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For Immediate Release

April 22, 2019

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### **Pontiac City Clerk Announces 21 Day Application Period for Medical Marihuana Provisioning Centers will be in September**

Pontiac-The 21 day application period will begin on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. and end on Monday, September 30, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. The City of Pontiac voters approved a Medical Marihuana ballot proposal in August 2018. Since September 2018 following the recount of the ballot proposal, the City has been drafting a zoning ordinance to regulate where Medical Marihuana facilities will be able to locate in the City. The zoning ordinance went through several revisions and amendments before being finalized on April 9, 2019 by the Pontiac City Council.

The City Clerk's Office began to accept applications for grower, processor, secure transporter and safety compliance on April 15, 2019 after the moratorium on the acceptance of Medical Marihuana applications ended. These applications are accepted Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. only. More information on these types of applications are available at [http://www.pontiac.mi.us/departments/clerk/medical\\_marihuana.php](http://www.pontiac.mi.us/departments/clerk/medical_marihuana.php)

The City of Pontiac Medical Marihuana Ordinance (Ordinance #2357(B)) directs the Clerk to "assess, evaluate, core and rank all application for permits to operate a provisioning center submitted during the twenty-one (21) day application period" in September. The Clerk will award permits to the twenty highest scoring applicants based on a 130 point scale.

Over the next several months, the Clerk will be developing the scoring criteria that aligns with Ordinance #2357(B) for provision centers. "I want to make sure this is a fair process to all applicants who apply. This is why all City employees and contractors who are a part of the application review process will have to sign a conflict of interest disclosure statement/affidavit" said Clerk Garland Doyle.

While Doyle is developing the scoring criteria, the City Council will be working on developing a Community Benefits Ordinance. "The City Council wants to ensure that Pontiac residents benefit from this industry coming to our City" said Clerk Garland Doyle. In addition, Mayor Waterman has to appoint the Medical Marihuana Commission and Doyle has to appoint a hearing officer to hear appeals. "Everyone in leadership in city government has a role to play in the process" said Clerk Garland Doyle.

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