use-registry/index.html</u>

- On January 3, 2018, the Florida Medical Association and Florida Osteopathic Medical Association issued an updated 2-credit course titled Florida Medical Marijuana Course for MMTC Medical Directors. This course addresses the current laws and rules that govern Medical Directors for Florida Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (MMTCs). Allopathic and Osteopathic physicians who choose to serve in this capacity are required to complete this course and pass the post-test during each licensure term.
- DOH has created a new OMMU site for physicians. The site offers many resources for physicians who are authorized to order low-THC cannabis and medical marijuana in Florida. The site is located at <u>www.flhealthsource.gov/ommu</u>

Name	Dispensing Locations
Trulieve	Tallahassee, Tampa, Clearwater, Pensacola, Miami, Edgewater, Lady
	Lake, Jacksonville, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Bradenton, Fort Myers,
	Gainesville, delivery
Surterra Therapeutics	Pensacola, Tallahassee, Tampa, North Port, delivery
Curaleaf	Miami, Kendall, delivery
Knox Medical	Tallahassee, Gainesville, Orlando, Jacksonville, Lake Worth, St.
	Petersburg, delivery
Aphria	Dispensing via delivery
The Green Solution	Dispensing via delivery
GrowHealthy	Dispensing via delivery
3 Boys Farm	Cultivation Authorization only
Loop's Nursery & Greenhouses, Inc.	Cultivation Authorization only
Plants of Ruskin, Inc.	Cultivation Authorization only
Sunbulb Company, Inc.	Cultivation Authorization only
Treadwell Nursery	Cultivation Authorization only
Keith St. Germain Nursery Farms	N/A

#### Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers

### Legal Updates

The implementation of Amendment 2 and Senate Bill 8A continues to be frequently litigated. While some of these lawsuits have little impact on our progress, others – particularly those regarding the constitutionality of the law we are tasked with executing – have significant impact on DOH's ability to implement certain requirements of Senate Bill 8A.

Home Grow	Redner v. DOH, et. al., 13th Judicial Circuit Case No. 17-CA-5677 Hearing took place December 20, 2017 and we await ruling.
Smoking Ban	People United for Medical Marijuana v. DOH, et. al., 2d Judicial Circuit Case No. 2017-CA-1394 <i>Hearing has been set for January 25, 2018.</i>
Constitutionality of Black Farmers Provision	Smith v. DOH, 2d Judicial Circuit Case No. 2017–CA-001972 Hearing took place on December 28, 2017. Judge Dodson granted the
381.986(8)(a)2 F.S.	injunction.

Constitutionality of Citrus Farmers Provision 381.986(8)(a)3 F.S.	Tropiflora, LLC v. DOH, 2d Judicial Circuit Case No. 2016-CA-1330 Awaiting injunction hearing to be scheduled.
Application Process	Bill's Nursery, Inc. v. DOH, 2d Judicial Circuit Case No. 2017-CA-002411 Motion to consolidate with Smith v. DOH was filed on January 10, 2017.
MMTC Licensure	Nature's Way v. DOH Case No. 17-5801
Constitutionality of Rules	Florigrown LLC v. DOH Case No. 2017-CA-002549

## **General Background Information**

**Medical Marijuana ID Card Application Process:** Once a patient has been diagnosed by a qualified ordering physician and entered into the Medical Marijuana Use Registry, they can <u>immediately</u> begin the identification card application process. The department encourages applicants to complete the process online as this decreases processing time. Patients receive an email from OMMU once their email is added to the registry by their qualified ordering physician which directs them to the application. Once an application is reviewed and approved, patients receive an approval email which can be used to fill an order at an approved MMTC while they await their physical card.

**Medical Marijuana Use Registry:** All orders for medical marijuana are recorded and dispensed via the Medical Marijuana Use Registry. The Medical Marijuana Use Registry is accessible online, with real time information to ordering physicians, law enforcement and medical marijuana treatment center staff. Patients and caregivers may also access the Medical Marijuana Use Registry to submit a Medical Marijuana Use Registry Identification Card application, and check the status of their application.

**Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers:** Approved medical marijuana treatment centers are the only businesses allowed to grow, process, or sell medical marijuana in Florida. Each medical marijuana treatment center must receive authorization at three stages, (1) cultivation authorization, (2) processing authorization, and (3) dispensing authorization, prior to dispensing low-THC cannabis or medical marijuana. Medical marijuana cannot be mailed.

For more information visit <u>www.flhealth.gov/ommu</u>