



Advancing Legal Medical Marijuana Therapeutics and Research

Joseph D. Elford, Chief Counsel
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June 11, 2012

Andrew S. Klein, Director
Comprehensive Transplant Center
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
8635 West Third Street, Suite 590W
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Re: Denial of Kidney Transplant to Toni Trujillo

Dear Dr. Klein:

I am Chief Counsel with Americans for Safe Access, which is the nation's largest organization devoted to assisting medical marijuana patients who use marijuana to alleviate their suffering. One of your patients, Toni Trujillo, is a qualified medical marijuana patient under California law and you have denied her eligibility for a kidney transplant because of this. I write to express our strenuous disagreement with this decision and ask that you reconsider it.

Since 2007, Ms. Trujillo has been undergoing dialysis for her kidney condition while being on a waiting list for a kidney transplant; however, based on Ms. Trujillo's medical marijuana use in compliance with California law, you removed her from the list in April of this year. This politically motivated decision not only runs counter to Cedars-Sinai's stated mission of "providing the highest quality patient care that modern medicine has to offer," *see* <http://www.cedars-sinai.edu/About-Us>, but it also runs counter to scientific evidence. Neither the United Network for Organ Sharing ("UNOS") nor any federal law requires that you act in this uncompassionate manner. Unfortunately, Cedars-Sinai has done this to other medical marijuana patients.

While your transplant policies may be motivated by the best intentions, the decision to deny Ms. Trujillo for eligibility for a kidney transplant based on her prior medical marijuana use in compliance with state law is not based on science. I urge you to reconsider this extremely important decision and reinstate Ms. Trujillo for eligibility for a kidney transplant with Cedars-Sinai.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph D. Elford".

Joseph D. Elford

Cc: Dr. Stanley C. Jordan, Director, Kidney Transplantation

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General Information

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