

WILLAMETTE VALLEY NORML



the Eugene, Oregon affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

ATF Seeks Piece Of Pot-War Pie

Bureau Targets Sick and Dying for the Porkbarrelled Boondoggle

Basis is US DOJ Memo re: State Authorized Medi-Pot Patients May Not Legally Possess Firearms

Washington, DC, USA: Federal law [prohibits](#) a person from legally possessing a firearm if they use marijuana, even if he or she uses cannabis for medicinal purposes in accordance with state law, according to a [memo](#) issued last week by the US Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF).

The ATF's September 21 memo, titled 'OPEN LETTER TO ALL FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES,' states: "Federal law ... prohibits any person who is an 'unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance ... from shipping, transporting, receiving, or possessing firearms or ammunition. Marijuana is listed in the Controlled Substances Act as a Schedule I controlled substance, and there are no exceptions in federal law for marijuana purportedly used for

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Netherlands: Cannabis Coffee-Shops Appear To Minimally Impact Dutch Use Patterns

Berkeley, CA, USA: The proliferation of Dutch 'coffee-shops,' which allow for the sale of limited quantities of marijuana to patrons age 18 or older, appears to have had little impact on Dutch cannabis use patterns, according to an [analysis](#) published online in the scientific journal *Addiction*.

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Marijuana Prosecutions For 2010 Near Record High; Pot Arrests Now More Than Half Of Total Drug Arrests Nationwide

Washington, DC, USA: Police made 853,838



arrests in 2010 for marijuana-related offenses, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's annual [Uniform Crime Report](#), released today. The annual arrest total is among

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Forced Closure Of Medical Cannabis Dispensaries Associated With Localized Increases In Crime

Santa Monica, CA, USA: The closing of medical marijuana dispensaries are associated with an increase in the incidents of criminal activity in those locations, according to [an assessment](#) of crime statistics published this week by the RAND Corporation.

Researchers [analyzed](#) Los Angeles crime data for the ten days prior to and the ten days following June 7, 2010, when the city ordered the closure of more than 70 percent of the city's 638 medical marijuana dispensaries.

Authors limited their analysis to ten days because court challenges prompted some closed dispensaries to reopen.

"Studying crime both before and after a large number of dispensaries were shut down

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The Willamette Valley NORML News Report

is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit project to record and broadcast news, announcements and information about cannabis law reform.

The W-V-NORML News Report is produced by the Eugene, OREGON chapter of NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

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Check 'em out on-line! *visit:*

WillametteValleyNORML.org

A Voice for Responsible Marijuana Smokers

Since its founding in 1970, NORML has provided a voice in the public policy debate for those Americans who oppose marijuana prohibition and favor an end to the practice of arresting marijuana smokers. A nonprofit public-interest advocacy group, NORML represents the interests of the tens of millions of Americans who smoke marijuana responsibly. During the 1970s, NORML led the successful efforts to decriminalize minor marijuana offenses in 11 states and significantly lower marijuana penalties in all others.

The oldest and largest marijuana legalization organization in the country, NORML maintains a professional staff in Washington, DC, and a network of volunteer state and local [NORML Chapters](#) across the country. Check 'em out, and find the one nearest you!

The NORML mission is to move public opinion sufficiently to achieve the repeal of marijuana prohibition so that the responsible use of cannabis by adults is no longer subject to penalty.

When marijuana is enjoyed responsibly, subjecting users to harsh criminal and civil penalties provides no public benefit and causes terrible injustices. For reasons of public safety, public health, economics and justice, the prohibition laws should be repealed to the extent that they criminalize responsible marijuana use. **NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws – is located at 1600 K Street, NW, Suite 501, Washington, DC 20006-2832. Phone (202) 483-5500, Fax: (202) 483-0057 or visit: www.norml.org**

Willamette Valley NORML is your local network in the fight to reform state and federal marijuana laws, whether by voter initiative or through the elected legislatures. W-V-NORML will serve as an informational resource to media on marijuana-related stories, providing a perspective to offset the [anti-marijuana propaganda](#) from the government; lobby state and federal legislators in support of reform legislation; publish a regular [newsletter](#); host an informative web site; and serve as the umbrella group for a regional network of citizen-activists committed to ending marijuana prohibition and legalizing marijuana.

