

March 23, 2010

Food and Drug Administration  
Division of Freedom of Information (HFI-35)  
Office of Shared Services  
Office of Public Information and Library Services  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

Re: Freedom of Information Request

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I hereby request a copy of the Department of Health and Human Services report on medical use of marijuana which was just recently submitted to the DEA Office of Diversion Control, Christine A. Sannerud, Ph.D., Chief, Drug & Chemical Evaluation Section (ODE), in response to the Marijuana Rescheduling Petition filed by Jon Gettman on October 9, 2002, accepted by the DEA on April 13, 2003, and referred to the Department of Health and Human Services in July 2004..

I have attached a copy of an email I received from the DEA Office of Diversion Control, Susan Carr, Associate Section Chief (ODE/A), on March 19, 2010, describing the document I am requesting.

If any expenses are incurred in connection with this request, please obtain my approval before any such charges are incurred. I am a public researcher and political activist. Disclosure of the information will contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the government because states like mine are considering medical marijuana legislation and have a legitimate concern about the impact federal laws may have on medical patients residing in those states.

Carl Olsen, Post Office Box 4091, Des Moines, Iowa 50333

I will expect a response within 20 working days as provided by law. If my request is denied in whole or in part, I expect a detailed justification for withholding records. I also request any segregable portions that are not exempt to be disclosed.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Carl Olsen

Iowans for Medical Marijuana

Post Office Box 4091

Des Moines, Iowa 50333

515-288-5798 home phone

515-343-9933 cell phone

<http://www.iowamedicalmarijuana.org/>

[carl-olsen@mchsi.com](mailto:carl-olsen@mchsi.com)

# Carl Olsen

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**From:** Carr, Susan M [Susan.M.Carr@usdoj.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2010 11:23 AM  
**To:** Carl Olsen  
**Cc:** Jessen, Lloyd [IBPE]  
**Subject:** RE: Marijuana Rescheduling Petition

Mr. Olsen, thank you for your inquiry. Your request for information should be directed to the appropriate Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Office at the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) or the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The address for DEA's FOIA office is:

Drug Enforcement Administration  
8701 Morrissette Drive  
FOIA Attn: K. Myrick  
Springfield, VA 22152

Please note, however, that as this request involves an ongoing proceeding, the information you have requested may not be available to the public at this time.

Best regards,

Susan Carr

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Susan Carr, Deputy Chief  
Drug and Chemical Evaluation Section (ODE)  
Office of Diversion Control (OD)  
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)  
Washington, DC 20537  
Phone: 202-307-7183  
Fax: 202-353-1263  
E-mail: [Susan.M.Carr@usdoj.gov](mailto:Susan.M.Carr@usdoj.gov)

mailing address:  
DEA Headquarters  
Attn: Drug & Chemical Evaluation Section/ODE  
P.O. Box 2490  
Springfield, VA 22152-2490

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**From:** Carl Olsen [mailto:carl-olsen@mchsi.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2010 10:51 AM  
**To:** Carr, Susan M  
**Cc:** 'Jessen, Lloyd [IBPE]'  
**Subject:** RE: Marijuana Rescheduling Petition

Ms. Carr,

Thank you very much!

Carl

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**From:** Carr, Susan M [mailto:Susan.M.Carr@usdoj.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2010 9:36 AM  
**To:** Carl Olsen  
**Cc:** Jessen, Lloyd [IBPE]  
**Subject:** RE: Marijuana Rescheduling Petition

Mr. Olsen, sorry for the delay but I will send a response to your question soon.

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**From:** Carl Olsen [mailto:carl-olsen@mchsi.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2010 10:19 AM  
**To:** Carr, Susan M  
**Cc:** 'Jessen, Lloyd [IBPE]'  
**Subject:** Marijuana Rescheduling Petition

Susan Carr  
Associate Section Chief (ODE/A)  
Drug & Chemical Evaluation Section (ODE)  
DEA Diversion Control Program

Dear Ms. Carr,

I left a message on your voice mail. I'm inquiring about the marijuana rescheduling petition that was filed in 2002. I have received word that the Department of Health and Human Services has recently completed its review and sent the petition back to the Drug Enforcement Administration, Christine A. Sannerud. I would love to see what HHS had to say.

On February 17, 2010, our Iowa Board of Pharmacy recommended that marijuana be removed from our state Schedule I after holding a series of public hearings and reviewing the most current scientific information available (I've attached the press release from the Iowa Department of Public Health). As you probably know, the American Medical Association said almost the same thing last November (I've attached a summary page from a preliminary draft of that report).

Our Iowa legislators are undoubtedly considering the impact of federal scheduling right now, as our Board of Pharmacy did. It would be extremely helpful to know what the HHS had to say.

Thank you for your assistance in the matter!

Carl Olsen  
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515-343-9933 cell phone  
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