



A Constituent Member Association of the American Nurses Association

September 15, 2005

DEA Administrator Karen P. Tandy
Drug Enforcement Administration Office
Mailstop: AXS
2401 Jefferson Davis Highway
Alexandria, VA 22301

Re: Professor Lyle Craker, PhD., Docket No. 05-16

Dear Administrator Tandy,

I am Carolyn Roberts, Executive Director of the New Mexico Nurses Association. We represent 447 nurses in the United States. I'm writing in the matter of Craker v. DEA, Docket NO. 05-16.

The NMNA believes that the medical use of marijuana is an issue that should be resolved through scientific research. As a result, NMNA recommends that DEA grant a license to produce marijuana exclusively for federally-approved research to Prof. Lyle Craker, Director of the Laboratories for Natural Products, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, UMass Amherst.

In our view, we need more scientific research, both government-funded and privately-funded, into the risks and benefits of the medical uses of marijuana. By issuing a license to Prof. Craker, the DEA can demonstrate that it will facilitate, rather than obstruct, the privately-funded scientific evaluation of marijuana's potential medical uses.

The NM Nurses Association agrees with the letter submitted to you by Dr. Jack Lewin, CEO and Executive Vice-President of the California Medical Association (CMA), which stated, "I am writing in the matter of Craker v. DEA, Docket No. 05-16 to express our view that it is in the public interest for the DEA to issue research licenses to appropriate researchers and facilities to produce marijuana exclusively for federally-approved research."

If you would like to contact me for any reason, I can be reached at: 505-471-3324

Sincerely,

Carolyn Roberts, MSN, RN
Executive Director for NM Nurses Association

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