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At a press conference at DEA Headquarters on May 23, 2007, MAPS President Rick Doblin, PhD (center), explains the wide reaching implications of Judge Bittner's historic decision (see below). Joining Rick in this photo are (from left to right) Denis Petro, M.D., medical marijuana patient Angel Raich and Prof. Lyle Craker, PhD.

I CONCLUDE that the Respondent's (Prof. Lyle Craker's) application would not be inconsistent with the Single Convention, that there would be minimal risk of diversion of marijuana resulting from Respondent's registration, that there is currently an inadequate supply of marijuana available for research purposes, that competition in the provision of marijuana for such purposes is inadequate, and that Respondent has complied with applicable laws and has never been convicted of any violation of any law pertaining to controlled substances. I therefore find that Respondent's registration to cultivate marijuana would be in the public interest... I recommend that Respondent's application be granted."

Mary Ellen Bittner, DEA Administrative Law Judge  
From the "Opinion and Recommended Ruling,  
Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and  
Decision of the Administrative Law Judge"  
February 12, 2007