

Smart Approaches to Marijuana
400 N Columbus St.
Ste. 202
Alexandria, VA 22314

August 1, 2018

New York State Department of Health
Dr. Howard Zucker
Corning Tower
Empire State Plaza,
Albany, NY 12237

Dr. Zucker,

Under the **New York Freedom of Information Law, N.Y. Pub. Off. Law sec. 84 et seq.**, we are requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of the following:

- 1) A list of all people –New York State (NYS) employees, non-NYS employees, and all other individuals – paid or unpaid – who advised, consulted, contracted, or gave comments in the making, writing, background, and researching of the “July 2018 Assessment of the Potential Impact of Regulated Marijuana in New York State.”
- 2) Any emails pertaining to this above stated report between employees of New York State and non-employees of New York State.
- 3) Any emails with the marijuana industry and NYS employees from 2017 onward.
- 4) Any mail and documents, records or reports that relate to the 2018 Assessment of the Potential Impact of Regulated Marijuana in New York State.
- 5) Any persons who contributed to their response to the FOIL request and their contact information.
- 6) List of those responsible for setting the state marijuana policy.

“Marijuana industry” means those individuals or entities who engage in the manufacture, production, cultivation, processing, refinement, transportation and delivery, distribution, dispensing, testing, use, sale, marketing or exchange of marijuana or marijuana derived materials or related equipment. This includes any marijuana advocacy groups or individuals or experts or front groups or marijuana lobbyists.

"Relate to" shall refer to, reflect or be in any way logically or factually connected with the July 2018 Assessment of the Potential Impact of Regulated Marijuana in New York State.

The terms "document" and "record" and "report" mean any written, recorded, electronic, photographic, graphic or other tangible matter, however produced or reproduced. It includes all matter that relates or refers, in whole or in part, to the 2018 Assessment of the Potential Impact of Regulated Marijuana in New York State including, but not limited to letters, correspondence, memoranda, minutes, notes, films, transcripts, contracts, agreements, emails, texts, tweets, summaries, memoranda of telephone conversations or personal conversations, diaries, desk calendars, photographs, videotapes, books, newspapers, magazines, advertisements, bulletins, pamphlets, statements, reports, minutes of meetings, interoffice communications, or any other material similar.

If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform us if the cost will exceed \$100.00. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the science of marijuana and effects of commercialization. Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to educating the public on the harms of marijuana. This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The New York Freedom of Information Law requires a response time of five business days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin A. Sabet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kevin" being the most prominent part.

Kevin A. Sabet, Ph.D.
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