

File No. 110433

Committee Item No. 7

Board Item No. 5

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee: Rules

Date 4/21/11

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date 5/3/11

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OTHER

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Completed by: Linda Wong

Date 4/15/11

Completed by: Z.W.

Date 4/25/11

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages. The complete document is in the file.

1 [Appointment – Medical Cannabis Task Force]

2

3 **Motion appointing Stewart Rhoads, term ending July 16, 2013, to the Medical Cannabis**
4 **Task Force.**

5

6 MOVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco does
7 hereby appoint the hereinafter designated person to serve as a member of the Medical
8 Cannabis Task Force, pursuant to the provisions of the San Francisco Administrative Code,
9 Sections 5.2-1 through 5.2-6, for the term specified:

10 Stewart Rhoads, seat 14, new appointment, must be a person with a background in
11 providing medical cannabis to permitted medical cannabis dispensaries located in the City
12 and County of San Francisco, for a term ending July 16, 2013.

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**Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714**

RECEIVED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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2011 JAN 24 AM 8:42
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Application for Boards, Commissions and Committees

Application for Appointment to: S.F. Medical Cannabis Task Force
Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force

Seat # or Category (If applicable): #14, Medical Cannabis Dispensary Cultivator District

Name: Stewart M. Rhoads

Home Address: 14th St. #181

Zip: 94114

Home Phone: 415- - - - - Occupation: Cultivator

Work Phone: Same Employer:

Business Address: Same Zip:

Business E-Mail: SRhoads@stanfordalumni.org Home E-Mail: Same

Check All That Apply:

A citizen of the United States. At least 18 years old on or before Election Day.

Not in prison or on parole for a felony conviction

A resident of San Francisco Yes: No: (Place of Residence):

Please state your qualifications (attach supplemental sheet if necessary)

Medical cannabis patient since 1999. Cultivator since 2000.

Please see attached: A) Previous application (March 2010) B) Addendum with updates

Education:

B.S. Chemistry (Stanford '05)

Business and/or professional experience:

Organized and operated Northstar Patient Collective since 2001.

Civic Activities:

Member & supporter of HopeNet & Axis of Love SF.

Ethnicity: (optional)

Sex: (optional) M F

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes No

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made.
(Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

(Please Note: Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record)

Date: 1/23/11 Applicant's Signature: (required) Stewart M Rhoads

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Appointed to Seat #: _____ Term Expires: _____ Date Seat was Vacated: _____

Bio – Stewart Rhoads

Advancing cannabis cultivation technique has been the focus of my professional and academic efforts since I got involved with the medical cannabis movement in the Spring of 2000. At the outset my primary concerns were cleanliness, grade, and variety of strains (cannabinoid profiles), yielding results considered desirable by patients consuming the medicine. Though my efforts were met with success, it soon became apparent that cannabis “farming” was quite sophisticated. A course sequence intended to educate the professional grade cultivator and researcher needed to draw on the disciplines of Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Biology. Furthermore, it seemed that the future development of cannabis based medicines would increasingly rely on chemical analysis, extraction, and synthesis. Pursuing a degree in Chemistry appeared to serve the demands of my present endeavors, while affording new opportunities as the legalization of medical cannabis unfolded.

From Autumn 2002 through Spring 2005 I continued to reside in S.F, operate and cultivate for the Northstar Patient Collective (NPC), also in SF, and attend Stanford University, graduating with a 3.2 GPA (within the major) and a B.S. in Chemistry. Since then I have continued independent academic study on the topics of electrical conduction, thermodynamics, and plant physiology.

Upon graduation, I renewed my relationship with Steve and Cathy Smith of HopeNet to become one of their most consistent compassionate providers of free medicine. Their leadership role in the SF patient community inspired me to realize that breaking cannabis related law is only palliative, and that true progress will occur by shaping and implementing cannabis law on the municipal, county, state, and federal level. In the wake of legal decisions forbidding solvent based cannabis chemistry, with the interest of preserving my ability to engage in constructive political efforts, and in the hope of insulating the patients and operators in my circle from enforcement related harm, I renounced my previous desire to pursue achievements in cannabinoid extraction, isolation, and compounding, and will continue to refrain from such involvement until therapeutic usage of cannabis is legal by federal law.

When the Medical Cannabis Working Group (MCWG) invited cultivators to participate in the conversation, it presented me with a significant quandary. Medical cannabis cultivators currently suffer from raids, property seizure, and prosecution even in the progressive, trend-setting City and County of San Francisco. Having made every effort to operate responsibly, I had, and to this date have never had an encounter with law enforcement. Employing a quiet, conservative approach to cultivation was partly a function of my mild-mannered nature, yet was also consequential of the persistent fear that I would lose my educational opportunity from '02-'05. Living the bizarre juxtaposition of being an honest, high achieving, compassionate “criminal” was formative. The opportunity to involve myself in a formal political process was too great to resist though, so in July of 2009 I began attending MCWG meetings.