Along with their parent organization, W-V-NORML will sponsor public advertising campaigns to better educate the public about marijuana and alternatives to current marijuana policy; provide legal assistance and support to victims of the current laws; and promote relevant research.

W-V-NORML supports the right of adults to use marijuana responsibly, whether for [medical](#) or [personal](#) purposes. All penalties, both civil and criminal, should be eliminated for responsible use. W-V-NORML also advocates the legalization of [hemp](#) (non-psychoactive marijuana) for industrial use. **To find out more, like how you can help, call, write or visit our website. You'll be glad you did!**

<continued from ATF, page 1 > medicinal purposes, even if such use is sanctioned by state law."

The memo affirms: "Therefore, any person who uses or is addicted to marijuana, regardless of whether his or her state has passed legislation authorizing marijuana use for medicinal purposes, is an unlawful user of or addicted to a controlled substance, and is prohibited by federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition. ... Further, if you are aware that the potential transferee (of a firearm) is in possession of a card authorizing the possession of marijuana under state law, then you have 'reasonable cause to believe' that the person is an unlawful user of a controlled substance. As such, you may not transfer firearms or ammunition to the person."

Noteworthy, to date no state or federal court has yet [ruled](#) whether medical marijuana patients are disqualified to own a firearm.

While campaigning for the Presidency, Barack Obama had [pledged](#) that he would "not ... be using Justice Department resources to try to circumvent state laws on this (the medical marijuana) issue." *For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director or Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500. Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8693*

<continued from COFFEE-SHOPS, page 1 > University of California at Berkeley researcher Robert MacCoun [compared](#) some 40 years of Dutch data on cannabis "prevalence, ... patterns of use, treatment, sanctioning, process, and purity" with comparable data from Europe and the United States.

MacCoun concluded: "Dutch citizens use cannabis at more modest rates than some of their [European] neighbors, and they do not appear to be particularly likely to escalate their use relative to their counterparts in Europe and in the United States. Moreover, there are indications that rather than increasing 'the gateway' to hard drugs use, separating soft and hard drug markets possibly reduced the gateway."

Among those ages 15 to 16, only 6.5 percent of Dutch teens acknowledge having used an illicit drug other than cannabis versus 19 percent of American teens. In addition, American adolescents are far more likely than their Dutch peers (72 percent to 46 percent) to say that cannabis is "fairly or very easy to obtain."

An estimated 700 retail cannabis outlets presently operate in the Netherlands, employing some 3000-

4,000 workers. *For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "What can we learn from the Dutch cannabis coffeeshop system," appears online in *Addiction*. Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8688*

<continued from RECORD ARRESTS, page 1 > the highest ever reported by the agency and is [nearly identical](#) to the total number of cannabis-related arrests reported in 2009. According to the report, marijuana arrests now comprise [more than one-half](#) (52 percent) of all drug arrests in the United States. An estimated 46 percent of all drug arrests are for offenses related to marijuana possession.

"Today, as in past years, the so-called 'drug war' remains fueled by the arrests of minor marijuana possession offenders, [a disproportionate percentage](#) of whom are ethnic minorities," NORML Deputy Director Paul Armentano said. "It makes no sense to continue to waste law enforcements' time and taxpayers' dollars to arrest and prosecute responsible Americans for their use of a substance that [poses far fewer health risks](#) than alcohol or tobacco."

Of those charged with marijuana law violations, 750,591 (88 percent) were arrested for marijuana offenses involving possession only. The remaining 103,247 individuals were charged with "sale/manufacture," a category that includes virtually all cultivation offenses. [By region](#), the percentage of marijuana arrests was highest in the Midwest (63.5 percent of all drug arrests) and southern regions (57 percent of all drug arrests) of the United States and lowest in the west, where pot prosecutions comprised only 39 percent of total drug arrests.

