

de la Guerra, Sheila

Public Comment



A-7

From: Wesley Kern <wkern@improveone.com>
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 4:04 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment - July 11, 2023 - A7

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My name is Wesley Kern and I represent approximately 100 acres of licensed cannabis cultivation in Santa Barbara County.

In regard to the proposed amendment to Chapter 50, I offer the following public comment in advance of the meeting:

First I want to say, perhaps counter to some of my peers, that I fully support the Board of Supervisors in strict collection of tax filings and payments. I respect the challenges that the County has faced and our organizations are prompt filers and payers ... although we do cut things close to the wire, which leads to my comment. In addition to being CFO for the operators, I sit on a non-cannabis public company Board and am on the audit committee. As a public company filer, we have 40 days to file our 10-Q and 60 days to file our 10-K. I believe that holding much smaller and less sophisticated companies to a higher standard than the SEC holds a publicly traded company, 30 days for **both filing and payment**, is an unreasonable position to take, especially when enacting changes with severe penalty. I would ask that you consider with your heightened enforcement, an extension of the deadline to 60 days.

My comment is not only a request for a reasonable reporting standard, but also goes to the public good and efficiency within the office of the County Tax Collector. With such a tight window of 30 days and the potential for losing ones business license on non-compliance, one can reasonably envision timely filings that are estimates (best efforts), followed by frequent if not quarterly amended filings given proper time to close books and confirm the tax liability. This strikes me as ensuring significant increase in workload (2X) on the part of the County, which could be avoided with a more reasonable reporting window.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Respectfully,

Wesley Kern