

Santa Ysabel Tribal Cannabis Regulatory Agency

Press Release

March 5, 2019

Mountain Source Cannabis Dispensary

On February 18th, 2019, the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, a federally recognized American Indian Tribe located in eastern San Diego County, opened the Mountain Source Cannabis Dispensary on the Nation's Tribal lands. The Mountain Source Dispensary is the most recent success of the Nation's industry leading cannabis enterprise, which also includes the Santa Ysabel Botanical Facility, a campus that provides a highly regulated and environmentally safe space for legal cannabis businesses to cultivate, manufacture, and produce top-quality, laboratory-tested, consumer-safe cannabis products for California recreational and medicinal cannabis users.

The Nation's commercial cannabis activity is conducted and regulated pursuant to the Santa Ysabel Cannabis Enterprise Code, ratified by the Nation's General Membership in August of 2015. The Code created the Santa Ysabel Tribal Cannabis Regulatory Agency (TCRA), a division of the Nation's Tribal government, to ensure legal and regulatory compliance of all cannabis activity permitted on the Nation's Tribal lands. The Nation's Cannabis Enterprise Code and accompanying regulations closely mirror state cannabis statutes, but in some respects are more stringent than state law. For example, Santa Ysabel was the first government in California to enforce mandatory laboratory testing regulations, pesticide controls, water conservation standards, environmental protections, suitability background investigations for cannabis licensees, and required seed-to-sale tracking systems for legal cannabis enterprises operating on the Nation's Tribal lands.

The Mountain Source Dispensary was opened in response to the State of California's refusal to recognize Santa Ysabel's regulatory authority after the State denied TCRA-licensed cannabis enterprise operators access to the California cannabis market. The State's position both offends notions of comity and ignores the Nation's example as an industry leader in cannabis regulation. The Mountain Source Dispensary is no exception to the Nation's innovative and comprehensive regulatory oversight, which only sells the highest quality cannabis products to consumers, all of which is cultivated, processed and laboratory-tested under the strict oversight of the TCRA on the Nation's Tribal lands. The TCRA requires more sophisticated surveillance at the Mountain Source Dispensary than the state requires of California retailers, enforces stricter consumption and security provisions, and has a 24-hour on-site presence. You can learn more about the Iipay Nation TCRA regulations and guidelines for cannabis purchases at the dispensary are available at <https://sytcra.com>.

The Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel is a member of the California Native American Cannabis Association (CNACA), a consortium of 23 California tribes dedicated to tribal advocacy and professional standards in the conduct of cannabis enterprise operations. More information concerning CNACA can be found at the Association's website at <https://cnaca.us>.

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