

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Nelson To Host Medical Marijuana Seminar Featuring Health And Legal Experts

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Senator Ann Rivers with guests in the Washington State Senate Chambers, April 13, 2015.

ST. CROIX -- As Senator Terrence "Positive" Nelson continues his push towards the legalization of medical marijuana in the territory, the senator is ramping up awareness efforts through events with the hope of educating the community on the benefits of the drug, according to a press release Nelson's office issued today.

One such event is what Nelson is calling a 'Medical Cannabis Seminar', where the legal and health factors of medical marijuana will be discussed. There, two off-island professionals will speak on the aforementioned topic on May 27, in the University of the Virgin Islands' Great Hall. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m., and video conferencing will be available on the St. Thomas campus in the ACC Building.

The speakers are Attorney Ken Sobel, who has had direct experience with the cannabis laws in many states; and Nurse Heather Manus, who specializes in medical cannabis healthcare.

"We met these individuals in Colorado during my Medical Cannabis Expedition. Personally funding their own trip, Attorney Sobel and Nurse Heather have volunteered their time to educate the V.I. community on the legal and health factors of medical cannabis," Nelson said.

According to the release, both professionals are excited to visit the territory and are ready to share their knowledge and expertise on medical marijuana and the legalities thereof with the community.

"I would like to extend a personal invitation to the entire community to come out to the Seminar on Wednesday, May 27th and be educated on the legal and health factors of the medical cannabis industry. Please spread the word!" he added.

The veteran senator at a recent press event [introduced](#) the 'Medicinal Cannabis Patient Car Act', a piece of legislation he hopes will become the law governing the use of medical marijuana in the territory.

Held at the Curriculum Center located west of the St. Croix Central High School at 10:00 a.m. on May 13, Nelson, along with members of his recent Washington State and Colorado expedition, including St. Thomas Sen. Tregenza Roach, Dr. Manuel Da Motta, D.O., and others, spoke about their experience, making known that they were now stronger advocates of the drug than before the trip.

"This trip took me on a spiritual expedition," Nelson said, "I'm having a spiritual experience, people, and it's beautiful. Nelson said before embarking on the journey, he thought he was liberal in his thinking, "but I've experienced it at another level. I mean, it's changing and it's causing me to recalibrate my position on some issues."

The six-term senator said the bill will be introduced to the 31st Legislature at the end of May. The expedition, he added, was useful in helping draft a better bill — taking away the good parts of what has worked on the U.S. mainland, while steering clear from what has not.

At the same press event, Nelson suggested turning the Carambola Beach Resort and Spa into a [420 Zone](#) where marijuana could be bought and sold, and smoked freely.

"I would like to see us consider Carambola as a 420 zone," Nelson said. "We turn it into a 420-friendly hotel and even do the cultivating there and incorporate that into the whole maroon village thing. We're talking big industry here," he said. "I have ideas for you."

For more information, call 340-712-2287 or 340-712-2210.

Feature Image: Senator Nelson and members of his expedition pose for a picture with Washington State Senate Majority Leader, Senator Ann Rivers.

Image Credit: Sen. Nelson's office

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