By contrast, the percentage of arrests for heroin and cocaine was lowest in the Midwest (14 percent of all arrests) and highest in the northeast (29 percent of all arrests). Overall, law enforcement agents nationwide arrested [1,638,846 people](#) last year for drug abuse violations, [surpassing arrests](#) for all other crimes. Since 2000, law enforcement have reported making an estimated [7.9 million arrests](#) for marijuana violations. *For more information, please contact Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500, or Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8683*

<continued from DISPENSARIES, page 1 > in Los Angeles, researchers found that incidents such as break-ins rose in the neighborhoods of closed dispensaries relative to dispensaries allowed to remain open, at least in the short term," the RAND Corporation summarized in a [press release](#). "In the blocks with the closed dispensaries, the study observed crime up to 60 percent greater than comparable blocks with open dispensaries, but the effects were not apparent across a wider area."

Said the study's lead author: "If medical marijuana dispensaries are causing crime, then there should be a drop in crime when they close. Individual dispensaries may attract crime or create a neighborhood nuisance, but we found no evidence that medical marijuana dispensaries in general cause crime to rise."

Previous analyses of crime statistics in [Denver](#), [Los Angeles](#), and [Colorado Springs](#) also found no data supportive of the notion that the locations of dispensaries are associated with elevated incidences of criminal activity. *For more information, please contact Allen St.*

Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500 or Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the RAND Corporation study, "Regulating medical marijuana dispensaries: An overview with preliminary evidence of their impact on crime," is available online at: http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/technical_reports/2011/RAND_TR987.pdf. Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8689

Study: Crohn's Patients Who Use Cannabis Report Fewer Surgeries, Are Less Likely To Use Prescription Drugs

"All patients stated that consuming cannabis had a positive effect on their disease activity"

Tel Aviv, Israel: Cannabis use is associated with a reduction in Crohn's disease (CD) activity and disease-related surgeries, according to the results of a retrospective observational [study](#) published in the August issue of the *Journal of the Israeli Medical Association*. Investigators at the Meir Medical Center, Institute of Gastroenterology and Hepatology assessed



'disease activity, use of medication, need for surgery, and hospitalization' before and after cannabis use in 30 patients with CD. Authors reported, "All patients stated that consuming cannabis had a positive effect on their disease activity" and documented "significant improvement" in 21 subjects.

Specifically, researchers found that subjects who consumed cannabis "significantly reduced" their need for other medications. Participants in the trial also reported requiring fewer surgeries following their use of cannabis.

"Fifteen of the patients had 19 surgeries during an average period of nine years before cannabis use, but only two required surgery during an average period of three years of cannabis use," authors reported.

They concluded: "The results indicate that cannabis may have a positive effect on disease activity, as reflected by a reduction in disease activity index and in the need for other drugs and surgery. Prospective placebo-controlled studies are warranted to fully evaluate the efficacy and side effects of cannabis in CD." Researchers at the Meir Medical Center are [presently evaluating](#) the safety and efficacy of inhaled cannabis for patients with CD and Ulcerative Colitis in a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial.

Crohn's disease and Ulcerative Colitis are inflammatory bowel diseases. According to [survey data](#) published earlier this year in the *European Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, an estimated one-third of patients with colitis and one-half of subjects with CD acknowledge having used cannabis to [mitigate their disease symptoms](#). *For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "Treatment of Crohn's disease with cannabis: an observational study," appears in the *Journal of the Israeli Medical Association*. The study also appears online here: <http://www.ima.org.il/imag/ar11aug-01.pdf>.*

Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8687

DEA Issues 'Final Order' Rejecting Private Production Of Cannabis For FDA-Approved Research

Washington, DC, USA: The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has

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The rejection preserves the monopoly held by US National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) on the supply of marijuana for Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-regulated research. In 2010, a spokesperson for the agency [told](#) the *New York Times*, "We generally do not fund research focused on the potential beneficial medical effects of marijuana."

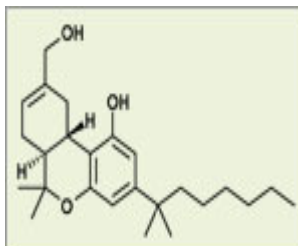
In 2007, after extensive hearings, DEA Judge Mary Ellen Bittner opined in favor of allowing a researcher at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst legal permission to cultivate marijuana for use in FDA-approved clinical trials. She [determined](#): "[T]here is currently an inadequate supply of marijuana available for research purposes. ... I therefore find that Respondent's registration to cultivate marijuana would be in the public interest."

