

# UNITED CANNABIS MINISTRIES

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September 9, 2005

United States Supreme Court  
Justice O'Connor  
1 First Street North East  
Washington, D.C. 20543  
(202) 479-3011  
<http://www.supremecourt.us>

In Re - O Centro Espirita Beneficiente  
Uniao Do Vegetal Church, Docket Number  
04-1084.

To all our relations.  
Greetings in the name of the most high, Jah Rastafari, ever faithful, ever sure, Jah  
Rastafari.  
One Love Brethren.

Greetings Justice Sandra Day O'Connor,

Please allow us to extend our deep appreciation to you and the Court for granting  
a Writ of Certiorari to the United States Attorney General Gonzalez in the case of O  
Centro Espirita Beneficiente Uniao Do Vegetal Church, Docket Number 04-1084.

We sought long and hard for an attorney accepted to practice at your bench to  
present this document to you, but to no avail. We seek to provide you with an **Amicus  
Curie** brief in acceptable format, with cogent and illuminating illustration of the fact and  
the law. We have done our best to aid you in your exercise of jurisdiction as you review  
issues that are central to the lower court rulings in UDV. These issues arose when the

district court in the 10th Circuit cited an unpublished opinion from the Eighth circuit in direct contradiction to the ruling on the law made by the district court in its decision on the UDV church. The lower courts in the 10th Circuit have not reviewed these issues because neither the government nor the UDV Church would present them there.

Over a period of nine months, we asked the following leaders and attorney's to represent us or help us to find representation. Keith Stroup of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws; Daniel Abrahamson and Ethan Nadelmann of the Drug policy Foundation; Eric Sterling; Rob Kampia and Stephanie Vogel of Marijuana Policy Project; Charles Thomas of Interfaith Drug Policy Initiative; Ephraim Margolin of San Francisco and Gerald Uelman of University of Santa Clara; Erwin Chemerinsky of Duke Law School; Larry Schilling and Ramsey Clark of the Center for Constitutional Rights; David Duchrow; Gary Edinger; Barbara Hadfell, David Stormer; and Steve Potts all turned us down without substantive legal explanation.

One attorney said that filing this Amicus would be "suicide" for our position.

Another attorney said: "For reasons I suspect you understand, but which I am happy to explain further at another time, the information you seek to give the justices -- who live cloistered lives full of resplendent tea cosies (sic) -- will not make it easier for them to side with UDV."

Needless to say United Cannabis Ministries do not share that opinion of the U.S. Supreme Court Justices.

It is the understanding of United Cannabis Ministries that practicing attorneys are obligated by professional oath, and by professional performance standards, to inform the Court of any and all relevant facts in evidence and law concerning the administration of Justice by that court. That is all we seek to do here.

United Cannabis Ministries writes to you to inform your decision making in the UDV church case by pointing out plain error, denial of due process, denial of statutory right at trial, conviction of the innocent and the cause of irreparable harm.

Because our best efforts to obtain legal representation were not sufficient, we respectfully request this Court to entertain our Amicus Curie brief as a letter from the people.

It has been thirty eight years too long since this Court's review of the religious use of marijuana in the case of Dr. Timothy Leary; *Leary vs. U.S.*, 383 F.2d 851 (5th Circuit 1967).

It has been twelve years too long that our Nation has been without your decision on the question of religious use of Herbs in reference to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, 42 U.S.C. sec. 2000bb et al.



It has been seventy eight years too long that our Nation has been subject to prohibitions on the use of Herbs made by the Creator for our spiritual discernment, where no fact of any threat to public health and safety caused by use of those herbs has ever been substantiated in a court of law in federal, state, county or municipal jurisdiction.

It has been simply too long that our Nation has been subject to prohibitions on our use of the Herbs made by the Creator for our spiritual discernment where every single valid scientific study has proven that no threat to public health and safety other than drunk driving could possibly result. Lawful enforcement of drunk driving law is a less restrictive means of regulation of the threat to public health and safety caused by drunk driving, then taking the alcoholic Wine away from the Catholic Church.

