

DEA Cancels Hearing on Proposed Psychedelics Ban Amid Constitutional Challenge

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has indefinitely canceled its scheduled administrative hearing on the proposed ban of psychedelic compounds DOI and DOC. This decision follows a federal court challenge questioning the constitutionality of DEA's scheduling process.

Legal Challenge Halts DEA Hearing

Panacea Plant Sciences (PPS) filed a lawsuit against DEA, arguing that the use of administrative law judges in this process is unconstitutional. The court has stayed the hearing pending resolution of the case.

Impact on Psychedelic Research

The cancellation delays expert input crucial for the classification of DOI and DOC as Schedule I drugs under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), despite DEA's attempts citing potential health hazards.

Background and Future

DEA previously withdrew similar proposals in 2022 due to scientific community opposition. The agency's renewed efforts lack concrete evidence linking DOI and DOC to severe health risks or high abuse potential.

Implications for Cannabis

Separately, DOJ is considering moving marijuana from Schedule I to Schedule III under CSA, inviting public comment. Litigation over DEA's process may influence future scheduling decisions.

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