



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Board of Pharmacy
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June 20, 2008
Mr. Roy Haber
Attorney at Law
540 E. 40th Street
Eugene, OR, 97405

Dear Mr. Haber,

On November 8, 2000, after receiving the Santo Daime Memorandum of Law and expert reports, and after holding a hearing, the Oregon Board of Pharmacy concluded that the sacramental use of the Santo Daime tea in the context of a bona fide religious ceremony by practitioners of the Santo Daime religion as described does not constitute abuse of a controlled substance.

On November 22, 2000, after receiving a letter from you on behalf of your clients offering to register with the Board, we advised you that the Board is involved in regulation of the sale and distribution of drugs in Oregon and the investigation of allegations of drug abuse. Since the Church is neither a drug outlet nor, as indicated by the opinion of the Board, involved in abuse of a controlled substance, the Board has no authority to require registration or compliance with any Oregon pharmacy regulations.

The Board has considered the May 2, 2008, proposal of the Santo Daime Church to provide it with copies of documents that record the amount of sacramental tea that is brought into Oregon for Church services in Ashland and any distribution to other Santo Daime congregations in Oregon. Your current request to the Oregon Board of Pharmacy is for the Board to act as a quasi official repository of these documents. For the reasons cited above, the Board feels it must decline your offer to supply it with copies of your sacrament receipt records.

I want to thank you for being open and willing to provide these records on behalf of the Church's effort to demonstrate that it is taking all reasonable steps to prevent the tea from being diverted. As previously stated in its November 22, 2000 letter, the Board does not plan to exercise regulatory authority with regard to the religious practices of the Santo Daime Church in Oregon.

Very truly yours,

Gary Schnabel
Executive Director