

Hi I'm Adam Anderson and I represent the Rising Hill CSD, I also serve on the Placerville Downtown association and sit on the Board of Directors for the County Chamber.

In 2013, the County board of Supervisors passed ordinance 5000 which allowed for the outdoor cultivation of medical marijuana in our county. This ordinance has been a complete disaster for our county. It has opened the flood gates to El Dorado County for backyard cultivators. This back yard industry has become a strain on our county resources, a nuisance and danger to our communities, and has tarnished our counties reputation as a family friendly place to live. I don't need to expound on examples, you have heard ample testimony from county officials and residents of the problems associated with marijuana in our county. The problem is that the problem is growing exponentially each year according to our Sheriff's office and nothing to date is being done about it.

I would like to discuss the two main arguments for cultivation in our county:

Medical needs. Yes, there may be legitimate medical properties to marijuana, but everyone knows that this is being widely abused. In discussing the matter with the lead Narcotics officer at the El Dorado County Sheriff's department, he said, "I have reviewed and met thousands of medical card holders and can honestly say that I have met a very small hand full that I felt had a legitimate purpose for using medical marijuana". I would like to remind the Board of Supervisors that there is no shortage of marijuana in the State of California. I understand that the county sends its own employees out of the County for medical services, I feel confident that legitimate medical users will be able to have their needs met without having to grow it in our neighborhoods. We are facing major problems and abuses with growing in our County in order to accommodate a very small number of alternative healthcare seekers. This is not practical or justifiable.
















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Tax it. If you've read the reports from the CDFA and our Sherriff's office then you know that regulating and taxing this black market industry will be no small feat. Right now the County agriculture department can barely keep up with the friendly, happy to see you farmers in the area, and the Sheriff's office is only able to investigate 2% of the grows according to their report. Why would people that are growing right now with basic impunity stop doing what they are doing to be regulated and taxed? I don't believe the potential tax revenues will ever compensate us for the costs to tax and regulate it. Outside of these cost there are other costs that are not easily quantifiable, social costs. I would like to refer you to the statistical report from El Dorado H.S.









The solution. Nevada County banned all outdoor growing on January 25th, 2016 sighting the same problems we are experiencing in our county, including the inability to tell who is growing it legally and who is not. So did the City of Placerville. I suggest that we follow there lead and implement an all-out ban in this County and get control over this problem. Once we have better control of the problem and we are able to see what other Counties are doing and experiencing as they try to implement the new State ordinance, then we can come back to discussing commercial taxable production in our county.


Adam Anderson

California Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act -- Licensing Structure

TYPE OF LICENSE	 TYPE 1	 TYPE 1A	 TYPE 1B	 TYPE 2	 TYPE 2A	 TYPE 2B	 TYPE 3	 TYPE 3A	 TYPE 3B	 TYPE 4	 TYPE 6	 TYPE 7	TYPE 8	TYPE 10	 TYPE 10A	 TYPE 11	 TYPE 12
LICENSE TYPE NAME	SPECIALTY OUTDOOR	SPECIALTY INDOOR	SPECIALTY MIXED-LIGHT	SMALL OUTDOOR	SMALL INDOOR	SMALL MIXED-LIGHT	OUTDOOR	INDOOR	MIXED-LIGHT	NURSERY	MANUFACTURER 1	MANUFACTURER 2	TESTING	DISPENSARY; GENERAL	DISPENSARY; NO MORE THAN THREE RETAIL SITES	DISTRIBUTION	TRANSPORTER
TYPE OF LIGHT	NATURAL LIGHT	ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	NATURAL LIGHT	ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	NATURAL LIGHT	ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL LIGHT	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
SIZE OF GROWING AREA ALLOWED (TOTAL CANOPY SIZE)	5,000 FEET AND UNDER ON 1 PLOT, OR UP TO 50 PLANTS ON SEPARATE PLOTS	5,000 FEET AND UNDER ON ONE PREMISIS	5,000 FEET OR LESS ON ONE PREMISIS	5,001 TO 10,000 SQUARE FEET ON ONE PREMISIS	5,001 TO 10,000 SQUARE FEET ON ONE PREMISIS	5,001 TO 10,000 SQUARE FEET ON ONE PREMISIS	10,001 TO 1 ACRE ON ONE PREMISIS	10,001 TO 22,000 SQUARE FEET	10,001 TO 22,000 SQUARE FEET ON ONE PREMISIS	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING THRESHOLD?	N/A	NOT STATED	TO BE DETERMINED BY LICENSING AUTHORITY	N/A	NOT STATED	TO BE DETERMINED BY LICENSING AUTHORITY	N/A	NOT STATED	TO BE DETERMINED BY LICENSING AUTHORITY	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
NUMBER OF LICENSES ISSUED BY DEPARTMENT TO BE LIMITED?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

A licensee may only hold a state license in up to two separate license categories, as follows:

-  Type 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 2A, or 2B licensees may also hold either a Type 6 or 7 state license.
-  Type 6 or 7 licensees, or a combination thereof, may also hold either a Type 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 2A, or 2B state license.
-  Type 6 or 7 licensees, or a combination thereof, may also hold a Type 10A state license.
-  Type 10A licensees may also hold either a Type 6 or 7 state license, or a combination thereof.
-  Type 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 2A, or 2B licensees, or a combination thereof, may also hold a Type 10A state license.
-  Type 10A licensees may apply for Type 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 2A, or 2B state license, or a combination thereof.
-  Type 11 licensees shall apply for a Type 12 state license, but shall not apply for any other type of state license.
-  Type 12 licensees may apply for a Type 11 state license.

