

## San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Defiant Marijuana Dispensary Shut Down**

SoCal Holistics is one of 18 closed by City Attorney's Office in past 60 days

After defying police and a court order for several weeks, the unpermitted marijuana dispensary SoCal Holistics shuttered its doors last week, apparently for good.

SoCal Holistics is the 18th marijuana dispensary to be closed through enforcement action by the City Attorney's Office in the past 60 days. Since 2011, the office has closed roughly 250 dispensaries for operating in violation of San Diego zoning regulations.

Typically the office can obtain a court order against an illegal dispensary within 30 days. Once a court order is obtained, the operators and/or property owners typically shut down within 24 hours.

SoCal Holistics was an exception.

The City Attorney's Office obtained the court order against SoCal Holistics on Friday, February 13, 2015. The order was posted that day at the property, 1150 Garnet Avenue in Pacific Beach, and became effective for enforcement purposes 24 hours later.

San Diego Police went to the property on February 18, where they found the dispensary was continuing to illegally operate and shut it down. The dispensary re-opened the next day, however. When police returned to the property, they cited the security guard for violating the court order and again shut down the dispensary. When the dispensary re-opened the next day -- Friday, February 20 –police arrested the "bud tender" for violating the court order and shut down the dispensary a third time. The dispensary operator, Ryan Murphy, was not found at the property during any of the police enforcement actions.

In the meantime, Murphy's lawyer has been in contact with the City Attorney's Office and after initial settlement discussions, the dispensary closed last week. The City can seek stiff civil penalties against dispensary operators like Murphy who repeatedly flout the law.

**"There is no justification for violating the law or violating a court order,"** City Attorney Jan Goldsmith said. **"The City of San Diego now has zoning for dispensaries under certain approved conditions and operators must follow the law. We will continue to close down dispensaries that violate the City's zoning laws."** 

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SoCal Holistics was one of 18 illegal dispensaries closed this year. Others include:

- **Green Cellar Inc.,** 2056 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Park West. Defendants are the property owner Harbor West Properties, LLC, and its manager Amad Attisha, and the operator Green Cellar Inc. and its chief executive officer Antonio Arturo Joseph Ferrer III. Green Cellar was ordered closed on January 23, 2015.
- **Green Crops Cooperative**, 6575 El Cajon Boulevard in Rolando. Defendants are the property owner Dorothy Marks Trust and its trustees John L. Marks and Dorothy Marks, and Green Crops Cooperative, Inc. and its chief executive officer Huong Mai. Green Crops Cooperative was ordered closed on January 22, 2015.
- **Medical Alternatives**, 6490 University Avenue in Rolando. The Defendant is the property owner John L. Marks, a trustee of the John L. Mark Trust. Medical Alternative was ordered closed on January 7, 2015.
- **DBest Meds**, 3565 University Avenue in Normal Heights. Defendants are the property owner Haisha Family Living Trust and its co-trustees Richard J. Haisha and Samantha A. Haisha, as well as the 1988 Haisha Family Residual Trust and its co-trustees Kameel T. Haisha and Richard J. Haisha; and the operator SD Best Meds Inc. and its agent Michael Haisha. DBest Meds closed on March 5, 2015.
- The Warehouse, 3511 India Street in Midtown. Defendants are the property owners, Ricardo Trovato and Raquel Trovato, and the owner of the dispensary, Hrachia Azizyan. The Warehouse was ordered closed January 27, 2015. This dispensary was burglarized of an estimated \$10,000 in marijuana on November 27, 2014.
- North Park Holistic Care, 3450 El Cajon Blvd. in North Park. Defendants are-were the property owner, LMJ 35<sup>th</sup> Street Property, and its general manager, Jeffrey Kacha, and the dispensary operator, Boyd Acme Services, and its agent Tierra Boyd. North Park Holistic Care was ordered closed on February 10, 2015.
- Night of the Living Wellness, 3907 Imperial Ave. in Mountain View. Defendants are the property owners Francisco J. Guzman and Juana Guzman, and Shwan Halabu, a responsible party. Night of the Living Wellness was ordered closed January 27, 2015.
- Green Air Patient Care, 6810 El Cajon Blvd. in Rolando. Defendants are the property owner Shahriar Sorourbakhsh, and the dispensary operator, Andrew Kelly Matthews. Green Air Patient Care was ordered closed on February 23, 2015. This dispensary was robbed on January 8, 2015.
- Market Holistics Inc., 4708 Market Street in Chollas View. Defendants are the property owners, Yousif Shamoun and Suham Shamoun. Future court date to be scheduled.
- **Penthouse Collective,** 3949 Clairemont Drive in Clairemont. Defendants are were the property owner, Balboa Rental Properties, LP; BRP's general partner, Clairemont Heights Management Co., LP; CHMC's general partner, CRP Management Co., LLC; and Michael D. Bartell, the sole manager of CRP Management Co. Penthouse Collective was ordered closed on February 18, 2015.

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- **Park Boulevard Holistic Collective,** 3960 Park Blvd. in University Heights. Defendants are were Park Boulevard Holistic Collective and its operators Andre Shammas and Natik Nasser and the property owner GLD Housing Inc. and its chief executive officer Emil Wohl. Park Boulevard Holistic Collective was ordered closed on 2/18/15
- **Imperial Flowers,** 6385 Imperial Avenue in Encanto Heights. Defendants are were the property owner High Rise Hirmez, Inc. and its chief executive officer and president, Saad Hirmez, and its secretary and chief financial officer, Badry Hirmez. Imperial Flowers was ordered closed on February 19, 2015.
- **Daily Highlight,** 2854 Main Street in Barrio Logan. Defendants are were the property owners HVS LP, its general partner Property Enterprises, Inc., and PEI's chief executive officer, Peter Considine; and The Daily Highlight Inc, a California nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation, and its chief executive officer Jesse Thomas. Daily Highlight was ordered closed on February 25, 2015.
- **IMP30 Imperial**, 3030 Imperial Avenue in Grant Hill. Defendants are the property owners, Daniel I. Moyal and Victoria A. Moyal. IMP30 Imperial was ordered closed on March 3, 2015.
- Ocean Breeze Wellness Center, 4626-4628 Santa Monica Avenue in Ocean Beach. Defendants are the property owner David Q. Aguilar Living Trust and its trustee David Quidera Aguilar. Ocean Breeze Wellness Center was ordered closed on February 18, 2015.
- **Top of the Hill,** 2519 Market Street in Grant Hill. Defendants are the property owner Bahoura Family Trust and its trustees Baher Bahoura and Taghrid Bahoura. Top of the Hill was ordered closed on February 18, 2015.
- **Point Loma Patients Association**, 2830 Lytton Street in Point Loma. Defendants are the property owner Karen S. Sherman, the dispensary Point Loma Patients Association and the dispensary operator Heidi Rising. A stipulated court order to shut down dispensary was signed March 6, 2015.

"We believe there are other dispensaries operating illegally in San Diego beyond those that have been referred to us for prosecution," Goldsmith said. "When cases on those other dispensaries are investigated and brought to us by the San Diego Police Department or Code Enforcement Division, we will close them down and obtain monetary sanctions."

Complaints regarding marijuana dispensaries may be referred to the Code Enforcement Division of the City at (619) 236-5500.

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