

Wall, Bruce

From: Naomi Penner <npenner10@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 7:03 AM
To: Wall, Bruce
Subject: Mr. Lowry's request for marijuana grow house
Attachments: American Thinker stats on MJ.docx; Trial date set for Richard Kirk in.docx; Pot Industry Draining US Energy Supply.docx; AK TV reporter - MJ.docx

October 4, 2016

To: Planning Commission Chairman

From: Naomi Gaede-Penner

PO Box 4427
Parker, CO 80134

Property owner of

- 34085 Gaede Lane: T5N R 11 W SEC 35 Seward Meridian KN 2008059, Lot 10, Gaede Eighty Subdivision Airstrip Addition
- 34090 Gaede Lane: T5N R 11 W SEC 35 Seward Meridian KN 2008059, Lot 12, Gaede Eighty Subdivision Airstrip Addition
- Parcel: T 5N R 11W SEC 35 Seward Meridan KN20080059, Lot 5, Gaede-Eighty Subdivision Airstrip Addition
- Parcel: T 5N R 11W SEC 34 Seward Meridian KN 0950070, ADDN #2 Tract 1, Gaede-Eighty Subdivision

Re: Request by Michael J. Lowry for a Marijuana Grow House

In 1962, our parents, Dr. Elmer and Ruby Gaede homesteaded what is now the Gaede Eighty Subdivision. Dr. Gaede came to Soldotna as a Family Practice physician to assist Dr. Paul Isaak with the rapidly growing population where Dr. Isaak was then the sole physician. Over the 25 years Dr. Gaede served the community, he spend numerous hours, holidays, and weekends at the Soldotna Medical Clinic caring for people and tending emergencies, often the result of icy roads, moose on the roads, and complicated by drugs and/or alcohol.

Elmer and Ruby's first of two buildings constructed on the homestead was a cabin, which for many years was a residence for missionaries who flew in and out of Soldotna with Missionary Aviation Repair Center to serve the Native people.

The property, on which Mr. Lowry intends to grow drugs, was a part of the homestead. This property was sold to a missionary family working with SOAR, a missionary group that flies to Russia and works with orphans. The house was built with the intention of honoring God.

Family members continue to live on and/or hold the majority of Gaede Eighty Subdivision. Over the years, we have witnessed what drugs have done to this area and how they have personally affected our property.

In most cases, the trespassing on our Gaede Private airstrip has been the result of drug traffic, as verified by Soldotna State Troopers. The corner of Gaede/Jones/Gas Well is a known drug exchange location.

Marijuana is a drug. Marijuana is not legal on the federal level.

In Colorado, marijuana is a major cause of homicides. All crimes are up since marijuana was legalized.

In Washington State, traffic fatalities involving drivers involved with marijuana has double since it was legalized.

In Utah, fatal car wrecks where drivers tested positive for marijuana more than doubled since in the three years following legalization.

How does driving on Gas Well, which is already narrow, already familiar to moose, already icy in winter, become safer for the community with drivers high on marijuana when they leave Mr. Lowry's house?

Marijuana is not a "benign" drug that makes people just feel happy, get the munchies, and be lazy. It does not make people want to contribute to their community, help one another, or even get a job. It changes behavior in negative and destructive ways. Right now in Denver, a man is being held for murder because his marijuana-induced behavior caused him to be erratic, impulsive, irrational, and a killer. His wife is dead. What are examples of marijuana making an individual a better spouse, parent, family member, or neighbor?

Something has to pay for the addictive marijuana habit and if users are so relaxed and "happy" that they don't want to work and earn money, they turn to crime to get the cash. The Alaska State Troopers gathered information for us (Gaedes) that showed the areas of known grow houses and/or drug dealers within a three mile radius around the Gaede Eight Subdivision. Crime in those areas spiked.