 A Type 10A licensee may apply for a Type 6 or 7 state license and hold a 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 2A, 2B, 3, 3A, 3B, 4 or combination thereof if, under the 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 2A, 2B, 3, 3A, 3B, 4 or combination of licenses thereof, no more than four acres of total canopy size of cultivation by the licensee is occurring throughout the state during the period that the respective licenses are valid.

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Tharpconsultingservices@hushmail.com

3/15/16 ITEM 2

PUBLIC COMMENT
(SPEAKER) MITCH FADEL
3/15/16 #2

February 29th, 2008

Mitch Fadel
President of the American Alliance for Medical Cannabis

Good afternoon gentleman,

My name is Mitch Fadel and I am the president of the American Alliance for Medical Cannabis (AAMC). I would like to thank each and every one of you for joining us in another annual medical cannabis roundtable meeting. Your continued interest and support is always appreciated by the AAMC and the medical cannabis community.

I feel our mutual concern for the health and safety of the citizens of El Dorado County insures a quality of life to this great place we all call home. May our continued efforts as a coalition of professionals allow us the abilities to make advancement in the safe and educated use of medical cannabis within our society. Through our accomplishments, we hope to better help achieve a quality of life with the reduction of pain and suffering associated with illness and disease.

Proposition 215, also known as the Compassionate Use Act of 1996, has been in effect for 12 years, Unfortunately the law was heavily deficient in definition and was later refined in Senate Bill 420, an initiative that created a patient identification card and better defined patient rights established in Proposition 215.

Again there appears to be some deficiency in SB 420 concerning the needs of large bodies of patients collectively cultivating medical cannabis. On top of this problem, the Federal government further complicates an already complicated issue by the FDA stating there is no medical benefit to cannabis. To further complicate matters, the National Institute on Drug Abuse states some of the cannabinoids in cannabis are useful in the world of medicine, but cannot do the research needed because the Drug Enforcement Administration will not let up its grip on the availability of cannabis for research until Congress changes the status of cannabis from a schedule 1 controlled drug.

Twelve years have gone by with little accomplished to correct this dilemma and more states have adopted similar laws to Proposition 215. Meanwhile, the pain and suffering continue for the sick and dying with a very hazy future for the safe and affordable access to cannabis as a herbal alternative to more dangerous and addictive pharmaceuticals. Unfortunately, the lawmakers in Washington D.C. have been preoccupied with all the chaos in the world and internal issues that plague this nation, medical cannabis has been placed on the back burner.

Between the fear campaigns of the past, and the strong political lobbyists backed by the pharmaceutical industry, the future of medical cannabis is in the midst of uncertainty.

We need to employ wisdom , education, and the desire to make a change for the betterment of our community. Unfortunately, time is running out for the sick and dying, and they can't simply wait until Washington D.C. makes the changes needed. John F. Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country!" I perceive this as a call to duty, to serve my country in an effort to make the change for a better America. That change can start in little communities like El Dorado County with a group like us.

For the sake of the residents of El Dorado County, it would be in our best interests to take "the bull by the horns" and exercise our state given rights to insure safe and affordable access to this ancient herbal medicine. Through information and education , we may overcome the health and safety issues surrounding cannabis use. There is too much at stake here for us to turn a deaf ear or bury our heads in the sand concerning these issues. Like the complexity of the beneficial drugs within cannabis, the legal and social issues surrounding cannabis use are equally complicated and requires each and everyone of us with our individual strengths and wisdom to better serve the needs of this community.

I hope with meetings at our annual medical cannabis roundtable, we will be able to come up with the solutions needed to remedy the problems we face concerning medical cannabis.

Thank you, Mitch Fadel

Attending:

Sheriff Neves

District Attorney Pierson

Placerville Police Chief Nielson

Jason Everhardt Phillips, MD, Health Department

Philip Denney, MD

Shelly Arnold (South Lake Tahoe)

Carol Bott, RN (Vice President, AAMC)

Mitch Fadel (President, AAMC)

Dave Bishop (AAMC)

Attorney Dale Schafer

March 15, 2016

Good morning Chairman Mikulaco and Supervisors Frentzen, Novasel, Veerkamp, and Ranalli:

My name is Mitch Fadel. I am president of the American Alliance for Medical Cannabis, aka AAMC. We represent a fellowship of health professionals, patients, educators, clergy, caregivers and community members. Included in our membership are experts in the field of cannabis medicine, including clinical applications, cultivation, history, and medical preparations. Our primary mission is patient advocacy, patient rights, and patient support. Additional aspects of our mission include clinical research and educating decision makers. We have been meeting monthly at the Marshall Grange in Garden Valley for the last fifteen years, educating patients on cannabis medicine and the laws regulating the legal cultivation, processing, and use of this herbal alternative. I have also been part of the Advisory Committee on the Outdoor Cultivation of Medical Cannabis to create the current outdoor cultivation ordinance. Today I am here to represent the concerns of all the medical cannabis patients of El Dorado County.

In April of 2005, El Dorado County published a notice of a public workshop concerning medical cannabis dispensaries for the safe and affordable access for patients. The workshop ended with the question of where the medical cannabis would originate. On April 20, 2005, members of the AAMC met with County staff to further discuss the safe and affordable access for patients. The meeting ended with no further resolution in site.

On September 20, 2005, the county adopted Ordinance 4683 permanently prohibiting medical marijuana dispensaries in all zone districts in the unincorporated areas of the County by deleting the word "dispensary" from the zoning ordinance in each zone district in which it appeared. The Board's intent was to prohibit any entity from dispensing marijuana throughout the unincorporated areas of the County. Unfortunately for many legitimate patients, Ordinance 4683 stopped the safe and affordable access for medical cannabis.

On November 3, 2005, the AAMC met with public officials of both El Dorado County and the City of Placerville to further discuss regulations concerning the cultivation of medical cannabis. The discussion focused on possible remedies for those patients that could not grow their own medicine.

On March 23, 2007, the AAMC conducted another medical cannabis roundtable meeting with the various public officials to discuss the cultivation guidelines that were established at the previous roundtable meeting. The question still remained, regarding safe and affordable access for those patients that could not grow their own medicine.

On February 29, 2008, the AAMC again held another roundtable meeting with the various public officials to further address safe and affordable access, as there seemed to be a deficiency of access for medical cannabis in our County. Patients were forced to drive either to Sacramento or the Bay area for their medicine. This created a hardship on those who were very sick. I would like to enter in the record a copy of my presentation at that meeting, as it addresses the ongoing plight of medical cannabis patients and the determination of the AAMC to resolve the problem of safe and affordable access for medical cannabis.

In August 2008, the California Attorney General adopted guidelines for the interpretation and implementation of Senate Bill 420 in which 11362.775 of the Health & Safety code was further defined,

addressing the Collective and Cooperative cultivation of medical cannabis and the allowance of dispensaries for safe and affordable access.

On January 23, 2009, again the AAMC met with our public officials to discuss the Attorney General's guidelines and to expand safe and affordable access for medical cannabis patients. Again we sought to come up with a reasonable solution to an ongoing issue regarding patient's access for cannabis.

On December 20, 2011, interim ordinances 4970 & 4971 were signed into force, creating a temporary moratorium of the cultivation and distribution of medical cannabis. On October 30, 2012, interim ordinances 4986 & 4987 extended the temporary moratorium.

On September 24, 2013, ordinances 4999 & 5000 were signed into effect and replaced the previous temporary moratoriums.

We have come a long way since the process started in 2005, and without the joint efforts and cooperation of our Board of Supervisors office, county staff, the Sheriff's Department, the District Attorney's office, and determined cannabis patients, I do not believe we could accomplished what we have. It has been a long hard road and although we now have a cultivation ordinance in place, this is still only half of the equation in regards to safe and affordable access. We must now address the matter of the collective dispensaries and the patients that are reliant of them. Since the passage of The Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act in January, we now have state regulations to govern the cultivation, manufacture, transportation, testing and distribution of medical cannabis and the law provides for counties and cities to create further ordinances to further suit the needs of their communities. Our work is not over yet, as the evolution of medical cannabis continues to present new challenges for us, but I am confident that we can move in a direction which preserves our community's safety as well as our compassion for patients.

El Dorado County stands above many other counties on the subject of medical cannabis. Many cities and counties have imposed harsh restrictions or bans on cultivation and distribution with the hope of diminishing nuisances and crimes associated with cannabis. Unfortunately, law abiding patients become collateral damage in the process. Banning versus regulating allows the black market not only to exist, but to flourish. Laws and ordinances define legal and illegal behavior and as Supervisor Briggs stated, "The ordinance gives the Sheriff teeth for enforcing the law." The needs of medical cannabis patients and criminal commercial cannabis activities are two separate issues, and should never be categorized as one. Ordinance 5000 clearly distinguishes the two issues.

In closing, I would like to thank all that have been part of this process, and I feel honored to represent patients and serve our community in a manner that improves the quality of life for so many folks in El Dorado County. I also look forward in serving on the Advisory Committee to meet any new challenges that may exist in the future. At this time, I would like to share a short video put together by Placer County on the subject of regulating medical cannabis. Thank you for allowing me the time and opportunity to speak on the importance of fair regulations for medical cannabis

Good Morning.

