

Date: 5/21/2021

To:

RE: Fresno cannabis application process.

Hello,

I am an applicant for a cannabis retail permit as Fresno Compassion Association. I'm writing to you today in hopes of bringing awareness to an issue.

After doing research into the applications submitted to Cannabis Oversight, I noticed that World Series Champion Matt Garza has applied for 2 retail Social Equity and 1 Microbusiness Social Equity permits. Recently, Matt Garza's picture was in a GV Wire article showing off his brands and how he started doing philanthropy. No mention of the social equity people he is using on his applications.

On their separate 3 applications for social equity permits, Former NBA player Al Harrington with his team of millionaires state that their *"owners are involved in cultivating, processing and dispensing high quality cannabis in six states. Members of our Fresno team have pending cannabis applications in Illinois, New Jersey and Virginia."*

To qualify under social equity criteria they were able to use a "front person" that qualifies as social equity and submitted their applications under their name. This is not in the spirit of social equity. This is a heist of a cannabis permit that belongs to someone local that has worked years for it.

When these athletes were enjoying professional sports careers, people like me were in court battles with cities like Fresno over the ability to operate a cannabis business, and then later advocated for change of laws and regulations in Fresno and throughout the state.

As you know, Fresno has 2 application procedures. 1 for standard and 1 for Social Equity. These millionaire "social equity applicants" should be disqualified from being able to participate in the social equity application process. They can apply for the standard process and pay the \$7,500 application fee like everyone else did, instead of finding ways to avoid paying that bill too.

Although what they are doing is not illegal, they clearly do not meet the intent of social equity. They are attempting to use their celebrity status to take that away from those of us who have been working on this issue in our community.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

George Boyadjian
(559) 917-5336