DEA director [Michele Leonhart](#) initially [set aside](#) Judge Bittner's ruling in 2009. The agency's ruling [may be appealed](#) in the First Circuit US Court of Appeals.

For more information, please contact Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500, or visit the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) online at: <http://www.maps.org/>.

Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8672

Cannabinoid Shown To Be Neuroprotective In Model Of Acute Alcohol Withdrawal



"[T]hese observations show ... that the stimulation of the endocannabinoid system could be protective against the hyper-excitability developed during alcohol withdrawal"

Caen, France: The administration of the synthetic cannabinoid agonist HU-211 decreases nerve cell death in an *in vitro* model of ethanol withdrawal, according to [data](#) published online in the journal of the Public Library of Science (*PLoS ONE*).

An international team of investigators from the INSERM medical research center in Caen, France

and Complutense University in Madrid, Spain assessed the anti-excitotoxic effects of the synthetic cannabinoid HU-211 in culture. Researchers demonstrated that cannabinoid administration protected neurons from cell death in an experimental model of ethanol withdrawal. By contrast, the administration of a cannabinoid antagonist (rimonabant) during ethanol withdrawal greatly increased the likelihood of cell death.

"[T]hese observations show, for the first time, that the stimulation of the endocannabinoid system could be protective against the hyper-excitability developed during alcohol withdrawal," investigators concluded. "By contrast, the blockade of the endocannabinoid system seems to be counterproductive during alcohol withdrawal."

In humans, the abrupt cessation of alcohol in dependent subjects may be associated with tremor, delirium, brain damage, and death.

Separate pre-clinical studies have previously documented that the administration of the non-psychotropic organic cannabinoid cannabidiol (CBD) in laboratory animals is neuroprotective against [cerebral infarction](#) and [ethanol-induced neurotoxicity](#) (alcohol poisoning).

In 2009 and 2010, a pair of studies conducted by investigators at the University of California at San Diego reported that the consumption of cannabis may offset certain alcohol-induced brain abnormalities, including the [loss of white matter integrity](#) and memory, in human subjects with a history of both alcohol and marijuana use. *For more information, please contact Paul Armentano, NORML Deputy Director, at: paul@norml.org. Full text of the study, "Pharmacological Activation/Inhibition of the Cannabinoid System Affects Alcohol Withdrawal-Induced Neuronal Hypersensitivity to Excitotoxic Insults," appears online in the journal *PLoS ONE*. Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8674*

Former Labor Secretary Voices Support For Marijuana Legalization

Berkeley, CA, USA: Former United States Labor Secretary Robert Reich [voiced his strong support](#) for ending the criminal prohibition of cannabis during an online forum. Reich was asked by an audience member, "If you could eliminate a single federal regulation and replace it with some other

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<continued from previous page> regulation (or nothing at all), what would it be and why?" He [responded](#), "I'd start by legalizing marijuana."

Reich made his comments last week on the popular website reddit.com. Reich served as Secretary of Labor under former President Bill Clinton. He is presently a professor of public policy at the University of California at Berkeley. *For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director, at (202) 483-5500. Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8675*

Congressman's Letter To Drug Czar: "Marijuana Does Not Belong On Schedule I Of The Controlled Substances Act"



Washington, DC, USA: Representative Steven Cohen (D-TN) is [urging](#) the Obama administration to reclassify cannabis under federal law and to acknowledge its therapeutic utility, according to a September 12 [letter](#) sent by the Congressman to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

States Rep. Cohen in his letter to Drug Czar Gil Kerlikowske: "Marijuana does not belong on [schedule I](#) of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) alongside hard drugs as ... heroin. There is no evidence that marijuana has the same addictive qualities or damaging consequences as these harder drugs and it should not be treated as such. Similarly, the so-called 'gateway drug' theory has been thoroughly discredited with respect to marijuana. Marijuana ought to be placed at the lowest end of the CSA in accordance with its true risks."

Under federal law, all substances classified as Schedule I drugs under the CSA must possess a 'high potential for abuse' and have 'no accepted medical use in treatment.'

