

1 MR. SCHWANE: Good morning. My name is Steve Schwane.
2 I'm a staff attorney with the Department of Consumer Protection.
3 I've been designated to be the hearing officer for today's
4 hearing by William Rubenstein, the Commissioner of the
5 Department of Consumer Protection. I would like to formally
6 open this Public Hearing on Proposed Regulations Concerning
7 Controlled Substances. What the regulations actually do is
8 reclassify marijuana from a Schedule I Controlled Substance to a
9 Schedule II Controlled Substance. Today is November 26, 2012.
10 We've waited, uh, a few minutes. It's about, uh, 10:14 in the
11 morning, and this hearing is taking place in Room 119 of the
12 State Office Building at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford,
13 Connecticut. On October 23, 2012, the Department of Consumer
14 Protection published in the *Connecticut Law Journal* a Notice of
15 Intent to Amend Regulations. These regulations are being
16 proposed in accordance with the authority granted in §21a-243 of
17 the Connecticut General Statutes as amended by §18 of Public Act
18 12-55. I will enter a copy of the **Connecticut Law Journal**
19 **Notice** as Exhibit 1. I will also enter the letter from
20 Commissioner Rubenstein designating me to be the hearing officer
21 for today's public hearing, and that will be marked as Exhibit
22 #2.

23 This Department has notified the Department of Small
24 Business Affairs at the Department of Economic Development of
25 its intent to amend these regulations. The Department of

1 Consumer Protection, as far as I'm aware, has not received a
2 response from the Department of Economic Development. The
3 Department has received four written comments regarding the
4 proposed regulations. These four comments are all from the same
5 person, a Dr. Velandy Manohar. They are all in the form of e-
6 mails sent on November 23, 2012. Uh, I'm gonna be marking as
7 Exhibit #3 the e-mail from Dr. Manohar that was sent, uh, at
8 7:37 in the morning on, uh,--I'm sorry. I guess that was
9 actually the 21st when these were sent. At least this one was.
10 So November 21, 2012, at 7:37 a.m. That's Exhibit #3. Exhibit
11 4 is an e-mail from Dr. Manohar on November 22, 2012, at 7:40
12 a.m. to be marked as Exhibit 4. The e-mail sent on November 21,
13 2012, at 7:48 a.m. from Dr. Manohar is marked as Exhibit #5.
14 And finally, uh, an e-mail sent on Friday, November 23, 2012, at
15 2:54 in the afternoon from Dr. Manohar is marked as Exhibit #6.

16 Uh, pursuant to the Connecticut General Statute §4-168a,
17 the Department of Consumer Protection, when drafting these
18 proposed regulations, considered the methods that would
19 accomplish the objectives of the applicable statutes while
20 minimizing the adverse impact on small businesses. This agency
21 specifically considered the five methods listed in §4-168a(b).

22 At this point, I would normally begin by having the
23 individuals who have signed up on the speaker sign-up sheet give
24 their comments, but it's a little after 10:15 in the morning,
25 and no one appears to have shown up for the hearing. So, also,

1 there's no one here to provide written comments.

2 So at this point, uh, I will just note that I've been
3 requested to keep the record open, for any further submissions
4 to the Department, for one week. So I'm gonna keep the record
5 open for this public hearing until Monday, December 3, at 4:30
6 p.m. So the Department will accept any written comments
7 provided up to that date. After that date, the hearing will
8 conclude, and the Department of Consumer Protection will then
9 decide whether to make any changes to the reg., which in this
10 kind of a regulation probably is, is not possible. We will then
11 send the regulation over to the Attorney General for their
12 review for legal sufficiency. Once it's signed off on by the
13 Attorney General's office, we will then submit the proposed
14 amended regulation to the Legislative Regulation Review
15 Committee. The final step in the process after the committee's
16 approval is to file the regulation with the Secretary of State.

17 Again, noting that no one else has appeared for the public
18 hearing, I'm gonna close the hearing but again note that the
19 record will be kept open until Monday, December 3 at 4:30 p.m.

20 Thank you.

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CERTIFICATE

I, Karen Johnson, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcription is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability of the Public Hearing on Proposed Regulations Concerning Controlled Substances on Monday, November 26, 2012.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I sign my name this 3rd day of December, 2012.

Karen Johnson

December 3, 2012