



Honorable Sutter Creek City Council Members:

I have served in law enforcement for more than 30 years. Throughout my career, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges that communities face when addressing issues related to public safety, illegal activity, and substance use. Based on that experience, I have significant concerns regarding the potential establishment of a cannabis dispensary in the City of Sutter Creek.

First, I recognize that the legalization of marijuana has provided certain benefits, including regulated access and tax revenue. However, legalization does not eliminate the public-safety concerns associated with cannabis. Licensed dispensaries can become targets for theft, burglary, and other criminal activity, including incidents that can involve violence. Both Calaveras and Amador Counties have experienced homicides associated with marijuana-related activity. These incidents place not only dispensary employees at risk, but also neighboring residents and members of the surrounding community.

Second, while licensed dispensaries are required to comply with state and local regulations, an illegal cannabis market continues to exist. Unlicensed operators may sell unregulated products that can pose risks to consumers. This illicit market undermines legitimate businesses, creates additional challenges for law enforcement, and makes it more difficult to monitor the quality, distribution, and ultimate source of cannabis products.

Third, impaired driving remains a significant public-safety concern. As cannabis becomes more accessible, law enforcement agencies must continue to address the dangers associated with driving under the influence of marijuana. Impaired drivers put every person traveling on our roads at risk. Law enforcement agencies are continually working to improve detection, enforcement, and prevention, but these efforts require additional time and resources.

There are also potential fiscal impacts to my office and to Amador County that may not be accompanied by any corresponding compensation. A cannabis dispensary could potentially result in increased calls for service, arrests, investigations, traffic-related incidents, and medical emergencies. These demands could extend beyond the boundaries of the City of Sutter Creek and

PROUD TO SERVE • READY TO PROTECT

700 COURT STREET • JACKSON, CA 95642 • (209) 223-6500 • FAX (209) 223-1609

ADMINISTRATION (209) 223-6515 • EMERGENCY SERVICES (209) 223-6384 • CIVIL (209) 223-6544

CORONER (209) 223-6754 • JAIL (209) 223-6522

place additional responsibilities on county law enforcement and emergency communications resources.

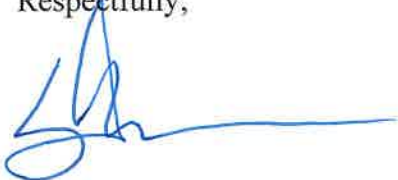
I also understand that the Amador County Board of Supervisors and the Trustees of the Amador County Unified School District have expressed the position that a cannabis dispensary is not in the best interests of the District, its students, Amador County, or the City of Sutter Creek. Based on my more than 30 years of law-enforcement experience and my responsibility for public safety, I concur with that assessment.

Ultimately, the decision before the Council is about more than whether a dispensary can operate under a regulatory framework. It is also about considering the broader public-safety, law-enforcement, emergency-response, and community impacts that may accompany such an operation.

I respectfully ask the Sutter Creek City Council to carefully consider these concerns and the potential burden on local and county public-safety resources before making a decision regarding a cannabis dispensary in Sutter Creek.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to the safety and well-being of our community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Redman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary W. Redman
Sheriff-Coroner
Amador County Sheriff's Office