



U.S. Department of Justice  
Drug Enforcement Administration

Office of the Administrator

Springfield, VA 22152

October 28, 2024

Hon. John J. Mulrooney, II  
Chief Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Law Judges  
8701 Morrisette Drive  
Springfield, VA 22152

Dear Chief Judge Mulrooney,

On May 21, 2024, the Department of Justice published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to transfer marijuana from schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) to schedule III of the CSA. See [Schedules of Controlled Substances: Rescheduling of Marijuana, 89 FR 44597 \(May 21, 2024\)](#). Upon review of the requests for hearing on the NPRM, I authorized a hearing to be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), the CSA, and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulations. See [Schedules of Controlled Substances: Rescheduling of Marijuana, 89 FR 70148 \(Aug. 29, 2024\)](#).

Pursuant to my authority under the CSA and DEA regulations, I reviewed the requests for a hearing under [21 CFR 1308.44\(a\)](#) and [1316.47](#), and the requests to participate under [21 CFR 1308.44\(b\)](#) and [1316.48](#), and I have determined that the following will be participants at the hearing:

1. Village Farms International Inc.  
Shane Pennington of Porter Wright, [spennington@porterwright.com](mailto:spennington@porterwright.com)
2. National Cannabis Industry Association  
Aaron Smith, CEO and Co-Founder, and Michelle Rutter Friberg, Director of Government Relations, [aaron@thecannabisindustry.org](mailto:aaron@thecannabisindustry.org) and [michelle@thecannabisindustry.org](mailto:michelle@thecannabisindustry.org)
3. American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine  
Dr. Chad Kollas, MD, [wchill@aahpm.org](mailto:wchill@aahpm.org)
4. Cannabis Bioscience International Holdings  
John Jones, Treasurer and Director, [ir@cbih.net](mailto:ir@cbih.net)

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5. Hemp for Victory  
Robert Head, Dr. Corey Burchman, Dr. Darinia Douchi, and Victor Bohm,  
[robert@bluecordfarms.com](mailto:robert@bluecordfarms.com)
6. Cannabis Ombudsman, State of Connecticut  
Erin Gorman Kirk, [Erin.Kirk@ct.gov](mailto:Erin.Kirk@ct.gov)
7. Massachusetts Cannabis Advisory Board  
Ellen Brown, Research Subcommittee Chair, [ellen@greenpathtraining.com](mailto:ellen@greenpathtraining.com)
8. Veterans Initiative 22  
Shanetha Lewis, Executive Director, [info@veteransinitiative22.com](mailto:info@veteransinitiative22.com)
9. The Doc App. Db, My Florida Green  
Nicholas Garulay, President and CEO, and Jason Castro, Inhouse Counsel,  
[jasoncastro@myfloridagreen.com](mailto:jasoncastro@myfloridagreen.com)
10. The Commonwealth Project  
Katy Green, [kag@platinumadvisors.com](mailto:kag@platinumadvisors.com)
11. Saint Michael's College  
Ari Kirshenbaum, PhD, Professor of Psychology,  
[msslade@cannabispublicpolicyconsulting.com](mailto:msslade@cannabispublicpolicyconsulting.com)
12. National Drug and Alcohol Screening Association (NDASA)  
Jo McGuire, [jomcguire@ndasa.com](mailto:jomcguire@ndasa.com)
13. Smart approaches to Marijuana (SAM)  
Patrick Philbin, [pphilbin@torridonlaw.com](mailto:pphilbin@torridonlaw.com)
14. International Academy on the Science and Impact of Cannabis  
Roneet Lev, [roneetlev@gmail.com](mailto:roneetlev@gmail.com)
15. Cannabis Industry Victims Educating Litigators  
David Evans, Sr. Counsel, [thinkon908@aol.com](mailto:thinkon908@aol.com)
16. Kenneth Finn, MD, [kfinn@springsrehab.net](mailto:kfinn@springsrehab.net)
17. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)  
Jennifer Homendy, Chair, [ExecutiveSecretariat@ntsb.gov](mailto:ExecutiveSecretariat@ntsb.gov) and  
[correspondence@ntsb.gov](mailto:correspondence@ntsb.gov)
18. Phillip Drum, Pharm D, [phillipdrum@comcast.net](mailto:phillipdrum@comcast.net)

- 19. State of Nebraska  
Attorney General Mike Hilgers, [zachary.viglianco@nebraska.gov](mailto:zachary.viglianco@nebraska.gov)
- 20. International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)  
[voegtlin@theiacp.org](mailto:voegtlin@theiacp.org)
- 21. Drug Enforcement Association of Federal Narcotics Agents (DEAFNA)  
[marshallfisher@rocketmail.com](mailto:marshallfisher@rocketmail.com)
- 22. American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM)  
Natalie P. Hartenbaum, [occumedix@comcast.net](mailto:occumedix@comcast.net) cc: [craig@acoem.org](mailto:craig@acoem.org)
- 23. Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)  
Sue Thau, [cdoarn@cadca.org](mailto:cdoarn@cadca.org)
- 24. Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI)  
[kim.litman@tbi.tn.gov](mailto:kim.litman@tbi.tn.gov)
- 25. National Sheriff's Association  
[sheriffskinner@collincountytx.gov](mailto:sheriffskinner@collincountytx.gov) and [ykaraman@sheriffs.org](mailto:ykaraman@sheriffs.org)

Further, an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) is now designated to preside over the hearing. The ALJ's functions commence upon this designation. *See* [21 CFR 1316.52](#). The designated ALJ will have powers necessary to conduct a fair hearing, to take all necessary action to avoid delay, and to maintain order. *Id.* The ALJ's authorities include the power to hold conferences to simplify or determine the issues in the hearing or to consider other matters that may aid in the expeditious disposition of the hearing; require parties to state their position in writing; sign and issue subpoenas to compel the production of documents and materials to the extent necessary to conduct the hearing; examine witnesses and direct witnesses to testify; receive, rule on, exclude, or limit evidence; rule on procedural items; and take any action permitted by the presiding officer under DEA's hearing procedures and the APA. *Id.*

Sincerely,



Anne Milgram  
Administrator