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. 26-96**

ORDER STAYING CASE AND ORDERING RESPONSE TO MOTION

The hearing on the merits in the above-captioned matter took place from June 29, 2026, through July 15, 2026. On September 28, 2026, three Interested Parties—DUID Victim Voices; Kenneth Finn, M.D.; and the National Drug and Alcohol Association (NDASA)—filed a "Joint Motion for Leave to File Supplemental Briefing, for Admission of Supplemental Exhibit, and for Stay of Proceedings" (Motion). The Motion requests that this tribunal allow the admission of the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) report entitled "Drug Scheduling: While DEA Decisions Have Aligned with Recent HHS Recommendations, Both Need Comprehensive Policies" (the GAO Report), published on September 23, 2026, into the record as either Finn Exhibit 126 or as an ALJ Exhibit via official notice. The Motion further requests an additional briefing period on the contents of the GAO Report and how it impacts these proceedings, if at all. Finally, the Motion requests a brief stay to allow time for these matters to develop.

The three Interested Parties in the instant Motion have requested that this tribunal "hold its recommended decision and certification of the record" if and until briefing is completed on the GAO Report. This tribunal finds merit in this argument that, *if* the record were to be extended to also include the GAO Report, a stay would be warranted to await briefing on it. Likewise, while considering the merits of the instant Motion to add the GAO Report to the record and allow supplemental briefing, a stay is warranted for the same reasons. Accordingly, based on the nature this Motion, it is **ORDERED** that this matter is **STAYED** pending the Motion's resolution.

In the meantime, the Government is **ORDERED** to file a response to the instant Motion by no later than **October 13, 2026**. The Government's response should be no longer than twenty pages, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. Additionally, the remaining Interested Parties are

permitted, but not required, to file responses to the instant Motion by no later than the same October 13, 2026 due date and using the same above specifications.

Dated: September 29, 2026

DEREK JULIUS

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DEREK C. JULIUS
Chief Administrative Law Judge