March 15, 2016

My name is Patty Hunsinger. I am a retired voting citizen of El Dorado County. I am here today with a group of concerned home owners from Georgetown in a community upcountry called Volcanoville. There are approximately 300 property owners and 100 of us belong to our home owners group. This organization's purpose is for the betterment of our community, fire safety, road safety, and we watch out for each other's welfare.

The group of neighbors with me today share concerns that nonresidents are invading our community. Much of this new invasion is due to the Ordinance 5000 and now the new State of California, MMRSA. These new commercial growers provide little benefit to our community and to the county of El Dorado. Their goal is to grow with the least cost and make money selling elsewhere. We want the county supervisors to find a way to make our county less inviting to these outsiders. I am told 80 percent of the calls coming in to our local real estate offices are farmers seeking homes with land in order to grow pot commercially. These farmers are calling from out of our area, and many from other states. Why do they want to grow in El Dorado county? The word is out that **El Dorado County is a 420 friendly community.**

The Ordinance 5000 has backfired. I believe the intent of the ordinance was to soften the law enforcement on our local citizens who grow a couple plants for their own personal use; instead it opened the door to all growers. Why not their own county or state - **cost and marijuana banning laws.** They are **Greedy people** who either buy inexpensive homes with land or they rent homes with land so they can grow in our county. Most live and sell their products out of state or in southern California. If there was a cost to growing commercial pot in our county, maybe they would go elsewhere. If not, at least the money could go to law enforcement. At this time our county has only four investigators to address citizen complaints. **Citizens who support the county with tax dollars and business dollars deserve protection.**

In just 15 years time we have witnessed the change in landscape where we enjoyed outdoor activities throughout our community to where we now avoid areas due to safety concerns. Growers have blocked off roads and citizen access. There have been raids by the drug enforcement where commercial growers squatted and damaged National forest land to grow.

Numerous dirt roads lead off our main paved road. If each road has one or two commercial growers (unchecked) it changes our community safety efforts. This new commercial grow business is not compatible with the community we have worked so hard to design. If you don't get these new grows under control, they will continue to invade our community.

Since this gathering today is a workshop/meeting, let's brainstorm on how to protect the average citizens from the new commercial growers.

To assist you in this workshop review, here are our additional community concerns:

- **Fire safety**
- **Extra Water usage**
- **Traffic safety and heavy road use**
- **24 hour use of generator noise**
- **Offensive smell.**
- **More criminal activity with pot growers around**
- **Properties guarded (Remember the Oct 2000 upcountry shooting of Land Owner, William Hunt, and his son Matthew, 8.)**
- **Vicious dogs**
- **Pesticides**
- **Animal traps**
- **Vulnerable Impressionable school children**
- **Property value loss**
- **No community benefit**

Here are some of our community suggestions:

- **Repeal** the Ordinance 5000.
- **Change the zoning** in El Dorado County to make commercial pot unattractive
- Make a required **permit program** with liability bonding just as any other agricultural sales program would.
- **Regulate** for enclosed permitted building for areas to protect the environment from pollution and smell.
- The county made strict certification on vegetable farmers and put many of them out of business. **Certify** commercial growers.
- Provide a budget for more **county code enforcement**.
- Provide a **budget for the Sheriff's** department to address complaints.
- Make a **heavy tax** on the tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) portion of all commercial growers. That tax could pay for the inspections and testing.
- **Rules/Regulations** that will allow our law enforcement to come out and address community complaints. Give the citizens a tool to protect their cherished communities.

Our Sheriff has only 4 investigators assigned specifically to address illegal marijuana growers while marijuana growing runs rampant. If the Board decides that it has no will to restrict marijuana growing in El Dorado County, if it decides to just kick the can down the road and let marijuana growers further freely inundate El Dorado County neighborhoods, just imagine how many more marijuana growers will appear here and how impossible it will become for our Sheriff to effectively enforce existing laws that limit marijuana growing. Now is a good time to give the Sheriff greater power to control marijuana growing activities.

If the Board has the will to make El Dorado county less attractive for recreational use marijuana growers who merely claim to be growing medicinal marijuana, the MMRSA provides a golden opportunity.

I have a number of letters from concerned neighbors for the supervisors.

Respectfully Concerned Citizens from Georgetown, California

Mike Ranalli

March 14, 2016

El Dorado County Supervisor
District IV

Re: Medical Marijuana Regulations and Safety Act (MMRSA)

Dear Mike:

As you know, we are residence of Volcanoville, located outside of Georgetown. We have several concerns if our county does not take action to regulate the cultivation of marijuana under the Medical Marijuana Regulations and Safety Act enacted by the State Legislation in 2015.

