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Law Enforcement Leaders From Across the Country Call On Biden Administration to Reschedule Cannabis to Schedule III

Thirty-Two Current and Former Leaders Join in Letter to Biden Administration, Released Today

New York, NY– Today a group of 32 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, and correctional officials from across the country sent a <u>letter</u> to President Biden urging his Administration to reschedule cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule III under the Controlled Substances Act.

"It is absolutely critical for law enforcement to have clear federal laws and not a patchwork approach to cannabis policy," said Ronal Serpas, Former New Orleans and Nashville Police Chief and Executive Director of Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration (LEL), which organized the letter. "Rescheduling is an important first step to helping local, state and federal law enforcement collaborate effectively against real threats to public safety such as violent crime and the dangers presented by an unregulated and illicit cannabis market."

An excerpt from the letter: *We believe that reclassification under schedule III would be an important step to help both federal and state law enforcement better prioritize limited public safety resources. They can focus efforts on working together to combat the harms that arise from unregulated cannabis markets. Moreover, rescheduling would also allow legal markets to compete on a level playing field potentially leading to greater reinvestments in critical programs that can bolster public safety.*

The full letter can be found <u>here</u>.

About LEL: Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration unites over 200 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, attorneys general, and correctional officials from across the country to urge for a reduction in both crime and incarceration. We believe the country can reduce incarceration while keeping down crime, and we support changes to our criminal justice system to achieve that goal. For more information, visit <u>www.lawenforcementleaders.org</u>.