

For Immediate Release:

Ever wonder why the federal government still classifies marijuana as a substance with no accepted medical use in the United States?

Over the past 12 years, 13 States in the United States have enacted laws accepting the medical use of marijuana. Isn't that the same "accepted medical use" the federal drug law refers to?

Patients Out of Time Board of Advisors member Carl Olsen was curious enough to ask the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), but got no response. So, Carl filed a civil complaint in federal court against the U.S. Attorney General; Carl Olsen v. Michael Mukasey, No. 4:08-cv-370, United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa.

It seems the voters in Oregon approved an assisted suicide law in 1997, the Oregon Death with Dignity Act, and the DEA tried to tell them it was illegal. The State of Oregon filed a civil complaint against the DEA, and it ended up in the U.S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court said the DEA was stepping on Oregon's turf and told the DEA to back off.

Carl thinks the same thing is true with state medical marijuana laws. When the federal law was written, it was certainly true that marijuana had no currently accepted medical use in the United States. However, Congress entrusted the DEA with the responsibility of making sure the federal drug law was updated annually to catch any change that might occur.

Well, that change has occurred and the DEA has failed to do anything about it. The DEA never planned on changing it anyway. Who's watching the DEA to make sure they do their job?

American citizens are considered the luckiest people in the world, not because of our wealth, but because we are actually supposed to have a say in what our government does. Carl is showing us that one citizen can question the federal bureaucracy.

Carl keeps detailed records of everything that is going on at his web site:
<http://www.iowamedicalmarijuana.org/> so he hopes you'll stop by and take a look.

<http://www.medicalcannabis.com>
<http://www.iowamedicalmarijuana.org>

Carl Olsen
Iowans for Medical Marijuana
(515) 288-5798

Al Byrne, Co-founder
Patients Out of Time

Mary Lynn Mathre, RN, MSN, CARN, CLNC
President and Co-founder, Patients Out of Time
1472 Fish Pond Rd., Howardsville, VA 24562

434-263-4484
434-263-6753 fax
www.medicalcannabis.com