Representative Cohen adds: "I was particularly disappointed that the [ONDCP] dismissed the medical benefits of marijuana. ... We should not deny the thousands of Americans who rely on marijuana ... the benefits that [it] provides. ... I strongly recommend that this administration allow states that have chosen to legalize medical marijuana to enact strong regulations without fear of

prosecution. ... [W]e should not interfere with the will of the people to enact these compassionate laws." Representative Cohen is an outspoken [critic](#) of marijuana prohibition. He is a co-sponsor of [HR 2306](#), The Ending Federal Prohibition of Marijuana Act of 2011. *For more information, please contact Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500. Source -*

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8680

NORML's Marijuana Legalization Question Tops 'Most Popular' List On White House's 'We The People' Website



Washington, DC, USA: The question of whether the federal government should legalize and regulate the adult use of marijuana in a manner similar to alcohol is the [leading vote-getter](#) on the White House's recently launched online petition website, '[We the People](#).' The site is [described](#) as a 'new way to petition the Obama administration to take action on a range of important issues facing our country.'

NORML's [submission](#), which asks: "Isn't it time to legalize and regulate marijuana in a manner similar to alcohol? If not, please explain why you feel that the continued criminalization of cannabis will achieve the results in the future that it has never achieved in the past?" is presently the [most popular](#) petition, garnering over 43,000 individual votes from the public.

According to the website, any petition that receives more than 5,000 votes [will receive a public response](#) from a representative of the Obama administration. NORML's submission surpassed the 5,000-vote threshold within hours of the website's launch. Two separate petitions regarding marijuana policy are also among the [most popular](#) petitions on the site.

The popularity of NORML's White House petition has received [widespread mainstream media coverage](#), including mentions by [MSNBC](#), [The New York Times](#), [Forbes](#), and the [International Business Times](#). *For more information, please contact Allen St. Pierre, NORML Executive Director or Erik Altieri, NORML Communications Coordinator, at (202) 483-5500. Source -*

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8692

New York City: Police Commissioner Calls On Officers To Curb Marijuana Arrests

New York, NY, USA: City police officers are to cease making misdemeanor marijuana arrests in cases where the contraband was not displayed in public view, according to an internal order issued late last week by Police Commissioner Ray Kelly and [reported](#) by the *New York Post*.

In 2010, city police [made 50,383 lowest level marijuana possession arrests](#) [NY State Penal Law 221.10] involving cases where marijuana was either used or possessed in public. The total was the second highest in the city's history and was an [increase](#) of over 5,000 percent from 1990, when police reported fewer than 1,000 low-level pot arrests. [Over 85 percent](#) of those charged are typically either African American or Latino.

However, [an investigation](#) in April by New York City public radio station WNYC questioned the legality of many of those arrested. It concluded that police routinely conduct warrantless 'stop-and-frisk' searches of civilians, find marijuana hidden on their persons, and then falsely charge them with possessing pot 'open to public view.'

The Commissioner's new [order](#) stipulates that marijuana discovered during a police search is a violation punishable by a ticket only. Source - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8694

Colorado: Workgroup Rejects Call For THC Per Se Legislation

Denver, CO, USA: Members of an eight-member workgroup [deadlocked](#) on the question of whether to recommend statewide legislation that would define a driver as criminally impaired if they operated a vehicle with levels of THC in their blood above 5ng/ml. Members of the state's Drug Policy Task Force and the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice will likely revisit the issue this fall.

Earlier this year, lawmakers [rejected](#) legislation that sought to expand the state's drugged driving laws by enacting *per se* standards for THC, the primary psychoactive substance in marijuana.

Workgroup members who opposed the establishment of a *per se* statute, including co-chair Sean McAllister of the [NORML Legal Committee](#), [argued](#) that additional legislation was unnecessary, unsupported by science, and unlikely to significantly improve public safety.

