

# **COMPLIANCE ALERT**

### **JANUARY 2025**

# **Inclement Weather & Delivery Interruption**

### **Division of Cannabis Regulation**

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### **Compliance Issue**

The purpose of this notice is to inform all cannabis business entities under the authority of Illinois Department of Agriculture of transportation regulations and policies applicable to transporters operating in inclement weather, or when a delivery is interrupted by an accident, medical emergency, or vehicle failure.

## **Regulatory Authority and Policies**

In January 2020, the Illinois Department of Agriculture (the Department) filed emergency rules for the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (CRTA), (410 ILCS 705/et seq). The emergency rules for the Act appeared in the <u>January 17, 2020 Illinois Register</u>. The Department then filed the proposed rules, which appeared in the <u>March 13, 2020 Illinois Register</u>. Notice appeared in the <u>June 19, 2020 Illinois Register</u> that the rules had been adopted, effective June 3, 2020.

#### **SUBPART F: TRANSPORTERS**

Section 1300.595 Operations

- o Transportation of Cannabis Containers Daily Inventory
  - Once the transporter receives a cannabis container, it must create a daily inventory.
- A transporter agent shall not open a cannabis container. Once a cannabis container is packed and sealed for delivery, only the following may open a cannabis container:
  - A. The cannabis business establishment that initiated a request to ship;
  - B. The cannabis business establishment intended for delivery;
  - C. Local, State or federal law enforcement; or
  - D. An employee of DFPR or the Department.
- A copy of the transporter's registration and a manifest for the delivery shall be present in any vehicle transporting cannabis. [410 ILCS 705/40-25(k)]
- O Cannabis must be transported in a cannabis container. The cannabis container must be transported in an enclosed, locked storage compartment that is secured or affixed to the vehicle. [410 ILCS 705/40-25(n)]
- O All vehicles transporting cannabis must be equipped with a Global Positioning System (GPS) based tracking device. The GPS tracking device shall be capable of allowing the transporter to track the vehicles at all times. The GPS tracking system shall also be able to store historic data (for no less than 12 months) and shall permit the Department to search all real-time and archived data upon request.
- o Transporters are subject to random inspections by the Department, DPH, and ISP. [410 ILCS 705/40-25(d)]
- There is no prohibition on a licensed transporter from making pickups and deliveries from and to multiple cannabis business establishments as long as all other requirements are met.
  - For example: A transporter may make pick up deliveries at Cultivation Center A then Craft Grower B then Craft Grower C and then drop off deliveries at Dispensary A, B and C.
  - Shipments must be properly packed in a cannabis container with an attached product manifest. If the transporter is making multiple stops each shipment shall be contained in separate cannabis containers.

#### Cannabis Transporter Licensee Delivery Interruption Procedure

All product listed on a transporter manifest must be delivered to the licensed cannabis business identified on the manifest on the same day the product was manifested for delivery. Product cannot be held overnight by licensed cannabis transporters.

Any deviation to the manifest schedule caused by unforeseen circumstances such as inclement weather must be immediately reported to Bureau of Cannabis Inspection, **Bureau Chief**, Bresha Brewer (<u>Bresha.B.Brewer@Illinois.gov</u>) and **Deputy Bureau Chief** Russ Krug (<u>Russell.J.Krug@Illinois.gov</u>), in addition to your assigned **ISP inspector** and the **Illinois Cannabis Control Office** (ISP.CannabisControl@Illinois.gov).

### **Compliance Objective**

Driver safety as well as the security of cannabis product should be primary priorities when operating transport vehicles carrying manifested cannabis products.

Please note that while weather in your section of the State may be fine, Illinois is a large state, and the transport teams may encounter inclement weather when traveling to other sectors of the state. Please monitor the following websites and Facebook pages for weather updates. In the event that a manifested delivery cannot be completed due to weather or similar unforeseen circumstances, you must immediately notify your IDOA inspector, Bureau of Cannabis Inspection, Bureau Chief, Bresha Brewer (Bresha.B.Brewer@Illinois.gov), in addition to your assigned ISP inspector and the Illinois Cannabis Control (ISP.CannabisControl@Illinois.gov).

It is understood that weather can be unpredictable, however, it is expected that licensees will exercise caution and good judgement when deciding whether it is safe or worth the risk to ignore predicted inclement or dangerous weather forecasts. It is expected that licensees will use all available tools and weather resources when making a decision regarding the safety of proceeding with planned deliveries despite predicted severe weather alerts.

- National Weather Service https://www.weather.gov/
- US National Weather Service Chicago (Facebook) <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NWSChicago">https://www.facebook.com/NWSChicago</a>
- US National Weather Service Central Illinois (Facebook) https://www.facebook.com/NWSLincoln
- US National Weather Service Paducah Kentucky (Facebook) https://www.facebook.com/NWSPaducah
- US National Weather Service Saint Louis Missouri (Facebook) https://facebook.com/NWSStLouis
- Illinois Department of Transportation home page: https://www.gettingaroundillinois.com/
- Illinois Department of Transportation Winter Weather Conditions https://www.gettingaroundillinois.com/WinterConditions/index.html
- Illinois Department of Transportation Road Closures Due to Flooding https://www.gettingaroundillinois.com/MapViewer/?config=FLDconfig.json
- Illinois Department of Transportation Road Closures https://www.gettingaroundillinois.com/MapViewer/?config=RDCconfig.json
- Illinois Department of Transportation Road Closures Due to Construction https://www.gettingaroundillinois.com/RoadConstruction/index.html

Illinois State Police (Facebook) has occasional updates on road conditions during storms. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisStatePolice">https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisStatePolice</a>

#### **Questions**

For questions related to this Compliance Alert, please contact the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Division of Cannabis, Bureau of Inspections by emailing <u>AGR.CannabisInspections@Illinois.gov</u>.