Mr. Lowry's house is near the Clint Hall subdivision. There are many young families in that area – with children. Will these children be safer in their yards and streets because marijuana is being grown, sold, and used near by? Will the families be safer from burglary in their homes? Will we Gaedes find drug-users wandering and/or driving on our airstrip again? Will they meander down our road and taxiway in a drug-induced stupor? Will we experience drug-users looking for quick money and breaking into our houses? What kind of people will Mr. Lowry's grow house attract to buy in that area? Will home values increase or decrease?

Grow houses require water. The water table in the Gaede Eighty Subdivision area is eight to twelve feet, and in the Clint Hall subdivision around four feet. Will surrounding neighbors have contaminated drinking water? How will the wildlife be affected that use the swamp on the Gaede Eighty Subdivision as a watering hole? What are Fish & Game's endorsements?

Grow houses require electricity. "As the legal marijuana market expands, so grows the energy consumption associated with an industry that depends on growing facilities with high-wattage lights and powerful cooling systems." (See attachment) Indoor marijuana producers are notorious energy hogs that energy experts say could impose a big load on the regional power grid. Is electrical service an issue in the Soldotna area? Would citizens have to pay, or be without electricity that is consumed by the grow house? What happens when the light sources are faulty and a fire starts, affecting a tinderbox of beetle kill or dry summer around the house?

If marijuana is benign, and has no negative effect on the social structure, good citizen, or the man power of law enforcement, why do the troopers, cops, highway patrols, sheriffs, and all other officers of the law, object to it? Why do they find the demands on their time increase? Why do towns and boroughs need to hire more personnel to deal with the directly linked increase in crime?

Does Soldotna need these things that increase costs to the city? Perpetuate the negative image of Alaska that "Alaska State Troopers" factually exposes? Is this what makes Alaskan proud?

Two years ago, the Anchorage TV announcer, Charlo Greene made national news when she announced she was quitting – on TV – to focus on legalizing marijuana. She is now facing 54 years in prison for allegedly

running an illegal marijuana shop. Is this news Alaska wants everyone to know about? Is she making Alaska a better place to live?

I object to Mr. Lowry having marijuana grow house. Unfortunately, even if his request is denied, I expect he will move forward with his plans – and we will experience many of the negative effects stated above – none of which serve his immediate neighbors for the good.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Naomi Gaede-Penner

[\(I have also mailed in a print copy of what is included here.\)](#)

Please see attachments

- Marijuana-related Murders are Skyrocketing
- Alaska Reporter Who Quit on Live TV is Now Facing 54 Years in Prison
- Trial Date set for Richard Kirk
- Pot Industry Draining U.S Energy Supply

TheDenverChannel.com

National News Partner

Alaska Reporter Who Quit On Live TV Is Now Facing 54 Years In Prison

Briana Altergott , Katie Link

6:25 AM, Oct 3, 2016

1475497500000 1475497870821

Remember that Alaska TV reporter who quit her job on live TV to focus on legalizing marijuana?

"And as for this job, well, not that I have a choice, but, f--- it, I quit," [KTVA reporter](#) Charlo Greene said.

Well, two years later, Charlo Greene is now facing 54 years in prison for allegedly running an illegal marijuana shop.

According to a report from [The Guardian](#) out last week, the former KTVA reporter has pleaded not guilty to multiple charges, including "misconduct involving a controlled substance."

A spokesperson for the Alaska attorney general's office told the outlet she's facing 14 offenses for running the Alaska Cannabis Club.

The club was created six months before the state voted to legalize the manufacture, sale and possession of marijuana in 2015.

So it let people to buy "memberships" and make "donations" in exchange for pot when it wasn't legal to do so.

Authorities conducted [several raids](#) and undercover operations at the Alaska Cannabis Club. Greene wasn't directly involved in any of them. But she's being charged because it's registered under her name. In [a blog post](#), Greene called the charges against her "a modern day lynching." And she told [Complex](#) in an interview last week, "It feels like I'm in this alone and it shouldn't. I'm supposed to be part of this huge community and it doesn't feel like it."

Greene's trial is expected to start in the coming months.

DO YOU KNOW WE CAN HIDE ADS FOR YOU?



