



**U. S. Department of Justice**  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
8701 Morrissette Drive  
Springfield, Virginia 22152

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*www.dea.gov*

Carl Olsen  
PO Box 41381  
Des Moines, Iowa 50311-0507  
carl@carl-olsen.com

Dear Carl Olsen:

This is in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) submission, Request ID 120436, dated April 12, 2020, to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which requested the status of a previous petition you stated was mailed to DEA and received on February 4, 2019. DEA appreciates the opportunity to address your inquiry and apologizes for the delayed response as the Diversion Control Division was not aware of your inquiry. As a result, our response is based on the information you provided in the explanation field of the FOIA submission.

In the explanation field of the FOIA submission, you stated: “[t]his is a request for an exemption, which affects the price of medical cannabis products in Iowa, because the manufacturers and dispensaries are being penalized under 26 U.S.C. 280E, among other things. There are also a multitude of federal regulations involved that make it difficult for these patients to receive and use their medicine.” Your submission does not request access to records and therefore does not fall within the parameters of FOIA.

DEA’s legal authority comes from laws encompassed within the Controlled Substances Act, and it implementing regulations in Title 21 CFR, Part 1300 to End. Referencing the regulations under DEA’s purview, 21 CFR 1307.03 allows any person to request a regulatory exception to the application of any provision of a chapter, in 21 CFR, Part 1300 to End, by filing a written request with DEA’s Diversion Control Division stating the reasons for such exception. The Administrator may grant an exception in his discretion, but in no case shall he/she be required to grant an exception to any person which is otherwise required by law or the regulations cited in section 21 CFR, Part 1300 to End. You can submit a request in writing and address the request to: Drug Enforcement Administration, Attn: Diversion Control Division, 8701 Morrissette Drive, Springfield, Virginia, 22152. You may also email a request to [ODLP@usdoj.gov](mailto:ODLP@usdoj.gov). Please be as specific as possible to the extent and nature of your request.

I trust this letter adequately addresses your inquiry. For information regarding DEA's Diversion Control Division, please visit [www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov](http://www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov). If you have any additional questions on this issue, please contact DEA's Diversion Control Division Policy Section at (571) 362-3260.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Prevoznik  
Deputy Assistant Administrator  
Diversion Control Division