Those concerns are:

1. We are a community of families with children and retired people, not an agricultural community. Growing agricultural crops, such as marijuana, is not the best use for this land.
2. **ROAD:** Also, as you know, Volcanoville Road is a one way in and a one way out road. The roads are very narrow with no center line and too many potholes which with the additional traffic, the potholes would only increase in width and depth affecting the safety of everyone who uses this road. Our road is barely able to accommodate our Emergency vehicles as it is. Can you imagine what it would be like with the constant traffic?
3. **CRIMINAL ACTIVITY:** Since we are so far from any kind of Sheriff's office coverage, our major concern is opening our community to increased criminal activity due to the nature of the product to be grown. Our homes are our **Castles** and many of us have been here 20 years or more. Needless to say, with this type of activity we are more vulnerable to burglaries, robberies, road rage, violence, pit-bulls, etc. With this additional burden, we will be needing a full time deputy in this area.
4. As stated in other letters, our community is a very close nit group. We look out for each another, however, growers are here for profit not to worry about their neighbor or make it their home.

The County of El Dorado and the Supervisors who serve the people have the obligations to keep its' homeowners safe.

Thank You

Lawrence and Donna Root
1921 Rubicon Rd., Georgetown, Ca. 95634

March 14, 2016

To the Honorable El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

I am a retired voting taxpaying citizen of El Dorado County. I will attend your March 15, 2016 workshop with a group of concerned home owners from Georgetown. People in my neighborhood promote community safety, fire safety, road safety, shop locally, and chose to live here because of the quality of life here. Commercial marijuana farm springing up in my neighborhood are detrimental to my neighborhood.

If I can use an ounce of common sense, I can understand that marijuana farms are springing up because marijuana produces and contains a mind altering drug. The marijuana plant has many beneficial uses, but tetrahydrocannabinol (hereafter THC), the mind altering component, drives the market for recreational use of marijuana. I have heard from several law enforcement and medical sources that today's marijuana is far more potent than what was available back in the days of the flower children, because marijuana growers have found ways to increase the THC content of their crops. If the Board has the will to make El Dorado county less attractive to marijuana growers who want to grow marijuana to sell for recreational use, and who merely conveniently pose as medicinal marijuana growers, the MMRSA provides a golden opportunity.

Medicinal marijuana growers do not need to cultivate their crop to achieve high levels of THC unless medical doctors prescribe marijuana to achieve a medicinal benefit from the high THC component. Perhaps the Board could contact doctors to inquire about whether those doctors prescribe marijuana to gain some medicinal benefit from the THC component, or to gain some medicinal benefit from some other component.

If the Board finds that doctors do not prescribe marijuana for the purpose of gaining some medicinal benefit from the THC component, the Board could issue restrictive medical marijuana cultivation licenses that dissuade cultivation of marijuana in El Dorado County for recreational use. Licenses to allow medical marijuana growing could specifically restrict cultivation to only marijuana plants that contain THC below some certain well chosen level. Licenses could be issued to only those licensees who specifically consent for the County to make unannounced inspections of growing plants and to destroy plants the County deems to be non-compliant plants. The County could impose reasonable license fees to cover the costs related to inspecting growing pants, sampling and analyzing growing plants, storing non-compliant plants, destroying non-compliant plants and enforcing compliance.

If the Board acts to restrict commercial marijuana growing activities to only medicinal quality marijuana, perhaps the people interested in growing marijuana suitable for recreational use will find that El Dorado County is not an attractive location to grow marijuana.

One of my biggest concerns arises from marijuana growers freely invading our residential neighborhoods. Marijuana growers tend to employ non-resident employees from other communities rather than employing local residents, and tend to introduce into our neighborhood people who care nothing about the well being of the residential neighborhood. One non-resident person planning to grow in my neighborhood said he won't let his children know he grows marijuana, but he obviously doesn't care about what impact the constant exposure to his marijuana will have on the children in our neighborhood.

With more marijuana growers moving into our rural residential neighborhood, we see more vehicles we do not recognize driven by people we do not recognize on our neighborhood roads. Extra commute vehicles splashing on our muddy roads in wet weather and raising fugitive dust from our roads in dry weather reduce the quality of life in our neighborhood. On rural neighborhood roads unrecognized vehicles filled with strangers arouse concern. Zoning restrictions that strictly limit where medical marijuana growers are allowed could go a long way to ease those concerns. Zoning a rather small area, like an industrial park with appropriate building requirements, could confine and simplify code enforcement, policing, fire suppression, traffic problems, and ease concerns about problems in residential neighborhoods.

Our Sheriff has only 4 investigators assigned specifically to address illegal marijuana growers and marijuana growing currently runs rampant. If the Board decides that it has no will to use the opportunity presented by MMRSA to restrict marijuana growing in El Dorado County, if it decides to just kick the can down the road and let marijuana growers further freely inundate rural El Dorado County neighborhoods, especially if other counties do restrict marijuana growers, just imagine how many more marijuana growers will appear here and how impossible it will become for our Sheriff to effectively enforce existing laws that limit marijuana growing. Now is a good time to give the Sheriff better tools to control marijuana growing activities.

Signed,

A concerned citizen who doesn't want to become a target.

March 15, 2016

To: County of El Dorado Board of Supervisors:

My husband and I have lived in our home for twenty-six years. The Volcanoville community that we live in is a close knit community: we stop and say hi to each other, we socialize with each other, we help each other out, and we have a strong homeowners association.

My main concern is how commercial grower will impact my neighborhood. I do not have a problem with neighbors who are growing small amounts for their own use. What I am concerned about are people from other states or southern California buying up cheap or foreclosed property and putting large greenhouses in to grow their commercial crops. This has happened down our road and across the street from our house. These new property owners are not vested in our community and are not concerned with the impact they could cause.

My concern for our neighborhood is increased traffic, increased crime, increased fire danger, increased strain of ground water supplies, increased noise, and an increase in obnoxious odors.

With each new property that is bought up and converted into a commercial grow project, there is increased traffic down our street or in the neighborhood. There are car after car driving by that I don't recognize. These might be employees or people looking to buy product. In any case, not only is there more wear and tear on our roads, these non-residence drive faster and with less care than neighbors, putting our children, grandchildren, pets, and ourselves at risk when we are walking or riding bikes.

In the last few years, as more and more of these cheap properties were converted, crime in our neighborhood has increased. There has been an increase in break-ins and suspicious people driving by houses or down driveways and backing out. This has me and many of the neighbors concerned about our safety.

Another safety concern is how these growers are protecting their product. Many have large guard dogs that could pose a threat to my children, grandchildren, and/or pets. There is also a possibility that the workers are armed or have traps set. This endangers everyone – neighbors, hikers, and kids playing hide-and-seek. And why do the growers need these kinds of protection? Having this kind of crops growing across the street from our house, is an invitation for people – drug dealers, gangs, or other criminals – to try to come and take it. If you lived here, would you want to have gun fights across the street from your house?

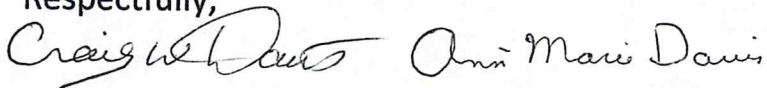
These commercial grow property comes with the noise of generators going constantly. They strain the ground water stores that we all share. Finally, the smell of the plants is obnoxious and assaults our noses when we are outside or go for a walk down the street.

So what is the solution? I know this is a state law, but we elected you, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, to look out for our interest, the residence of the county. I would like you to make it less attractive for people from southern California or other states to buy up our neighborhood just for the soul purpose of growing a cash crop to sell in another area. (Not even taxes stay in the county.)

How do you make it less attractive for the out of area growers to operate here? Ultimately, this is up to you. There should probably be a licensing or permit program, fees or taxes (high enough that our area is not as lucrative for them), and regulations to ensure the safety of the communities that are impacted. What we don't want is to make it easier and more profitable for out of area, non-residences to operate in El Dorado County than other places.

Thank you for taking the time to solve this issue for all of us.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signatures of Craig W. Davis and Ann Marie Davis.

Craig and Ann-Marie Davis

To whom it may concern,

My husband and I are residents on Volcanoville Rd in Georgetown Ca.

We have been extremely happy here with our small intimate community. We all work together, when there are any problems on our road we all seem to come to each other's rescue. This is a family oriented community and we all have kids and grandkids that enjoy the serenity of this beautiful forest land we occupy. I work for the school district in town and our local buses come to drop off our children at our corner and these children walk home, I want to know that they will be protected and guarded. We also have our local elementary school on our road, and to know these children could be approached at any time by strange people coming and going.

We moved out here to have the safe feeling of being out of the cities. And I can say for the first time since we have lived here I feel more and more uneasy and unsettled.

We all are very concerned about our trees being cut down to have these grow houses, our water and wells being depleted, with the millions of gallons being drained from all of our usage..

With the growers, their whole objective is to make money, and not care about our area and they pollute the grounds and our streams and wells .

And a constant worry about innocent people being hurt or killed. We ride on our quads and not knowing where you might come upon one and of course they will be protecting their properties. I am afraid for my grandchildren and families .

Sincerely,
Woody & Terri Holland

March 15, 2016

El Dorado County Board of Supervisor
Supervisor Mike Ranalli, District IV
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

March 15, 2016

Topic: Medical Marijuana Regulations and Safety Act (MMRSA)

Dear Supervisor Ranalli:

I am writing out of concern about the lack of El Dorado County Ordinances to regulate the potential influx of commercial Marijuana growers within the County and in particular the Volcanoville community. The following is a list of our concerns.

