

MEDIA ADVISORY | KINGSTON, JAMAICA



The Cannabis Licensing Authority Stands Firm on Maintaining a Medicinal Cannabis industry

Anecdotal evidence suggests that as the number of licences issued by the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA) for medicinal cannabis industry increases, so has the level of misconceptions surrounding its use for recreational purposes. This position is supported by a recent article in the Jamaica Gleaner on Wednesday February 28th 2018 which stated “Kaya will provide medicinal and recreational ganja to locals and tourists. Since last year, Kaya Inc has been recruiting staff for its ganja wellness centre and café.”

The Authority would like to make clear that the statement by the Gleaner as it relates to the licensee being granted a licence for the recreational sale of cannabis is erroneous and unfortunate. The Authority would like to further reiterate the fact that all licences granted are for medicinal purposes only and not for recreational.

Non-compliance comes at a cost.

As a condition of any licence issued, the licence holder is subject to compliance checks, and any activity which does not fall within the strictures of the licence, requires the CLA to take action. This may lead to the revocation of a licence if the activities are in contravention of the terms of the licence and the regulations.

The Authority as a part of its monitoring and enforcement activities keeps close observation on the operations of all licensees and remains committed to maintaining a fully regulated and compliant Industry in keeping with the stipulations of the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

As such the Authority is committed to its duty in keeping a watchful eye and taking decisive action when deemed necessary.

Hyacinth Lightbourne, Chair -Cannabis Licensing Authority

Notes to Editors:

About the Cannabis Licensing Authority: The CLA, which was created by the Dangerous Drug Act, has powers to make and oversee the implementation of regulations for licences, permits and other authorisations for the cultivation, processing, distribution, sale and transportation of ganja, for medicinal, scientific and therapeutic purposes.

About Jamaica’s UN Drug Treaty Obligation: Parties to the 1961 Convention undertake to limit the production, manufacture, export, import, distribution and stocks of, trade in and use and possession of the controlled drugs so that they are used exclusively for medical and scientific purposes. The production and distribution of controlled substances must be licensed and supervised.

Building an Industry; Cultivating Responsibly

Cannabis Licensing Authority | 4 St. Lucia Avenue Road | Kingston 10 | Jamaica

cla.org.jm || media@cla.org.jm ||+876 833-1564