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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

Marijuana Alert - May 12, 2022



POT-SHOP MEETING GETS CONTENTIOUS

River North's plan relies on a permit scored by a white businessman with an old weed arrest

A clout-heavy pot firm's bid to open a dispensary at the site of the old Rainforest Cafe now hinges on its partnership with a startup led by the white chief executive of a major moving company who scored a social equity license based on a decades-old weed arrest.

Those details emerged during a contentious community meeting Tuesday night at Maggiano's Banquets in River North, where residents and advocates peppered officials from the two companies with questions about safety and security, the close proximity to multiple existing pot shops and their social equity bonafides.

"Between the casino discussions and four dispensaries in the neighborhood, you don't have to project too far to understand what the future looks," one resident said derisively after the meeting, which another described as a "trainwreck." [Read](#)

Lawsuit challenges Detroit's recreational marijuana ordinance

A Michigan marijuana company filed a lawsuit against the City of Detroit Wednesday to allow existing medical dispensaries to also receive recreational licenses, yet another potential setback in getting the recreational cannabis industry up and running in the city.

If the city follows the current ordinance, medical facilities would not be given a shot at getting a recreational license until 2027, when the medical businesses would have likely already closed their doors from lack of sales, the plaintiffs say. They're asking the court to intervene and stop Detroit from prohibiting dispensaries that sell both medical and recreational cannabis. [Read](#)

Walgreens, Fla. settle opioid suit for \$683M

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. — The Walgreens pharmacy chain has reached a \$683 million settlement with the state of Florida in a lawsuit

accusing the company of improperly dispensing millions of painkillers that contributed to the opioid crisis, state officials said Thursday. State Attorney General Ashley Moody said the deal was struck after four weeks of government evidence was presented at trial. Walgreens was the 12th and final defendant to settle with Florida, which will bring in more than \$3 billion for the state to tackle opioid addiction and overdoses. [Read](#)

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