



LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES POSITION STATEMENT

Chief Geoff Spalding
Beaverton PD

Chief Ken Summers
Cornelius PD

Chief Janie Schutz
Forest Grove PD

Chief Lee Dobrowski
Hillsboro PD

Chief Charles Fessler
King City PD

Chief Bill Snyder
North Plains PD

Chief Jeff Groth
Sherwood PD

Chief Alan Orr
Tigard PD

Chief Kent Barker
Tualatin PD

Sheriff Pat Garrett
WC Sheriff's Office

District Attorney Robert Hermann
WC District Attorney's Office

It is the position of the Washington County Law Enforcement Council (LEC) to oppose the establishment of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries within the city and county limits of Washington County. The possession, distribution, and manufacture of marijuana, although permissible under provisions of the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program (OMMP) and related statutes and rules, are a violation of Federal Law.

While the member agencies of LEC will consistently and fairly enforce established laws and ordinances of our communities, we believe the proliferation of marijuana use and availability outside the scope of the OMMP is a serious public health concern and has negative implications for the welfare of our community. We believe expanding the availability of marijuana, even under the auspices of the OMMP, will harm the general welfare of our community because of the significant potential to increase marijuana use among our youth, place a higher burden on emergency room care, drug treatment and other health care systems, increase marijuana-related exposure cases, and increase illegal interstate drug trafficking. Marijuana impairment doubles the risk of deadly traffic crashes and is a major causal factor in high school dropouts.

We believe medical marijuana dispensaries will have additional potential negative secondary effects on the community. These secondary effects include, but are not limited to the following: criminal activity, loitering, increased traffic, noise, litter, and a loss of trade for other businesses located nearby by interference. Local government control of land use and organized development helps promote local community values.

The member agencies of LEC have an ethical duty and statutory obligation to ensure the safety of our communities. Medical marijuana dispensaries are harmful to the surrounding community and its residents and constitute a public nuisance contrary to our community values which support Washington County as a safe place to live, work, and raise a family.