It has been eight hundred and seventeen years too long since the Catholic Pope issued the edict in 1188, outlawing religious use of the Cannabis Sativa plant, and authorizing the extermination by fire of the "Witches and Druids" that used the Cannabis Sativa plant. Chief amongst those "Witches and Druids" burned of course are the Cather Church, founded by Mary Magdalene, her sister Martha and their servant Sarah in the South of France just after the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. (This was the Albigenis Crusade 1208.)

It is fatally too long that our Nation has been subjected to arrest, adjudication, fine, forfeiture and incarceration for growing and using non-toxic Herbs given to us by the Creator of all for our spiritual discernment.

Thank God that this day for Supreme Court review of RFRA has arrived.

We of the United Cannabis Ministries reach out with our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your discernment in your treatment of the O Centro Church members.

We implore you to be uniform without discrepancy or discrimination as you define the application of the *Sherbert* and *Yoder* tests called for in the RFRA. Please define RFRA to apply to all sincere religious use of the Herbs that our Creator created for our spiritual discernment.

We beg you on bended knee to allow us in the United Cannabis Ministries the same measure of Truth and Justice at the bar under RFRA that you have already extended by your decisions on the O Centro Espirita Beneficiente Uniao Do Vegetal Church.

According to the federal Drug Enforcement Agency, we Cannabis users exceed thirty million daily. Last year over 750,000 of us suffered arrest and adjudication - as we have in such numbers for some 10 years now. Prior to 1999 over 15 million of us had been assaulted in our persons and properties, for alleged violation of law by growing, possession, acquiring, and using Cannabis Sativa / Indica. Almost another 5 million have suffered since 1999. Many if not all of these marijuana uses are in fact attempts by the person to pray, to invoke the Holy Spirit of God and the Creator of all, as the Creator designed, thru use of the entheogenic plants, the God Talk plants.

Finally Congress has acted, in RFRA, to provide a means, a method for the person to plead **no harm** where religious exercise is otherwise persecuted *in extremis*.

Finally this Court has already recognized RFRA as Congress wrote it and intended for it to be adjudicated in the O Centro case now under your review.

Do we who are simple citizens, citizens who are not otherwise any threat to any person by our actions, do we not have the same rights under the law, under RFRA, as other persons who dispense alcoholic wine to minors on Sundays in "dry counties", without license, membership card or the permission of the parents of those minors?

Will you please extend your understanding to the facts of law and the evidence set forth in the attached documents - which was prepared for your examination as an entry of Amicus Curie Brief to the Docket Number 04-1084?

No attorney that examined these documents could explain why these facts of law and evidence should not be submitted for your examination. With the one exception of Carolyn Mathews of Columbia, Missouri (not SCOTUS), they simply declined to help us.

Brethren of our Supreme Court we plead with you to recognize the circumstances of persons *in propria persona* who have no professional to plead our case.

Brethren of our Supreme Court we plead with you to extend the same measure of Truth and Justice that our founders George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and George Mason provided as they grew, traded, and used the Cannabis Sativa flowers as an aid to their spiritual discernment; as they used Cannabis Hemp as the fiber, seed and oil plant the Creator intended Cannabis to be. We ask for ourselves, no more then this Court would accord to them.

Is there any doubt that George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and George Mason used the Cannabis plant as a means of achieving independence from all European domination in commerce?

Is there any doubt that George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and George Mason used the Cannabis plant to promote the development of renewable and sustainable resources for industry, our people and the government itself?

Brethren of our Supreme Court we recognize that your perusal of our document, titled Amicus Curie, is unusual under your docketing procedures, but is "*unusual*" a bar to Justice under Law for lack of professional services of an attorney?

Hear our plea oh Brethren of our Supreme Court that Justice under Law might be done and the innocent set free from persecution where no proof of threat to public health and safety has ever been provided in evidence.

We leave you in the, One Love. . .

signed

Rev Eddy Lepp

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Date

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