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# San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CITY ATTORNEY SETTLES WITH PROPERTY OWNER TO SHUT DOWN MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES AND MASSAGE PARLORS** *Sixteen illegal businesses operated out of single Park Boulevard building*

**San Diego, CA:** The owner of a North Park building that housed 4 marijuana dispensaries and approximately 12 massage parlors has signed a settlement with the City in which he is permanently enjoined by court order from allowing those businesses to operate on his property.

Under the injunction issued by the court, he must evict those businesses from the building at 4009-4015 Park Boulevard and may not allow new dispensaries or massage parlors to take the place of evicted businesses. In addition, he must correct numerous violations of the San Diego Municipal Code.

City zoning laws do not allow for marijuana dispensaries anywhere in San Diego or for massage parlors in the zone covering the Park Boulevard building.

The owner of the building, Steven H. Greenwald, while not admitting liability, agreed to pay \$10,000 outright in civil penalties. An additional \$40,000 was stayed pending full compliance with the terms of the settlement. He has already reimbursed the City \$4,158.65 in investigative costs.

The marijuana outlets were identified as The Medical Miracle Collective, Trichomes R US, Healing Arts Cooperative and Glass Jar Collective. Last week, the City Attorney's Office filed civil complaints in Superior Court seeking injunctions against all but the Glass Jar Collective, which has since moved or closed.

The pastor of a church across the street from the building said in a declaration filed with the court that he often saw customers of the dispensaries hanging out on the church's playground smoking marijuana, leaving marijuana vials on the ground, threatening neighbors and even urinating on church property.

A San Diego police officer said in a declaration that he observed what he believed to be homeless people panhandling for marijuana outside the dispensaries. He also noted an increase in complaints by patrol officers regarding individuals openly smoking marijuana around the dispensary property; and an increase in police calls for service that complain about loud disturbances, smoking marijuana in public, loitering and traffic congestion.

"We will continue to focus on enforcement of the law," said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith. "Due to our enforcement, these businesses will no longer be able to negatively impact the quality of life for this community."

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