As the current chair of the Cultivation Subcommittee (SOC), I am totally committed to the development of sensible policy regarding cultivation. The SOC has prepared the following endorsement of my capabilities:

“Stewart Rhoads has earned the full and undivided support of the subcommittee because he possesses strong leadership skills. Stewart is a consensus builder who exhibits well developed analytical ability and a willingness to listen to differing viewpoints as well as the capacity to identify common ground to build on. He has proven himself to us without reservation as the person best equipped to represent the cultivation community as a whole. Stewart is an accomplished cultivator with bona fides in the community of compassionate caregivers. He has a degree in chemistry from Stanford University and brings a refreshingly bright and positive perspective to the set of problems and difficulties particular to the cultivator in the City of San Francisco. We enthusiastically support him for the ‘MCD cultivator’ seat on the task force to represent the SF Medical Cannabis Cultivation Community.”

In addition, the MCWG has voted to recommend me for the Medical Cannabis Dispensary Cultivator position with 71% in favor.

As of March 2010, the SOC has held weekly meetings since late December, and is already hard at work addressing the issues of the City and County of San Francisco in relation to the medical cannabis cultivation community. The Cultivation Safety Guidelines, co-authored by Steve Smith and I, have been improved by feedback received from the Department of Building Inspection and are currently circulating in the MCWG so as to further assist in their development. I hope that these guidelines may initiate a dialogue between city government and the cultivation community so as to advance the cause of public safety and invite cultivators to view the City as an entity they may cooperate with, without fear of reprisal. Other projects of ours include the facilitation of Marijuana Offense Oversight Committee business, as well as participation in cultivation regulation discussions in the City of Berkeley. By continuing to invest in relationships with formal bodies in and outside of SF, and by partnering with Axis of Love as one of the foremost patient advocacy organizations in SF, we hope to contribute a wealth of experience and breadth of perspective that will effectively promote the interests of patients, MCDs, and cultivators, all of whom are indispensable participants in advancing the cause of medical cannabis.

In conclusion, I sincerely hope to combine my communication skills, replete knowledge of the political history of medical cannabis, and established relationships in the community with a thorough technical understanding of cultivation and its legal implications to further the development of sound policy. In my view, the prospect of assisting the Board of Supervisors and the Medical Cannabis Task Force with progress in this area of contemporary focus is an exciting, historic opportunity, well worth the risk incurred by the exposure I would not have otherwise invited. Thank you for considering me.

Application Addendum – 1/23/11

Since March of 2010 my exploration of cultivation law and activism on behalf of medical cannabis cultivators and patients has included:

-Working with Police Commissioner Petra DeJesus, Axis of Love Executive Director Shona Gochenaur, and Marijuana Offense Oversight Committee Chairwoman Cathy Smith on safe access issues in the Sunset District. One notable result of this campaign was the return of medicine, equipment, and funds to Cody Philips.

-Liaising with SFPD Commander John Loftus to improve relations between the medical cannabis community and the SFPD. This series of interactions included an interagency meeting with Larry Kessler (DPH), Commander Loftus & Captain Casciato (SFPD), Dan Sider (Planning), and Sharon Woo & Rema Breall (District Attorney's office) on July 13, 2010.

-Formation of the Collective Cultivators' Alliance, which I chaired, to represent Berkeley independent cultivators who would have been excluded from applying for cultivation permits. By mobilizing this group, developing and making presentations before the Berkeley City Council, and working with Councilmembers Kriss Worthington and Laurie Capitelli, the language of Measure T (passed in November 2010) was changed in several significant ways.

1) Cultivation permits are to be issued through a transparent application process rather than to the 3 permitted dispensaries in Berkeley.

2) Permits are to be issued for six locations (and potentially more operators) in the interest of creating an environment with competitive pricing and enhanced variety of medication.

3) The constitution of the Berkeley Medical Cannabis Commission was augmented and changed to prevent special interests from controlling cannabis regulatory measures.

4) The scale of the proposed facilities was reduced so as to limit federal interest and promote participation by small, local operators.

-Working with Dege Coutee (Patient Advocacy Network, a registered 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organization) to develop strategy for permitting medical cannabis cultivation facilities in West Hollywood and the City of Los Angeles. I have been an advisory board member of PAN since August of 2010.

-Last but not least, as a material supporter of HopeNet and Axis of Love I contributed to the Thanksgiving and Christmas Community Dinners held at the Womens' Building.



**Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714**

Application for Boards, Commissions and Committees

Application for Appointment to: *Medical Cannabis Task Force*
Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force

Seat # or Category (if applicable): *#14* District: _____
 Name: *John Tyson Graham*
 Home Address: *Channel St #5* Zip: *94158*
 Home Phone: *(415) _____* Occupation: *C.P.A / Entrepreneur*
 Work Phone: *(415) 637-8989* Employer: *Self employed*
 Business Address: *300 Channel St #5* Zip: *94158*
 Business E-Mail: *Tyson.graham@mac.com* Home E-Mail: _____

Check All That Apply:

- A citizen of the United States. At least 18 years old on or before Election Day.
 Not in prison or on parole for a felony conviction
 A resident of San Francisco Yes: No: (Place of Residence): _____

Please state your qualifications (attach supplemental sheet if necessary)

*Growing medical Cannabis for dispensaries for 6 years.
Founded medical Cannabis collective*

Education:

*B.A. Accounting DePaul University 1993
C.P.A. 1993*

Business and/or professional experience:

*Prize Waterhouse Audit 1993-1994 Consulting 1994-1998
Ins Financial Engineers 1998-2000 Project Manager System Design/Development*

Civic Activities:

*Treasurer/steering committee member - Mission Creek Harbor Association 2010-2011
Volunteer SF Education Fund - Spring Valley Elementary 2009-2011*

Ethnicity: (optional) *Caucasian* Sex: (optional) M F

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes No

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made.
(Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)
(Please Note: Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record)

Date: *2/14/11* Applicant's Signature: (required) *[Signature]*
Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Appointed to Seat #: _____ Term Expires: _____ Date Seat was Vacated: _____

San Francisco
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Date Printed: April 15, 2011

Date Established: February 2, 2010

Active

MEDICAL CANNABIS TASK FORCE

Contact and Address:

Carol Lei
Chief Administrative Officer
City Hall, Room 362

Phone: (415) 554-4915

Fax:

Email: carol.lei@sfgov.org

Authority:

Ordinance Nos. 34-10; 287-10

Board Qualifications:

The Task Force shall consist of 15 members, appointed by the Board of Supervisors as follows:

Seat 1: A community organizer representative with a background in organizing neighbors, businesses or organizations around social justice and quality of life issues. This representative should also have a background working on medical cannabis related issues.

Seat 2: A representative of a local patient advocacy organization with a background in working to protect the interests of medical cannabis patients.

Seat 3: A representative of a local patient advocacy organization with a background in working to protect the interests of medical cannabis patients.

Seat 4: A representative of a hospice or a residential care facility with a background as an employee or volunteer in direct services working with medical cannabis patients or as a nurse or physician with a background in working with or treating of medical cannabis patients.

Seat 5: A person with a background in the management of a medical cannabis dispensary.

Seat 6: A person with a background in the management of a medical cannabis dispensary.

Seat 7: A person with a background in the management of a medical cannabis dispensary whose primary mode of operation is delivery.

Seat 8: A representative of a drug policy organization working specifically on medical cannabis issues.

Seat 9: A licensed California attorney with a background working with San Francisco medical cannabis dispensaries and experience with the City's medical cannabis dispensary permitting and regulatory process.

Seat 10: A person with a background in providing medical cannabis to low-income patients.

"R Board Description" (Screen Print)

San Francisco
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Seat 11: A person with a background in providing medical cannabis to permitted medical cannabis dispensaries located in the City and County.

Seat 12: A person with at least fifteen years of experience working on medical cannabis issues in the City and County.

Seat 13: A person with at least fifteen years of experience working on medical cannabis issues. A representative of a recognized neighborhood organization that has a medical cannabis dispensary within its boundaries.

Seat 14: A person with a background in providing medical cannabis to permitted medical cannabis dispensaries located in City and County.

Seat 15: A licensed or accredited health care practitioner practicing in the City and County with a background in medical cannabis and familiarity with the laws and regulation governing medical cannabis.

The Task Force shall have the power and duty to:

- (1) Hold hearings and take testimony regarding medical cannabis issues and related matters.
- (2) Create subcommittees as necessary.
- (3) Review local medical cannabis related laws, and make recommendations for changes.
- (4) Develop and make recommendations for a mediation process to be used by operators of medical dispensaries, patients and neighbors of dispensaries to address community concerns and resolve conflicts and disputes.
- (5) Develop and make recommendations regarding medical cannabis cultivation, production and baking guidelines for medical cannabis dispensaries.
- (6) Develop and make recommendations regarding cultivation and distribution of medical cannabis by individual patients, caregivers or small collectives that may fall outside the definition of a medical cannabis dispensary under the City's Health Code.
- (7) Develop and make recommendations regarding the cultivation of medical cannabis, particularly in residential dwellings, that may violate the City's Planning Code or applicable San Francisco or California Building Code requirements.
- (8) Develop and make recommendations regarding the taxation of medical cannabis lawfully dispensed or cultivated in the City and County.
- (9) Develop and make recommendations regarding the local regulation of medical cannabis in the event that State Proposition 19 is approved by the voters in the election held on November 2, 2010.

Report: During each year of its operation the Task Force shall submit to the Board of Supervisors an annual report summarizing its recommendations.

Compensation: None

Sunset Date: December 31, 2012

"R Board Description" (Screen Print)