1. Increased Crime: With commercial growers protecting their crop, I am afraid innocent property owners may inadvertently become involved in the crossfire of those protecting their harvest.
2. Road Congestion: The Community of Volcanoville has approximately 250 residents who's only means of ingress and egress is Volcanoville Road, a one lane, narrow, winding, road which has poor visibility around corners. Increased traffic (and potentially with people under the influence) driving this road could have deadly results especially in an emergency fire situation
3. Water Use: As many wells in the area have recently dried up because of the drought, the addition of commercial growers using up the areas water supply is a real concern!
4. Air Pollution: The use of pesticides to protect their crop can lead to air pollution as well as having the potential to affect the areas water supply.
5. Fire: Increase threat of fire while people are trying to clear their raw land to get ready to plant their crop. There has already been 1 out of control, control burn, down Volcanoville Road this year. Thank goodness there had been some rain which helped to avert a more serious situation.

People involved in marijuana commercial grows bring in people from out of the area to maintain their harvest. They have no sense of community. If neighboring Counties have strict ordnances regulating where these grows can occur and El Dorado County adheres to the state regulations, this is an open invitation for growers to come to this area and do what they want at will. I hope the Board of Supervisors will enact strict ordinances to keep our County and the Volcanoville community a safe place to live.

Thank you for your consideration,

I am not signing this letter because of concerns of retaliation

March 15, 2016
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
M. Ranalli, Supervisor District 4
El Dorado County

TOPIC: Medical Marijuana Regulations and Safety Act (MMRSA)
Main Concerns: Criminal Activity Increase & Property Devaluation

My husband and I purchased our property in 2001 as our peace of heaven or what we call our "happy place" for our retirement years. In 2005, we started building for those years. First we built our home and then our ago dream came alive, as we had thought. We moved from a crime ridden location in the bay area to our serene mountain oasis. However, "What's Happening on the Divide/Facebook", has ruptured that oasis. We continually read report after report of crime bubbling up all around us. Several of those instances were just a few parcels away from our home. Now the little private road we live off of houses multiple commercial grows. I see cars drive past me while I walk along the road with individuals I do not recognize. They do not slow down, they do not wave nor do they say hi. They are not my neighbors.

We live amongst people who wish to live happily, safely and quietly. We worked hard to become a community who looks out for each other. I for one do not feel safe in my own home. The days of keeping the doors unlocked are over. It is now the day of making our homes fortresses. Our county does not have the personnel to handle this growing enterprise. I was informed by our sheriff's office, they only have a department of four investigators to monitor grows. Really how safe does that make you feel?

My husband and I are not against those individuals who wish to grow marijuana for their own personal use; however, we object to the commercial growers coming within parcels of our home and subjecting us to the dangers that these grows bring.

These growers buy cheap parcels, set up their grow, hire non-residents to guard their property and then go about their merry way until their payday comes in. Of which, our county does not benefit. Would you purchase property knowing there is a commercial grow in production right next door. Therefore, the value of our property just declined. Oh wait, we can sell it to the next commercial grower. Ch-ching – NAUGHT!

This county has an obligation to protect its residents. My husband and I are residents. Protect us! What measures does this county have in place to regulate these commercial grows? If we can't stop them, why not instill the strictest regulations, licensing and taxation. Let's keep some of that money in our own county.

Just the thought of harvest season, sickens me. Can we fine them for air pollution?

Signed a concerned resident of El Dorado county.

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Mike, I understand it is necessary for the county to establish a policy regarding marijuana grown here in our county. I see outsiders coming here buying property just to establish a place to grow the weed with no intention of becoming a contributing member of our community. And then taking their product out to their market for the sell in another county. So we get property taxes on the land/buildings along with smell of the harvest in our neighborhoods. Even on large properties the smell travels to neighboring properties. The smell will probably be the lessors of the problems this product will generate. It is what I would call an attractive nuisance. I have already observed homes and properties where marijuana is grown having to deal with burglaries. So I believe it attracts an unsavory element. We need to establish a policy that will make it unprofitable for this industry to grow the plant or sell it here.

We already have small legal grows that have attracted illegal activity. Please don't let us be known as the county friendly to this industry.

Carolyn Gravelle

Sent from my iPad

March 14, 2016

TO:
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
M. Ranalli, Supervisor, District IV
El Dorado County

March 15,, 2016

TOPIC:
Medical Marijuana Regulations and Safety Act (MMRSA)

MAIN CONCERN:
Criminal Activity Increase

I have camped out on my property and enjoyed our location for over 28 years and lived on Volcanoville Road for 18 years, participated in local community events and made many wonderful friends who share my same work ethic and enjoy the beauty of nature in our fairly remote section of El Dorado County.

In today's world no "open minded" Californian wants to end the policy of "grow your own" marijuana. This invasion of commercial growers is very different. Non-locals and out-of-state entities are buying properties, setting up large grow houses with no intention to become a part of our productive and caring community.

