



**U.S. Department of Justice
Drug Enforcement Administration**

www.dea.gov

Washington, D.C. 20537

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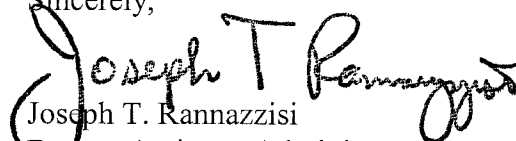
Carl Olsen
130 E. Aurora Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50313-3654

Dear Mr. Olsen:

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has received your letter dated December 23, 2009, which inquires whether you should submit a petition for religious exemption to DEA at this time or wait for further action by the State of Iowa.

Your letter indicates that you have a copy of DEA's Guidance Regarding Petitions for Religious Exemption from the Controlled Substances Act Pursuant to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. This document was designed to provide guidance to parties who wish to petition for a religious exemption to the Controlled Substances Act. It is not appropriate for DEA to advise you on your decision whether to file a petition with DEA at this time or your legal strategy with respect to the State of Iowa.

Sincerely,


Joseph T. Rannazzisi
Deputy Assistant Administrator