



United Food & Commercial Workers International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC

Jacques Loveall

President

International Vice President

October 7, 2024

Roseville

(Headquarters)
2200 Professional Dr.
Roseville, CA 95661
(916) 786-0588
(916) 786-0958 (fax)

Bakersfield

1910 Mineral Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308
(661) 391-5770
(661) 391-5777(fax)

Chico

20 Constitution Dr.
Suite C
Chico, CA 95973
(530) 895-0017
(530) 895-1702 (fax)

Concord

1000 Burnett Ave.
Suite 130
Concord, CA 94520
(925) 687-8018

Fresno

3485 W.Shaw Ave.
Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 271-1288
(559) 276-2150 (fax)

Modesto

1920 Standiford Ave,
Suite 3.
Modesto, CA 95350
(209) 529-0596
(209) 529-9571 (fax)

Redding

3400 Bechelli Ln.
Suite C
Redding, CA 96002
(530) 222-3905
(530) 222-3973

Sacramento

1930 Ninth St.
Suite 208
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 503-8828

Santa Rosa

940 Hopper Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 546-1384
(707) 546-4806 (Fax)

Honorable Mayor Jerry Dyer
City of Fresno – City Hall
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Mayor Jerry Dyer and Members of the Fresno City Council:

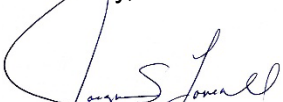
On behalf of the UFCW 8-Golden State members in the City of Fresno, we are writing to express our growing concerns about the recent developments in the Fresno cannabis market. More specifically, we are concerned with the acquisition of retail cannabis licenses by unscrupulous operators.

Recent news coverage has revealed the troubling situation surrounding the acquisition of Higher Level Fresno by The Premier Group of Modesto, California. This particular retail license changed hands under concerning circumstances, leading to a host of issues that could result in its eventual closure. We are concerned this company is attempting to circumvent the license transfer process as outlined in the City of Fresno’s retail cannabis ordinance. The Premier Group appears to be promoting their ownership of Higher Level of Fresno.

These practices not only undermine the integrity of the cannabis industry but also threaten to destabilize an already fragile market. Legitimate cannabis operators in the City of Fresno, who have invested significant resources to comply with regulatory requirements and operate transparently, are at risk of being undercut and pushed out by rogue entities. This could have severe economic repercussions for businesses and for the local economy.

We kindly request that the City of Fresno review this matter on behalf of their legitimate operators to address this issue by using existing enforcement of licensing regulations and promoting transparency in the retail cannabis program. The City of Fresno can help ensure a fair and competitive market that benefits both consumers and legitimate business owners.

Sincerely,


JACQUES LOVEALL

JL/jm

CC: Annalisa Perea, President District 1
Mike Karbassi, VP District 2
Miguel Arias, Councilmember
Tyler Maxwell, Councilmember
Luis Chavez, Councilmember
Garry Bredefeld, Councilmember
Nelson Esparza, Councilmember