My private road now has several commercial pot growers operating on it. I'm concerned about an increased criminal element coming in with commercial growers. Who is to say that I'm safe when a car of low-lives with weapons drive up my driveway instead of the neighboring driveway, mistaking my home and property for the guy next door who is growing his "medical marijuana" in a quonset hut. Will these commercial growers protect the plants with the typical means of dissuasion commonly used in forested areas? Im concerned about animal cruelty by chaining dogs out or have attack pit bulls running loose in the grow. Will they have semi—automatic weapons and use hired-hands to shoot anyone who innocently wanders into their property? Will they employ booby-traps on nearby trails? How fast can the Sheriff arrive when an innocent person becomes the misplaced target of such a situation?

These commercial pot growers do not have a sense of community in our neighborhood. They come in and grow for their personal profit, taking their product to the street. They should grow where they live, work it out with their own neighbors, with their own counties or states. The fabric of our area is changing with this commercial growing opportunity. Isn't it still a Federally illegal substance? This county has an obligation to help keep our community safe to live in. As taxpayers we are aware that available resources become tighter every year for police and fire protection.

Therefore commercial growers need to be licensed and regulated just as any agricultural product for sale and for human consumption. Similar to any other Genetically Modified Organism (GMO), these commercial growers should also be subject to product quality testing, public review and taxation.

Registration of the grow area with proof that they are growing for a legitimate medical dispensary that is currently in operation within California. There should be a reasonable limit to the number of plants what can be grown and a reasonable limit to the acreage that many be placed under operation. Grow locations should be clearly identified from the front gate so they are easily located by inspectors.

Licensing should be mandatory for operation through the county business licensing system for operation of controlled substance in a commercial environment.

Product quality testing should be preformed by the county to make sure the highly psychoactive pot is not in production. Since the majority of recreational pot is very high in tetrahydrocannabidol (THC) these plants should be prohibited. Testing should be done to make sure this is upheld and only medical quality is grown.

What controls are in place to keep commercial pesticide or herbicide residues out of our aquifers? What water-use guidelines are in place to keep them from overusing the aquifers? Commercial pot production in El Dorado County, especially in my community, should be made as unattractive as possible.

Respectfully

I choose to withhold my name for fear of retaliation.

Renzoni Family Farm



Chef Val Renzoni
2403 Snowy way
Georgetown, CA 94634
530-613-1273
Renzoni.Family.Farm@gmail.Com

3/11/2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Many residence in Volcanoville grow Medicinal Marijuana. They grow a few plants on their own property for their own personal benefit. It is a natural substance and really helps certain individuals manage pain. These are not a problem nor a nuisance.

What is a problem are large scale growers buying up properties: not living local and bringing with them the unsavory, apathetic, character lacking "potheads" to the area. (Thieves and lots of "workers".)

Several operations have moved onto my street. The owners don't live on the properties. They are large enough to be seen on "google earth". They get mistaken for a large operation because they are close together. Last year a few of these personal farms had plants stolen out of them. This makes me feel unsafe in my own neighborhood.

The harvest season brings a whole different set of vehicles and trucks and noise that wear and tear on our dirt roads and otherwise quiet peaceful lifestyle.

If you need any further information about my neighbors, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Chef Val Renzoni



March 16, 2016

By now you have heard or read the cares and concerns of my neighbors.

Here are mine.

1. We have a wonderful quiet family type neighborhood of roughly 250 – 300 property owners. Many with children and many with grandchildren that come to visit, to ride quads, horses and hike our trails.

2. All of us who moved here from different areas. Moved to get away from traffic, crime and commercial areas where we lived. To give our children and grandchildren a healthy place to live and visit.

3. We all feel that our neighborhood on Volcanoville Rd. and Bear State Rd. in Georgetown, is our little slice of heaven. We often talk about how blessed we are to live in such a wonderful **safe place**.

4. Now we have several commercial marijuana growers here in our beautiful neighborhood. Now we have strangers who do not live here and possibly are not citizens of the U.S. driving into our community to maintain these grows. Now we have to be fearful of the trails our families use because we may end up in an unsafe growing area, with strangers guarding their crops. (Remember the incident above Blodget and the shooter guarding the crops) Could this happen here??

5. Imagine your nice beautiful home. The house and property right next door to you has come up for sale. The next thing you know there is a huge greenhouse going up and unknown people legal or not legal driving into the driveway next to your home to work on crops that have fumes unhealthy to you and your children.

Possible danger of these strangers checking out your home to see what they can steal. Who knows what else?

6. This now depletes the value of your property and our property, because a family will not want to buy your house or ours, should we decide to move. Because of a “commercial company” growing drugs right next door or down the road from where buyers would want to raise their children. Imagine yourselves in this situation.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO??

THESE COMMERCIAL GROWERS OF DRUGS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED INTO NEIGHBORHOODS. DON'T LET OUR NEIGHBORHOODS BE RUINED BY THIS.

Please take our concerns into consideration. Please figure out a way to stop this from happening to our neighborhood and yours.

Thank you,

Cliff and Judy Habig