

**MINUTES**

**UTAH  
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**September 15, 2010**

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
Heber M. Wells Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

**CONVENED:** 12:06 P.M.

**ADJOURNED:** 1:47 P.M.

**Bureau Manager:**

Richard J. Oborn

**Board Secretary:**

Lee Avery

**Board Members Present:**

David N. Sundwall, MD, Chairperson

Alexander B. Larsen, DDS

Scott Reed

Kristen Ries, MD

Major Jeff Carr

Todd C. Grey, MD

David C. Young, PharmD.

Glen R. Hanson

Elizabeth Howell, MD

Darin M. Vercillo, MD

**Guests:**

Dan Weist, Standard Examiner

Lynn Wingert, DEA

MaryLou Emerson, UBAAU

Lamar Guymon, Emery County Sheriff's Office

Paul Boyden, Statewide Assn. of Prosecutors

Jason Christensen, UTDPS

Scott VanWagoner, Unified PD of Greater SL

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

**DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

**MINUTES:**

The Committee reviewed the minutes dated July 7, 2010. Dr. Ries motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Dr. Howell. The motion carried unanimously.

**Swearing in of Committee members**

The members of the committee were sworn in as new Committee members.

**Introduction of new Committee members**

The Committee members introduced themselves.

**Not on the agenda:**

Dr. Sundwall reviewed some of the concerns expressed earlier today at a legislative committee meeting regarding the regulation of Spice.

Dr. Sundwall noted that some Utah cities and counties have already passed ordinances regarding Spice. Dr. Sundwall shared information gathered from several local health departments across the state about the use of Spice in their jurisdiction. Only departments in Central Utah reported no concern about Spice. Dr. Sundwall stated that the challenge of the Committee is to make sense of the documentation and research regarding Spice and then to give constructive recommendations to the Legislature.

Mr. Oborn reviewed articles regarding Spice that were provided to Committee members. Mr. Oborn encouraged members to take the information with them and to contact him with any questions.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Possible recommendations of placement of substances on controlled substances schedule

i. Spice

a. Report on information about Spice, Dr. Glen Hanson

b. Law enforcement perspective Spice abuse, Sergeant Scott VanWagoner

ii. Tramadol

a. Report on information about Tramadol, Dr. Glen Hanson

iii. Salvia divinorum

a. Report of information about Salvia Divinorum, Dr. Glen Hanson

iv. Other

Dr. Hanson stated that there are numerous smokable herbal mixtures which have been marketed under the brand name of Spice. These mixtures are mood or mind-altering when smoked. Spice represents a variety of different products. It has similar effects to cannabis. Spice is not being used in the manner intended and presents a danger. Spice products are manufactured at a number of different sites. The products have labels noting that this product is not for human consumption. According to the package, the intended use is for herbal incense. Dr. Hanson stated that several different ratios of several different compounds have been found in Spice. If only one compound is banned in Utah, others would likely take its place. The compounds act on specific cannabinoid receptors located in the central nervous system and throughout the body. More research is needed regarding the metabolism and toxicology of synthetic cannabinoids. Accidental overdosing may be likely with synthetics because the type and amount of cannabinoid may vary considerably from batch to batch. The detection of these synthetics can be difficult. The Committee discussed making Spice a Schedule I controlled substance. It was noted that scheduling the compounds of Spice in Schedule I will

not prohibit appropriately licensed individuals from researching the compounds.

Mr. Scott Van Wagoner met with the Committee. Mr. VanWagoner brought samples of Spice for the Committee's review. These were purchased in South Salt Lake for between \$10.00 and \$19.99 a gram. This is more expensive than marijuana. Spice is constructed of various plant materials that can be purchased at health food stores. Spice also contains acetone or denatured alcohol, JWH-018 or other synthetic cannabinoid, damiana leaf, red clover or other plant material. Mr. VanWagoner stated that law enforcement has several concerns regarding the use of Spice. Users are buying it for the high they can get and driving while under the influence of it. Another concern is that these products are being produced in clandestine laboratories. Mr. Reed emphasized the importance of being specific about the compounds being scheduled. A potential bill needs to enumerate the variations of compounds or analogues found in Spice.

The Committee expressed the need to research what other states have done regarding Spice. Mr. Oborn stated he will have additional information at the next Committee meeting. The Committee discussed the report due to the Legislature by September 30, 2010. Mr. Reed motioned to request additional time for additional research before submitting this report, seconded by Dr. Grey. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Scheduling of future meetings:

The Committee determined that its next meeting will be on November 6, 2010, 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

**ADJOURN:**

Adjourn: 1:47 P.M.

*Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.*

October 6, 2010  
Date Approved

(ss) Dr. David N. Sundwall  
Chairperson, Controlled Substances Advisory  
Committee

October 6, 2010  
Date Approved

(ss) Richard J. Oborn  
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &  
Professional Licensing