

Mayor Michael B. Hancock
1437 Bannock St # 350
Denver, CO 80202
RE: Marijuana Rallies and Kids

May 4, 2018

Dear Mayor Michael B. Hancock,

We write today requesting the city of Denver ban individuals under the age of 21 from attending marijuana festivals.

During the Mile High 420 Festival on April 20, 2018, held at Civic Center Park and operated by Euflorea, numerous children as young as infants were present in the vicinity of secondhand marijuana smoke.

The impact on children of secondhand tobacco smoke is well known. According to the Center for Disease Control, "Secondhand smoke causes numerous health problems in infants and children, including more frequent and severe asthma attacks, respiratory infections, ear infections, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)."

The National Institutes of Health states that a 2016 study found that, "Secondhand exposure to marijuana smoke affected a measure of blood vessel function as much as secondhand tobacco smoke, and the effects lasted longer."

The National Institute on Drug Abuse has stated, "The toxins and tar levels known to be present in marijuana smoke raise concerns about exposure among vulnerable populations, such as children and people with asthma."

Evidence of children attending the Mile High 420 Festival were clear, even present in a Denver Post news article.

We ask that the city take an active and responsible role in restricting access to these festivals for individuals under the age of 21.

The 420 festivals in Denver are flagrant violations of the law banning open and public consumption of marijuana. Coloradans approved Amendment 64, which legalized recreational marijuana for individuals over the age of 21, but which specifies that nothing in the law shall permit consumption that is conducted openly and publicly or in a manner that endangers others. At the very least, we hope that your office will do what it can to protect youth, children, and infants from the impact of secondhand marijuana smoke.

Please let us know if you have any questions. We will look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hunt
Vice President of Public Policy, Colorado Christian University

Henny Lasley
Executive Director, Smart Colorado

Justin Luke Riley
Founder, Marijuana Accountability Coalition

Deborah Ortega
Councilwoman At-Large, Denver City Council

Zera Abraham Congregation, Denver, Colorado

Steve Millette, Executive Director , Gloop, LLC - Behavioral Health Recovery Vertical
Licensed Mental Health Counselor
Licensed Addiction Counselor
Board Member – Step Denver – Denver, Colorado
Board Member – Project SAM –Smart Approaches to Marijuana
Advisory Board Member – The Institute for the Advancement of Behavioral Healthcare

Dr. Kenneth Finn
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Board Certified Pain Medicine
Board Certified Pain Management
American Board of Pain Medicine, Executive Board, Exam Council, Appeals Committee

Dr. Karen Randall, FAAEM
VP Case Management
Board of Directors, SCEMA
Emergency Physician

M. Jo McGuire
President/CEO, Five Minutes of Courage

Aubree Adams
Moms Strong
Marijuana Victims Alliance

Christian Thurstone, MD
Associate Professor, University of Colorado

Shelly Cross, Coloradan

Celeste Archer, Denver Resident

Jesse LeBlanc
Engineer (retired)
Registered Voter
Resident and property owner in Saguache County, Colorado