

July 6, 2005

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

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

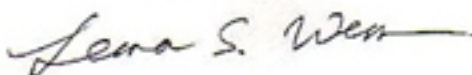
Dear Administrator Tandy,

On behalf of the 60,000 physician-in-training members of the American Medical Student Association, we are writing in the matter of Craker v. DEA, Docket NO. 05-16 to express our view that it would be in the public interest for DEA to issue a license to Prof. Craker for a facility to produce marijuana exclusively for federally-approved scientific research.

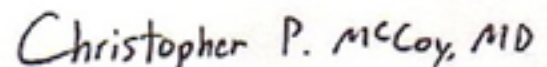
If developed into a medicine, marijuana could help treat and save of the lives of thousands of our members' patients. For that reason, we believe that the medical use of marijuana is an issue that should be resolved through scientific research. Without that research, marijuana's medical efficacy and safety will simply be an issue for prolonged and loud debate. And, without that research, we believe there is little likelihood that marijuana can or will be developed as a medicine that could be approved by the FDA. We believe marijuana should be treated like any other potential therapeutic medicine, with researchers having the ability to obtain it and test it, within federally-approved scientific research protocols, like any other substance which might have harmful as well as helpful effects. To date, it has generally not been treated that way, causing significant problems in the development of marijuana as medicine. It is in the public interest to allow the scientific process to determine whether marijuana will be available as a medicine for sick patients who may need it and DEA licensing of Prof Craker is crucial to facilitate that process.

If you would like to contact me for any reason, we can be reached at 703 620 6600.

Sincerely,



Leana S. Wen
National President



Christopher P. McCoy, MD
Legislative Affairs Director