



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Jason Hoppin
Communications Manager
831-454-3401

DR. LEFF APPOINTED TO STATE CANNABIS ADVISORY BOARD

The County of Santa Cruz is pleased to announce that the director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs has appointed County Health Officer Dr. Arnold Leff to the statewide Cannabis Advisory Committee.

The newly created 22-member Cannabis Advisory Committee is tasked with providing expertise and advice to the Bureau of Cannabis Control, the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Department of Public Health on cannabis regulations to help protect public health and safety and reduce the illegal market for cannabis.

"It's a great honor to be part of the inaugural Cannabis Advisory Committee as California ventures forward toward the creation and oversight of a responsible and responsive framework of cannabis regulations," Leff said. "Along with my fellow Board members, I look forward to the challenges ahead."

Dr. Leff holds a medical degree from the University of Cincinnati, and has over a decade of public health experience in Cincinnati and Contra Costa County, where he served as Public Health Commissioner and Public Health Director, respectively. Dr. Leff also has over 20 years of experience in family/internal medicine.

Dr. Leff was one of the first physicians to recognize the palliative and recuperative benefits of cannabis. He was an original plaintiff in *Conant v. Walters*, a case before the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals which affirmed the right of doctors to provide information and recommendations about cannabis to their patients.