

## McArthur Police Department

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## Press Release

To: All Residents of the Village of McArthur;

This letter is to inform all residents of the Village of McArthur concerning a new levy that has been placed on the election ballot for November, 2021 general election within the Village of McArthur. This levy was placed on the ballot by a group of people by following general election law guidelines. This levy specifically addresses placing a NEW ordinance that would only affect the McArthur Police Department.

The proposed ordinance is requested to change all the penalties for a specific amount of marijuana, hashish, cultivate/manufacture or obtain paraphernalia products related to marijuana. The proposal would change all penalties for possession of these items to \$0.00 for fines and also \$0.00 for court costs.

By law these products are still listed as a Schedule 1 controlled substance per the controlled substance act. The main difference between a schedule 1 and schedule 2 is NO medical use. There is already an accepted and voted medical marijuana product and items available. Law Enforcement Officer's have discretionary power already when it involves possibly charging someone with this crime or not.

The McArthur Police Department is not willing to endorse or recommend the passage of this levy. Society views may think this is no big deal because it's just marijuana. However, this is only the beginning of a downhill tumble with regards to ILLEGAL drug use. If the penalties continue to be decreased over time, then what chance does society have to combat the ever-growing drug problem facing our Village and Country.

Chief Thomas Heaton

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