



CITY OF LONG BEACH

POLICE DEPARTMENT

R-20

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ANTHONY W. BATTS
Chief of Police

September 21, 2004

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

SUBJECT: Police Department Policy Manual Section on Medical Marijuana (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In October 2003, new State Legislation (SB 420) was signed which clarified the scope and application of Proposition 215 (the Compassionate Use Act of 1996). Proposition 215 allows the medicinal use of marijuana by seriously ill Californians, where such use would be beneficial in the treatment of any illness where marijuana would be medically recommended to provide relief. SB 420 provides a framework for the State Department of Health Services (SDHS) to establish guidelines for a voluntary program for the issuance of medical marijuana identification cards to qualified patients and their caretakers. Approximately \$900,000 was budgeted in the SDHS to establish this program in the State's FY 2005 budget. The identification cards and program guidelines are currently under development by the SDHS. The SDHS has preliminarily indicated that cards will cost \$13 each, and they would be rolling out the program to the public in April 2005.

At the June 15, 2004 City Council Meeting, the City Manager was directed to address issues raised by the Public Safety Advisory Commission regarding the City's policy on Medical Marijuana and to return to City Council with a revised policy for implementation. As a result of that directive, the Police Department Manual sections 7.1.31 "Marijuana Possession – Issuance of Citations" and 7.1.31.1 "Medical Marijuana" were revised and are attached for City Council information.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Richard F. Anthony on August 9, 2004.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this item is not time critical.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
September 21, 2004
Page 2

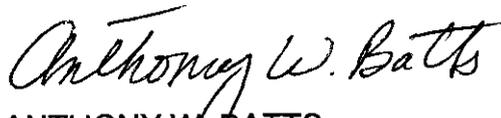
FISCAL IMPACT

None.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Receive and file the Police Department Policy Manual Section on Medical Marijuana.

Respectfully submitted,



ANTHONY W. BATTIS
CHIEF OF POLICE

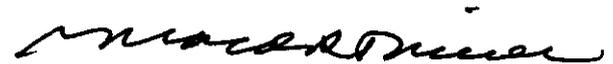


RONALD R. ARIAS
DIRECTOR
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Medical Marijuana Council Ltr
AWB:DJH

Attachment

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER