

5/9/17

Veterans Cannabis Conference Calls

CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA AND SCHEDULE

VCG Conference Call Updates Schedule:

- 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 6pm PST
- Last Tuesday of the month @ 6pm PST

- speaking members;
 - Aaron Augustis -
Founder of the Veterans Cannabis Group
US Army Veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom,
<http://veteranscannabisgroup.com/#founder>

 - Michael Krawitz -
Sergeant, disabled-retired USAF
Executive Director VMCA
<http://www.veteransformedicalcannabis.org/>

- Jeff Sessions and the Federal take on medical cannabis vs recreation
 - Open discussion on worst case scenario
 - <http://www.thecannabist.co/2017/04/07/jeff-sessions-marijuana-justice-department-policies/76857/>

- President's Trump budget bill -
 - "Division B, section 537 provides that the Department of Justice may not use any funds to prevent implementation of medical marijuana laws by various States and territories. **I will treat this provision consistently with my constitutional responsibility to take care that the laws be faithfully executed.**"
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/05/05/statement-president-donald-j-trump-signing-hr-244-law>

 - The **Rohrabacher–Farr amendment** is legislation first introduced by U.S. Reps. [Maurice Hinchey](#), [Dana Rohrabacher](#), and [Sam Farr](#) in 2003, prohibiting the [Justice Department](#) from spending funds to interfere with the implementation of [state medical marijuana laws](#). It passed the [House](#) in May 2014 after six previously failed attempts, becoming law in December 2014 as part of an [omnibus spending bill](#). The passage of the amendment was the first time either chamber of Congress had voted to protect medical marijuana patients, and is viewed as a historic victory for marijuana reform advocates at the federal level.^[1] The amendment does not change the legal status of

marijuana however, and must be renewed each fiscal year in order to remain in effect.^[2]

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rohrabacher%E2%80%93Farr_amendment
- “Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin says his department is seeking to close perhaps more than 1,100 VA facilities nationwide as it develops plans to allow more veterans to receive medical care in the private sector.”
 - <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/shulkin-says-hes-considering-closing-1100-veterans-affairs-facilities/>
- Dr. Sue Sisley study and why did John Hopkins drop out of the study...?
- Veterans living in States that do not have a state medical cannabis program
 - What do they do?
 - Where do they go for advice/info on cannabis
 - NORML Chapters
 - American Legion Posts
 - Reach out to other veteran organizations that can connect you with veterans in your state
- Dr. Sue Sisley - PTSD Research study
 - <http://www.wfwproject.org/2017/04/weed-warriors-sends-urgent-plea-united-states-attorney-general-honorable-jeff-sessions/>
- Hard Car Security - job postings
 - <http://www.hardcarsecurity.com/>
- Operation Surf
 - Next Operation Surf event
 - Huntington Beach, CA
 - June 6-12th, 2017
 - Apply online - <http://amazingsurfadventures.org/programs/operation-surf/>
 - Starting a Marin/SF surf club
- Operation EVAC, Educating Veterans About Cannabis
 - <http://www.opevac.org/>
 - Connect Dr. Straz with Ryan Miller, referrals. Doctors and veterans
 - Job Posting for Hard Car Security
 - Looking for Marin County Operation EVAC Facilitator
 - Description of duties: Facilitate recurring 90-minute peer-led social support groups.
 - Procure, track, and report, complimentary cannabis redistribution.

- Train dispensary staff about communication approaches that incentivize participation.
 - Contact Aaron Augustis and Ryan Miller
 - Date to start the training
 - Interested in facilitating - must go to Operation EVAC meetings
- 420 Games
 - The 420 Games are sponsoring a VCG Team! Free tickets to all VCG veteran members!
 - Weblink to follow to access the free tickets

THE 420 GAMES SAN FRANCISCO

Where: Golden Gate Park

When: Saturday, August 26th, 2017 | 8am – 2pm at The Spreckles Temple of Music Bandshell

Come join The 420 Games as we hold our FOURTH ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO 420 GAMES!

This is a great event for all who want to exercise, listen to some beats, and partake in one of the fastest growing industries in the world!

<https://420games.org/events/san-francisco-2017/>

- VA health care - Acupuncture and Chiropractor visits through Tri-West
- IRS Veteran Service Classification - 501(c) (19)
- Constitutional Amendment - veterans requesting access from the VA
- Veterans Equal Access Amendment
 - Definition of amendment and the significance of needing it to pass this year.

“Language that would have allowed Veterans Administration doctors to recommend medical marijuana to patients has been stripped from a spending bill.”

<http://www.benefitspro.com/2016/10/04/congress-still-denies-vets-access-to-medical-marij>
 - Action Plan - contact members of the Veterans House Oversight Committee
 - Objective - We want them to co-sponsor the Veterans Equal Access Amendment
- **Announcements Next Call - May 9th, 2017 6pm, PST.**

- next meeting date/time and topic - Advocacy Action Steps, Organizing new Posts, networking with your local cannabis businesses and how to create partnerships

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- Patients Out of Time will be holding The Eleventh National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics that will be held in Berkeley on May 18 -20.
 - <http://patientsoutoftime.org/schedule/>
 - Veterans Panel on Sunday 5/21/17
 - There will be a Veterans support group on Wed., May 21st (all Vets welcome, hosted by local Weed for Warriors group) and a Veteran Activist meeting on Sunday, May 21 with Michael Krawitz and Jeff Staker (IL) will be leading it. More info at www.patientsoutoftime.org. POT was started by 2 Veterans)
 - May 8th, D.C. meeting at the capitol, also at the Oakland VA at 12pm