American Thinker

June 1, 2016

Colorado prosecutor: Marijuana-related murders are skyrocketing

By [Sierra Rayne](#)

According to the latest reports coming out of Colorado, marijuana is a major cause of homicides in the state, and the problem is only getting worse.

Regular readers will know that Colorado has seen a massive increase in crime since it legalized pot. The numbers just keep getting worse. Over the first four months of 2016, [total crime](#) in Denver is up 10% over the same period from 2015. This rate of increase is five times the population growth rate and adds to equally large increases in 2015 and 2014, as well as the period in 2013, after which the state government signaled marijuana legalization was forthcoming.

The cops in Colorado knew this would happen. They predicted it, and it has come to fruition.

Now a prosecutor in the state has gone on the record with his concerns. Arapahoe County district attorney George Brauchler provides [some disturbing statistics](#): 10 of the last 15 murders in his jurisdiction were connected to marijuana.

Mr. Brauchler expressed the following to FOX 31 out of Denver:

"There is increased crime, sometimes violent crime, associated with legalization of marijuana," Brauchler said. "That's not what you'd expect. You'd expect the harder-core drugs." ... "If cash is the only way to acquire marijuana, crime follows cash," Brauchler said ... Brauchler believes the legalization of marijuana is partly to blame for the rise in crime. "It is easier for there to be black market in a legalized system than there was before," he said.

This all wasn't supposed to happen. The pot legalization advocates told us that legalized marijuana would reduce crime and effectively eliminate the black market. Now we have experienced and respected prosecutors saying they are seeing, firsthand, the exact opposite.

The legalization proponents overlooked a basic fact that District Attorney Brauchler's comments make clear – you will always require money to purchase pot, whether it is legal or not, and it is that need to acquire currency to procure the addictive drug that is a primary driver of marijuana-related crime.

Legalization will not reduce the need to acquire resources – often illegally – to purchase a drug. In fact, it generally increases the problem, as Colorado is showing. Since marijuana makes users, in non-technical terms, stupid and lazy (note to liberals: this is #science and #fact, aka settled science), the drug thus poses severe challenges toward the acquisition of money via legal means in order to satisfy the corresponding habit.

Thus, legalization functions as a positive feedback loop, making access to the drug easier, getting users hooked, then diminishing their drive and desire to perform socially beneficial work to feed their addiction, thereby resulting in crime to get their fix. This is the Socio-Economics of Drugs 101.

And then there are the [road hazards from legalized pot](#):

A report by the AAA Foundation released Tuesday found that traffic fatalities involving drivers in Washington where marijuana was involved had doubled between 2013 and 2014. Marijuana became legal in the state in 2012.

Similar trends were observed in Utah, where "officials say the number of fatal car wrecks in Utah in which drivers tested positive for marijuana has more than doubled in the last three years."

This social experiment has failed miserably. Time to recriminalize marijuana in all jurisdictions as a means of minimizing, as best as practical, the damage already done.

Read

more: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2016/06/colorado_prosecutor_marijuana_related_murders_are_skyrocketing.html#ixzz4LzMGKekZ

The Booming Pot Industry Is Draining the U.S. Energy Supply by Tom Huddleston, Jr. @tjhuddle

DECEMBER 21, 2015, 2:00 PM EDT



And lawmakers are worried

As the legal marijuana market expands, so grows the energy consumption associated with an industry that depends on growing facilities with high-wattage lights and powerful cooling systems.

In 2012, [a study from Evan Mills, Ph.D.](#)—a scientist with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory—found that legal indoor marijuana growing facilities accounted for 1% of national electricity use at a cost of roughly \$6 billion per year, which compared to just \$1 billion in energy costs for the pharmaceutical industry. [Mills recently told Bloomberg](#) that some of the bigger growing facilities operating today can use up to \$1 million in power every month.

In Colorado, where residents have voted to legalize both medical and recreational marijuana, Bloomberg adds that more than 1,200 licensed growing facilities eat up roughly half of the state’s new power demands and, last year, those facilities combined to use about the same amount of energy as 35,000 households.

