



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION
1511 Pontiac Avenue, Bldg. 68-1
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920**

***Medical Marijuana
Compliance Program***

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in response several questions our office has received about the upcoming High Times Cannabis Cup being held later this month. Historically the Cannabis Cup, Cannabis All Stars, Secret Cup, and other similar events have not been compliant with state law. They are often used as cover for black and gray market activity and the submission of marijuana by contestants and distribution to judges and attendees has frequently violated state law.

The organizers of this event have not spoken with the Department of Business Regulation about how they plan to conduct the event to ensure compliance with state law. Several event details posted online suggest they plan to engage in activities that are not compliant.

Please be advised that participation in any activities or events which violate state law or program regulations may result in administrative enforcement actions including but not limited to fines, revocation of plant tags, and denial and/or revocation of licenses and approvals issued by the department. Also be aware that any violations of Medical Marijuana program rules and regulations negate any applicable protections under the Medical Marijuana Act from arrest and/or prosecution under the Rhode Island Controlled Substances Act.

If you have any questions or concerns about attending or participating in this event please contact Norman Birenbaum at norman.birenbaum@dbr.ri.gov or (401) 462-2148.

Sincerely,

Norman Birenbaum