



Marijuana Policy Project
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“We change laws.”

What You Can Do to Oppose the Federal Crackdown on Medical Marijuana

The recent announcement by the United States attorneys in California that they would target broad categories of medical marijuana providers has a lot of people wondering what they can do to speak out against this injustice. Below you will find a few ways that you can help effectuate change. Please feel free to share this information with any and all individuals who wish to speak out in support of medical marijuana patients and their providers.

1) Contact the White House: First and foremost, all supporters should contact the White House at (202) 456-1111 to express their disgust with this recent announcement. Please be sure to be polite. You will be speaking with a call center volunteer or staffer, not an actual policy maker. Here is a sample script:

Hello, my name is _____ (your name). I live in _____ (city), _____ (state). I'm calling because I want President Obama to know that I'm very upset with the recent decision by the U.S. attorneys in California to aggressively target medical marijuana providers. President Obama previously said he would respect state laws that allow for medical marijuana access, but he has not kept his word. By attacking medical marijuana providers, the president is punishing the patients who rely on them for the medicine that's being recommended by their physicians. Closing dispensaries would send patients to the dangerous criminal market to get their medicine and eliminate thousands of jobs. I hope the president reconsiders this decision.

If you prefer, you can send an email message through MPP's free online action center at mpp.org/WHAction

2) Contact policy makers in California: Make sure that your elected state officials know that their constituents are not happy with federal policy. Ask your assemblymember, state senator, Gov. Jerry Brown, and Attorney General Kamala Harris to publically denounce the United States attorneys' decision and to stand up for their state's laws. MPP's action center — mpp.org/CAAction — makes it easy to send an email to all your local elected officials at one time.

3) Bring a resolution to your city council: In addition to reaching out to your state officials, ask your local officials to denounce federal involvement in state medical marijuana laws as well. You can call or meet in person with your city council member or his or her staff, and then share MPP's template resolution, asking them to introduce it before the full council. MPP's template resolution, along with some talking points and tips, is available at mpp.org/CityResolution. Thank you to activists in the San Francisco area for providing much of the content of this template resolution.

4) Grill President Obama: Will the president be in your town to fundraise or speak any time soon? If so, feel free to make sure he knows medical marijuana is popular and not going away. If you have an opportunity to ask the president a question, please consider the following:

Mr. President. During the 2008 campaign, you promised to respect state medical marijuana laws. And your Justice Department made that formal policy in 2009. But you now have U.S. Attorneys, the IRS, the Treasury Department, the DEA, and ATF agents all making life miserable for medical marijuana providers and for patients seeking safe access to their medicine. Why have you reneged on your promise, and what are you going to do to get agencies in your administration under control?

Make sure to tape the interaction and send a copy to state@mpp.org.

5) Peacefully protest the president: Many events that the president appears at are, unfortunately, prohibitively expensive for many of us to attend. Regardless, there are advocacy opportunities that do not require face time. You can organize your friends, family, and local medical marijuana community to peacefully protest the Department of Justice's recent decision to aggressively pursue medical marijuana providers in California. Below are some catchy slogans for protest signs; please feel free to use them. If you are curious whether the president will be in your area anytime soon, feel free to email state@mpp.org to find out.

**Californians deserve safe medicine
Keep your medical marijuana promise
Respect state medical marijuana laws
Attacks on providers are attacks on patients**

Feel free to send any photos of your protest to state@mpp.org.

6) Share this with your friends and associates: The more people the administration hears from, the more effective our messaging becomes. Please share this hand out with your friends and family. **If you are a collective/co-op/dispensary owner**, please consider handing out this document to your patients so they can speak up for medical marijuana providers.

7) Support MPP: Please consider signing up for our California-specific email alerts at mpp.org/subscribe to follow our efforts to strengthen state medical marijuana laws. Please also consider donating to MPP – mpp.org/donate – to help us reform marijuana policy at both the state and federal levels.

Thank you so much for taking action in support of medical marijuana patients and their providers. Through patience and respectful advocacy we can make sure the current administration realizes the support that medical marijuana enjoys, and hopefully sway the president to reconsider his position.