



**Akamai Cannabis Clinic**  
3615 Harding Ave, Suite 304  
Honolulu, HI 96816

September 22, 2020

Danette Wong Tomiyasu, M.B.A.  
Deputy Director, Department of Health  
1250 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Deputy Director Tomiyasu,

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2020, in response to my request for department action on the conflict between the state-authorized medical use of cannabis in Hawaii and the federal regulation of the non-medical use of marijuana.

I'm thrilled to hear that the department is committed to following the law. This is precisely what we need from our Department of Health, because the impact of the medical use of cannabis in Hawaii upon the federal regulation of marijuana is a legal issue, not a scientific one.

I would like to suggest that you remove your administrator's hat for just one moment, so that you can consider all the various injuries that our medical cannabis patients and dispensaries are being subjected to every day because of the misconception that our Medical Cannabis Program violates federal law.

I am not asking that the department deviate from Hawaii's Uniform Controlled Substances Act. In fact, quite the opposite. I'm asking that the department fulfill its mission to protect the health and welfare of our patients by standing up for Hawaii's medical use of cannabis law, even if that means stepping outside of your regular administrative duties and looking for solutions beyond the limited legal advice that the department is currently receiving.

If the department has a responsibility to follow the law as you say, then our 30K+ medical cannabis patients deserve to know why the department is not taking any action to stop the unlawful application of the federal regulation of the non-medical use of marijuana to the state-authorized medical use of cannabis in Hawaii. I look forward to your response.

Aloha,

Clifton Otto, MD

"An Accepted Medical Use Supporter"