



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CalGrowers withdraws lawsuit with California Department of Food and Agriculture in anticipation of the new administration in California.** *The Executive Committee along with their Government Affairs Program have set up a path to increased engagement with the regulatory agencies.*

**[Sacramento, CA Tuesday January 8, 2019]** In order to create a clean-slate and increase engagement with the incoming administration of Governor-elect Gavin Newsom, CalGrowers' Executive Committee has voted to dismiss its lawsuit filed against the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) in January of 2018.

The unanimously approved resolution reads: **In the best interest of meeting the express priorities of our membership, Cal Growers will dismiss the pending lawsuit against CDFA in order to maximize existing Association resources and engage CDFA in 2019.**

The Executive Committee has been an engine of organization and focus for the CalGrowers board. Nathan Whittington, who stepped into the Chair of the Board role as of Jan 1, 2019 stated their commitment to developing a 2019 strategic plan that will support the mission and directives chosen by the CalGrowers Board of Directors.

"The development of a robust regulatory framework for California cannabis cultivators has many moving parts and this is just the beginning of creating a new cannabis economy. As such, we must necessarily look to build relationships which will help develop small cultivation business models despite the lifting of the 1 acre cap as envisioned by voters" said Whittington.

He continued, "our organization is rising to meet the evolving needs of this industry through the memberships ability to focus on key areas developed in our committee structure, while remaining engaged in developing the regulatory system as a whole. Together we are stronger."

“While we still firmly believe the decision to not enforce the 1 acre cap directly conflicts with the intent of Prop 64, we also recognize the importance of direct dialogue with the agencies regulating California’s cannabis industry” said CalGrowers treasurer Sequoyah Hudson.

There will be a continued focus on collaboration and unity with other stakeholders to more efficiently and effectively make change and continue to develop good policy for cannabis operators in California.

CalGrowers looks forward to opening up dialog and working together with CDFA in moving forward their mission of bringing as many of their members into the regulated marketplace as possible.

*The **California Growers Association** works for the promotion and protection of the independent farms and businesses in the cannabis industry and the protection of the public health and patient’s rights, the restoration of natural resources and watersheds, and to provide for the welfare of communities and the mutual benefit of public and private interests.*

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If you would like more information about this topic, please email [press@cagrowers.org](mailto:press@cagrowers.org)