According to the U.S. National Highway Safety Traffic Administration, driving fatality rates in Colorado [fell over 20 percent](#) despite the enactment of medical marijuana legalization in 2001. Further, according to statistics presented to the workgroup by a representative of the Colorado Judicial Department, some 90 percent of those charged with DUI drugs or alcohol in the previous four years have been convicted. Members also cited data indicating that some chronic cannabis consumers

[may continue to test positive](#) for the presence of low levels of THC in their blood long after the impairing effects of the substance have subsided. *NORML's state-by-state summary of DUI laws is available online at: http://norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=6669. NORML's updated white paper assessing cannabis intoxication and psychomotor performance, 'Cannabis and Driving: A Scientific and Rational Review,' is available at: http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=7459.*

Source

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8681

Arkansas: Lawmakers Enact Sentencing Reform Measures, Reduce Pot Penalties

Little Rock, AR, USA: Criminal sentencing reform legislation passed by lawmakers earlier this year is now in effect. [Senate Bill 750](#), the Public Safety Improvement Act, intends to [reduce the number of non-violent offenders incarcerated](#) statewide by mitigating the sentences for certain low-level drug offenses.

Specific to marijuana law enforcement, the measure amends cannabis penalties so that the possession of up to four ounces of pot is a criminal misdemeanor, punishable by up to one-year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. For first-time offenders, the new law states, "[T]he court, without entering a judgment of guilt and with the consent of the defendant, may defer further proceedings and place the defendant on probation for a period of not less than one year."

Defendants found guilty of violating the state's marijuana laws will still be subject to the loss of their driver's license for six-months.

For more information, please contact Keith Stroup, NORML Legal Counsel, at (202) 483-5500. Full text of the Public Safety Improvement Act is available online at: <http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2011/2011R/Acts/Act570.pdf>.

Source

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8671

Michigan: Kalamazoo Voters To Decide On Marijuana 'Deprioritization' Measure

Kalamazoo, MI, USA: Kalamazoo voters [will decide](#) this November on a municipal initiative that seeks to make marijuana law enforcement the city's "lowest priority." The proposed amendment to Kalamazoo's city charter seeks to make the possession of an ounce or less of marijuana by adults age 21 the city's lowest law enforcement priority.

The initiative is modeled after a similar measure that was [enacted by Seattle voters](#) in 2003. A [review](#) of that measure in 2008 reported that implementation of the ordinance was associated with a reduction in local law enforcement costs and "no evident increase in marijuana use among youth and young adults." Voters in Tacoma, Washington will also vote on a similar proposal this fall.

Source

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8676



News From *your* local affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

Frequency Of Marijuana Use Associated With Lower Prevalence Of Obesity, Study Says

"People using cannabis are less likely to be obese than people who do not use cannabis," authors say

Colombes, France: The prevalence of obesity in the general population is sharply lower among marijuana consumers than it is among nonusers, according to [an analysis](#) published online this week in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*. Investigators at the Louis Moureir Hospital in Colombes, France analyzed cross-sectional data from two representative epidemiological studies of US adults age 18 and older: the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC) and the National Comorbidity Survey-Replication. Combined, the surveys included over 50,000 eligible respondents. Authors controlled for respondents' sociodemographic characteristics, including age, ethnicity, educational level, marital status, and tobacco use, but they did not factor into account subjects' physical activity or diet. **Source** - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8670



22nd Annual Boston Freedom Rally Takes Place

Boston, MA, USA: The Massachusetts' affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, [MassCann/NORML](#), held its 22nd annual [Freedom Rally](#) On Saturday, September 17, at the Boston Common in downtown Boston. The noon event, which is anticipated to draw over 50,000 attendees, is the largest public marijuana law reform gathering on the east coast. *A complete line-up of this year's speakers and musicians is available online at:* <http://masscann.org>. **Source** - http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=8682

*** NOTE!** The Willamette Valley NORML Member meeting happens **every 2nd Sat. of the month** and will be at The Voter Power Office. For more info on meeting visit: <http://w-v-norml.org/Members/meeting.html>



The Willamette Valley NORML Public meeting happens (most!) **every 4th Sat. of the month** (Excepting Holidays - Nov., Dec. - when it takes place 3rd Sat.!) and will also be at The Voter Power Office at **687 River Av, Eugene, Oregon** * For more info on meeting call: **541.517-0957** -or- visit: <http://w-v-norml.org/meeting.html>

Toasted h'ERB'S Kitchen,
1210 Willamette St, Eugene
It's One Hell of A Joint!
call: **541.343-2845** -or- visit:
<http://w-v-norml.org/meeting.html>

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