



California Police Chiefs Association

P.O. Box 255745, Sacramento, California 95865-5745

E-mail: lmcgill@californiapolicechiefs.org

Web site: www.californiapolicechiefs.org

PRESS RELEASE

Date of Release: October 17, 2011

Contact: Leslie McGill, 916-481-8000

Police Chiefs Strongly Oppose Medical Association's Position on Marijuana

The California Police Chiefs Association said today it "strongly opposes" the California Medical Association's recent announcement advocating the legalization of marijuana. It released the following statement from Chief David L. Maggard, Jr., president of the association's board:

"We are concerned and surprised by CMA's recommendation to legalize marijuana. There isn't even close to enough medical data illustrating the medicinal benefits to warrant legalization of this drug, especially when you consider the public safety and health risks associated with its use. It's easy to see why legalizing marijuana is a bad idea.

"Police officers witness the negative impact of marijuana usage on a daily basis in our communities and on our roads. There's been a rise in the number of juveniles who are seeking treatment for addiction to the drug. We don't see any positive outcomes from legalizing marijuana.

"The federal government agrees. We applaud the recent decision to step up federal enforcement of illegal marijuana dispensaries."

The California Police Chiefs Association represents the state's 336 municipal police chiefs whose agencies protect over 78 percent of the citizens of California.

#