

TAKE A STAND FOR SENSIBLE DRUG LAWS!

March 17, 2007

- **Wakarusa Music Festival: Volunteers Needed**
- **KS Legislature: Meth Offender Registry Update**
- **ACLU Forum on Wakarusa Law Enforcement Past Issues**
- **Medical Marijuana: Two Federal Court Rulings**
- **Medical Marijuana: New Mexico Passes Legislation**
- **Next Volunteer Meeting March 24, 1 p.m.**

The Drug Policy Forum of Kansas is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Volunteers Needed for Wakarusa Music Festival

DPFKS members interested in volunteering to work a few hours a day at the [Wakarusa Music Festival](#), should send us an [email \(info@dpfks.org\)](mailto:info@dpfks.org). The festival takes place June 7-10 at Clinton State Park outside of Lawrence.

KS House Holds Hearing on SB 14: Meth Offender Registry

SB 14 would create a registry on the KBI web site for person who have been released from prison for manufacturing methamphetamine. The registration would require a \$20 fee every six months for life.

Testifying in opposition to SB 14 were DPFKS along with KS Families Against Mandatory Minimums, a representative from the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the parents of a currently incarcerated meth offender.

Read the [testimony](#) on our website and why this bill is a waste of taxpayer money that will not reduce drug use or illegal drug availability.

Wakarusa '07 - Privacy Rights in Public Places; ACLU forum

April 25 at 7pm at the Lawrence Library the Douglas County ACLU will present a panel discussion with Brett Shirk, Executive Director of the KS/WMO ACLU, Rick

Frydman, attorney and Charles Branson, Douglas County DA, There will be a panel discussion and questions from the audience.

Judge in Ed Rosenthal Throws Out Charges Due to Vindictive Prosecution

Federal District Court Judge Charles Breyer ruled this week that author and medical marijuana activist Edward Rosenthal was vindictively prosecuted, and dismissed charges of tax evasion and money laundering. The remaining marijuana charges against Rosenthal are virtually identical to those pursued against him in his prior 2003 trial. With an admission in court by the U.S. Attorney that it would not seek additional punishment beyond the one-day sentence Rosenthal was given after being convicted at his first trial, the prosecution has little reason to proceed with the case.

Read more about the case from [Americans for Safe Access](#).

9th Circuit Court Rules Against California Legal Medical Marijuana Patient

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals rejected and appeal by Angel Raich (the California woman who was arrested by the DEA for using a small amount of marijuana recommended by her physician and legal under California law), ruling that there is no fundamental constitutional right to use marijuana for relief of pain and suffering.

In a 3-0 ruling, Judge Harry Pregerson wrote, "We agree with Raich that medical and conventional wisdom that recognizes the use of marijuana for medical purposes is gaining traction in the law as well. But that legal recognition has not yet reached the point where a conclusion can be drawn that the right to use medical marijuana is "fundamental" and "implicit in the concept of ordered liberty."

The court also rejected Raich's contention that the 10th Amendment protected her right to use medical marijuana.

Full text of the ruling may be found [here](#) .

New Mexico Poised to Become 12th State to Fully Protect Medical Marijuana Patients

From [DRCNet](#):

First it passed the Senate and [died in the House](#). Then, at the urging of Gov. Bill Richardson, New Mexico's Senate folded medical marijuana [into a related bill](#) to permit topical use. This week the bill passed the House 36-31. It must return to the

Senate for consideration of a minor change that occurred in the House, but given strong support there and the assurance of the Governor's signature, I believe it's safe to say we're looking at our 12th medical marijuana state.

Richardson's willingness to stand up for patients at this time speaks volumes to the growing political viability of medical marijuana policy reform.

The *Boston Globe* looks at the political implications of Richardson's stance on medical marijuana and concludes that it's not a big deal.

Next Volunteer Meeting Saturday, March 24, 1 p.m. at the DPFKS offices

941 Kentucky Street, Lawrence, KS 785-841-8278 for more information.

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