## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## The Roaring 420s Lounge Opposes CANY's Stance on Stalling Cannabis Licenses

*Buffalo, NY – April 18, 2024 –* The Roaring 420s Lounge, a dedicated member of the Cannabis Association of New York (CANY), strongly disagrees with the recent guidance CANY provided to New York's Cannabis Control Board (CCB) regarding the stalling of new cannabis licenses in the state.

The Roaring 420s Lounge advocates for the immediate and comprehensive approval of cannabis licenses. Expanding the number of licenses substantially and quickly is essential to develop the necessary supply chain, stimulate competition, and establish a legal market as expansive as the illicit one, thereby fostering legitimate economic growth and innovation.

CANY's recommendation to the CCB, cautioning against the rapid issuance of licenses without additional deliberation due to fears of market oversaturation and potential public health risks, was made without substantial member consultation. This action has left many, including The Roaring 420s Lounge, feeling excluded and unheard, which contradicts the spirit of collective advocacy that CANY is meant to embody.

While we respect the organization's mission and dedication, The Roaring 420s Lounge, along with many other CANY members, believes that an aggressive and fast increase in license approvals is not only beneficial but necessary for the sustainability and prosperity of New York's emerging cannabis market. This approach will help the legal market compete with the black market and support the state's social equity objectives by preventing market monopolization and providing more opportunities for all, particularly for vulnerable entrepreneurs still awaiting licensing.

The Roaring 420s Lounge calls on the Cannabis Control Board to consider these views and the needs of a diverse group of stakeholders within the cannabis industry. We remain committed to an inclusive, equitable, and thriving cannabis market in New York.

About The Roaring 420s Lounge

The Roaring 420s Lounge is a private membership association of cannabis consumers and professionals, and is dedicated to consumer education and access to safe cannabis products. We are committed to advocating for progressive cannabis laws, and supporting the community in New York. For more information, please visit our website at www.roaring420slounge.com.

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