As Bloomberg notes, most marijuana growing facilities make use of powerful, environmentally unfriendly lighting systems that allow growers to churn out fresh crops year-round. In fact, the heat from the lights is often so strong that growers also need high-power air conditioning systems to keep facility temperatures at temperate levels. With no industry-wide regulators, growers have no standards for energy efficient design in their facilities, which creates unnecessary energy waste.

And, the marijuana industry’s energy consumption is only going to become a bigger problem in the coming years. Already, 23 states have legalized medical marijuana, while recreational pot is legal in four states and the District of Columbia. Next year, that number could grow even larger as [roughly half a dozen more states](#) (and [maybe more](#)) are expected to vote on bills to legalize recreational pot.

The increase in power consumption by the growing legal marijuana industry has led some lawmakers to demand that pot growers pay various types of special fees or taxes to balance the strain their high-consuming ways put on the environment. Last year, [lawmakers in Colorado’s Boulder County said](#) they would charge marijuana growing facilities a little more than 2 cents per kilowatt hour consumed. A similar tax has been put in place in Arcata, California, where Bloomberg notes “officials are banking \$300,000 a year from an ‘excessive energy use tax’ that went into effect in October 2013.”

Trial date set for Richard Kirk in 'marijuana edibles' murder of wife case



TheDenverChannel.com Team

10:38 AM, Sep 29, 2016



DENVER -- A trial date has been set for the man accused of killing his wife while high on marijuana edibles. Richard Kirk is charged with first degree murder in the murder of his wife, Kristine Kirk, in Denver in 2014.

Last year, Richard Kirk changed his plea to not guilty by reason of insanity and was ordered to undergo a mental health exam.

While prosecutors did not release the results of Kirk's competency report in court Thursday, the judge set a trial date for March 6 after reading the report.

Kristine Kirk killed

On April 14, 2014, Kristine Kirk called 911 and told the operator that Richard appeared to be hallucinating and that she was worried about her safety and the safety of their children, [according to court documents](#).

Police said she told the operator that her husband was so impaired after eating some [marijuana-laced candy](#) called "Karma Kandy Orange Ginger," that he was crawling through a bedroom window and cutting his legs on broken glass. In the probable cause statement, authorities said Kristine told them "her husband was talking like it was the end of the world... and had asked her to get the gun to shoot him."

"At one point during the call Mrs. Kirk sounds panicked and tells the 911 operator that Richard was taking the firearm out of the safe. She next related that he had the gun and she didn't know where to go," the document stated.

"Within seconds, the wife 'can be heard screaming. The screaming stopped after hearing what [the detective] believes is the sound of a gunshot. The 911 phone line remained open, but Mrs. Kirk is never heard from again,'" the detective wrote.

Officers entered the home and found a black semi-automatic handgun on the floor of the front room and a cartridge on the floor in a hallway. Police found Kristine Kirk lying on the floor nearby. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Richard Kirk's preliminary hearing

[During Richard Kirk's preliminary hearing in August 2014](#), detective Detective Troy Bisgard testified that the only substance found in Richard Kirk's system was THC.

The detective said Kirk had purchased the marijuana-infused candy and a pre-rolled pot cigarette at about 6:40 p.m. -- just hours before the killing.

Bisgard testified the couple had been having marital and financial troubles. They owed the IRS \$2,500 and had more than \$40,000 in credit card debt.

A few months before the killing, the couple had argued over Richard Kirk mishandling a Groupon purchase for hotel stay in Glenwood Springs, Bisgard testified. Friends told police the husband had angrily cursed Kristine and his reaction had frightened her.

Kristine Kirk had shared her concerns about her husband's combativeness in a March Skype conversation with her sister. After the argument, Richard Kirk shifted the direct deposit of his paycheck from the couple's joint bank account to his personal account, the detective said.

The husband also asked if he could move in with a friend, but the friend said no, Bisgard recounted.