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Interim Director
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5 May 2017

Sean T Kiernan, Veteran and
President of The Weed for Warriors Project
UC Berkeley '96

Mr. Kiernan:

President Daniels shared your inquiry about our recent decision to withdraw from the MAPS study of cannabis and asked us to respond on his behalf. This is an important issue, so please allow us to explain.

First, and most important, our research team at Johns Hopkins remains dedicated to helping military veterans, finding improved treatments for PTSD and conducting innovative research to enhance our understanding of both the risks and benefits of cannabis/cannabinoids. We elected to withdraw from the MAPS study of cannabis in veterans with PTSD prior to any participant enrollment simply because the goals for this study weren't in alignment with ours.

It is Johns Hopkins' mission to conduct high-quality scientific research and to save lives. We have conducted several studies that focus on veterans' care and understanding PTSD. Below are a few links for your reference.

- Alcohol Prevents Ability to Extinguish Fearful Memories in Mice
- Combining Genes, Epigenetics and Stress Responses to Study Suicide and PTSD
- Healing Veterans' Unseen Wounds — PTSD and Suicide Risk
- Scuba Diving Improves Function of Body, Mind in Vets with Spinal Cord Injury

We look forward to continuing our mission-driven research efforts to help veterans. While we appreciate your continued interest in this matter, please keep in mind that we do not anticipate any changes to our position or to the responses we can offer to your concerns.

The sacrifice and dedication of veterans is remarkable, and we respectfully thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C Lyketsos".

Constantine (Kostas) Lyketsos, M.D., M.H.S.
Interim Director, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric C. Strain".

Eric C. Strain, M.D.
Professor and Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and Research
Acting Chair, Johns Hopkins Bayview Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences