

Dispensary
Struggle 2011

Thank You!
Chuck Rean

Dear Ann Arbor City Council members

The current draft of the Medical Marijuana Business Ordinance contains a provision, 6:419(9), which would require that medical marijuana dispensaries keep a list of the suppliers of all cannabis products, and "shall make the records available to the city for review upon request".

It has been stated that the city's objectives are to try to insure that:

- a) cannabis products are coming from within the Michigan Program, and
- b) there is an immediate ability to trace the source of any product in case the product was tainted or caused harm to a patient member.

Dispensaries want to cooperate to meet these legitimate objectives of the city, but also want very much to preserve the confidentiality of our patient and caregiver members as much as possible. We want to minimize the chance that our member's names could be kept on a permanent or lasting list of suppliers. Such a list could end up in the hands of the federal government and cause serious and irreparable harm to our patients and caregivers.

The City of Ann Arbor could require that all cannabis products in a dispensary must come from ① trace members of that dispensary, thus assuring that the products came from Michigan. It could also require ② cooperate that every licensed dispensary must keep records which are sufficient to clearly and immediately identify the source of any cannabis product. Such records may use either the State of Michigan registration number or the Dispensary's member number to identify vendors. Not Needed

It could be a part of the annual inspection that dispensaries are required to articulate and Never Happened - demonstrate how they can be certain of the source for each of their cannabis products. An inspector Safe could gather a basket of a dozen different products and dispensary staff may be required to show the Product source of each one. Dispensaries shall be required to cooperate with any city investigation into tainted or dangerous products and, if necessary and required by the city, to reveal the identity of any member who may be the source of such products.

Records of all suppliers of cannabis products must be retained for a minimum of 30 days subsequent to the date upon which medical marijuana products delivered to the dispensary have been fully dispensed to members. (There is no good purpose to be served by keeping a permanent list.)

Also, this ordinance should have some sort of procedure for appeal, like other similar ordinances do.

These suggestions are also the ideas of the Ann Arbor Medical Cannabis Guild. Most dispensaries are members, and we have met 4 times.

It is only my own idea when I say that I don't see why we need to have Cultivation Facilities - if our goal is to serve the needs of patients. COUNCIL NEVER ASKED FOR CULTIVATION FACILITIES! This ordinance is supposed to be about dispensaries. If Ann Arbor approves big "cultivation facilities" the

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feds will come in here and smash the whole Ann Arbor program...including dispensaries, which really do help patients.

There should also be some procedure where a license holder has at least a chance of selling a business with a license – or what is the motivation for dispensary owners to make a really nice place. It would seem like a person might be motivated to run a ratty, low budget business if they had a license but know that they would not be allowed to sell their business (I have turned in proposed language to the legal department).

Thanks so very much. We have to get this right – because it will be hard to change once it is done. Please do what the voters want to see. Sincerely, Chuck Ream