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For Immediate Release

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Marijuana Legalization May Cause A Federal v. State Showdown

*Former Federal Law Enforcement and White House Officials Say States
Legalizing Marijuana Will Violate Federal Law*

(St. Petersburg, FL) At a press conference on October 15, 2012, at 1:00 pm EDT, many concerned organizations joined former federal law enforcement officials and White House officials to ask the Justice Department how they intend to enforce our federal drug laws if marijuana is legalized in any of the three states with pending ballot initiatives. Drug Free America Foundation weighs in on this issue, as a national organization concerned about the unintended consequences that residents will face if marijuana is legalized in their state.

“Marijuana use has been linked to mental illness and violence. Its use also interferes with the cognitive development in adolescents. Marijuana use has significant impacts on our school scores and drop-out rates, accident and vehicle fatality rates, employee productivity, healthcare and treatment costs, and the potential escalation of further illicit drug use. In fact, more young people are in treatment for marijuana use than any other drug,” said Calvin Fay, Executive Director, Drug Free America Foundation Inc.

“Throughout my career, many parents have come to me and admitted that they didn’t give marijuana a second thought until their child wound up in drug treatment for its use. The Justice Department needs to make it clear to these states that enforcement of federal drug laws will be swift and aggressive for those in direct violation of the Controlled Substances Act.,” concluded Fay.

“Legalizing and normalizing marijuana will be a public health disaster. Countries who have done this--the Netherlands, and Great Britain, for example--have been trying to reverse course and learned it much easier to make this problem worse than to repair the damage. The silence of the President and our national health and safety leaders can too easily be taken as downplaying the risks and thereby supporting the legalization of marijuana. We ask the President to take just a few minutes and speak out about this dangerous threat,” added John Walters, Former Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy.

If you would like to set up an interview about this issue with Calvin Fay or other experts who participated in this press conference, please contact Lana Beck at **(727) 828-0211 ext. 102 or (727) 403-7571**. Please visit www.truecompassion.org for more information regarding the press conference.

Drug Free America Foundation, Inc. is a national and international drug policy organization promoting effective sound drug policies, education and prevention. www.dfaf.org.

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