

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

In the Matter of

**Schedules of Controlled Substances:
Proposed Rescheduling of Marijuana**

**DEA Docket No. 1362
Hearing Docket No. 24-44**

NOTICE TO THE PARTIES

This case is currently in a stay status, pending the resolution of an interlocutory appeal that has been pending with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Administrator since January 13, 2025. Although, during the period of the stay, I have retained limited jurisdiction over the case to address some routine, non-dispositive, procedural motions, the parties are herein notified that effective August 1, 2025, I will be retired from the bench. My retirement will leave the DEA with no Administrative Law Judge to hear this matter or any of the Agency's other pending administrative enforcement cases. The Controlled Substances Act requires that DEA administrative enforcement hearing proceedings must be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and presided over by an Administrative Law Judge. 21 U.S.C. § 824(c)(4); 5 U.S.C. § 556(b)(3). Until there is a change in this circumstance, all matters filed in this case will be forwarded to the DEA Administrator, for whatever action, if any, he deems appropriate.

All previously-issued procedural orders remain in full force and effect unless otherwise modified by a successor Administrative Law Judge, the DEA Administrator, or the Attorney General. Naturally, I wish all the parties the best in resolving this important issue in a fair, transparent, and accurate manner, and extend my heartfelt gratitude to the parties and their representatives for their sincere, diligent, and indefatigable advocacy.

Dated: July 23, 2025

JOHN J. MULROONEY, II
Chief Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the undersigned, on July 23, 2025, caused a copy of the foregoing to be delivered to the following recipients: (1) Julie L. Hamilton, Esq., Counsel for the Government, via email at julie.l.hamilton@dea.gov; James J. Schwartz, Esq., Counsel for the Government, via email at james.j.schwartz@dea.gov; Jarrett T. Lonich, Esq., Counsel for the Government, via email at jarrett.t.lonich@dea.gov; and S. Taylor Johnston, Esq., Counsel for the Government, via email at stephen.t.johnston@dea.gov; (2) the DEA Government Mailbox, via email at dea.registration.litigation@dea.gov; (3) Shane Pennington, Esq., Counsel for Village Farms International, via email at shane.pennington@blankrome.com; (4) Nikolas S. Komyati, Esq., Counsel for National Cannabis Industry Association, via email at nkomyati@foxrothschild.com; and William Bogot, Esq., Counsel for National Cannabis Industry Association, via email at wbogot@foxrothschild.com; (5) Brian Cuban, Esq., for Cannabis Bioscience International Holdings, via email at brian@briancuban.com; (6) Robert Head, for Hemp for Victory, via email at robert@bluecordfarms.com; (7) Scheril Murray Powell, Esq., Counsel for Veteran's Initiative 22, via email at smpesquire@outlook.com; and David C. Holland, Esq., Counsel for Veterans Initiative 22, via email at dch@hollandlitigation.com; (8) Kelly Fair, Esq., Counsel for The Commonwealth Project, via email at Kelly.Fair@dentons.com; Joanne Caceres, Esq., Counsel for The Commonwealth Project, via email at joanne.caceres@dentons.com; and Lauren M. Estevez, Esq., Counsel for The Commonwealth Project, via email at lauren.estevez@dentons.com; (9) Rafe Petersen, Esq., Counsel for Ari Kirshenbaum, via email at Rafe.Petersen@hklaw.com; (10) David G. Evans, Esq., Counsel for Cannabis Industry Victims Educating Litigators, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, Kenneth Finn, Drug Enforcement Association of Federal Narcotics Agents, and National Drug and Alcohol Screening Association, via email at thinkon908@aol.com; (11) Patrick Philbin, Esq., Counsel for Smart Approaches to Marijuana, via email at pphilbin@torridonlaw.com; and Chase Harrington, Esq., Counsel for Smart Approaches to Marijuana, via email at charrington@torridonlaw.com; (12) Zachary Viglianco, Esq., for the State of Nebraska, via email at zachary.viglianco@nebraska.gov; (13) Gene Voegtlin for International Association of Chiefs of Police, via email at voegtlin@theiacp.org; (14) Patrick Kenneally, Esq. Counsel for Drug Enforcement Association of Federal Narcotics Agents, via email at pdkenneally78@gmail.com; (15) Reed N. Smith, Esq., Counsel for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, via email at Reed.Smith@ag.tn.gov; and Jacob Durst, Esq., Counsel for Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, via email at Jacob.Durst@ag.tn.gov; and (16) Tristan Cavanaugh, Esq., via email at tcavanaugh@porterwright.com.

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