
CAN-DO Foundation News

Justice through clemency

P.O. Box 6468, Malibu, CA 90264 - a 501(c)(3) non profit organization - www.candoclemency.com



CAN-DO goes to Washington DC to lobby for pot lifers in front of the White House - students flock to join protest, shocked over nation's dirty secret that people are serving "life for pot!"

CAN-DO Founder Amy Povah meets the new Pardon Attorney, Deborah Leff; reunites with other clemency recipients; brainstorms with reform groups involved with Clemency Project 2014.

CAN-DO's Founder Amy Povah and Vice President Cheri Sicard speak at NORML press conference on the L.A. City Hall steps marking the 100th Anniversary of the First Pot Raid. *

CAN-DO goes to the Seattle Hempfest - promotes 420-The Documentary and garners support for pot lifers from Congressman Dana Rohrabacher.

CAN-DO creates the Top 25 List of Women who Deserve Clemency - released on the Clemency Report website in October; petition on change.org

CAN-DO's Op Ed published in the San Francisco Chronicle for Thanksgiving, urging President Obama to do something extraordinary - **pardon a human instead of a turkey!*** Similar Op Ed by Sicard in Ladybud.

CAN-DO VP Cheri Sicard takes pot lifer posters to Palm Springs Pride Parade; attends Cannabis Career Institute in Las Vegas; gains support for pot lifers from Former Presidential Candidate Gary Johnson.

CAN-DO celebrates Barbra Scrivner and Cathy Jones - pardoned by President Obama on 12.17.2014

All of this and much more on the **CAN-DO** website at www.candoclemency.com

2014 CAN-DO Roundup

A lot happened this past year, but nothing more earth shattering than “Clemency Project 2014” - announced and initiated by none other than the very office that filled our prisons full of drug offenders - the DOJ is now seeking “justice through clemency.” Music to our ears!!!



On Capitol Hill advocating clemency for pot lifers and women serving draconian sentences for drug conspiracy cases.

It was a surreal trip to D.C. for CAN-DO Founder Amy Povah. A lot was packed into a short time-frame, including an escorted trip inside the Dept. of Justice, where a slew of clemency recipients got to meet the new Pardon Attorney, Deborah Leff. “This was history in the making and unprecedented for a sitting Pardon Attorney to invite felons to the table and hear what we had to say!” said Amy. But the highlight of the trip was when Sam Morison introduced himself at the “Changing Lives” dinner. He worked at the Pardon Office when Amy’s petition was pending. “Your case caused a war in the Pardon Office,” he said.

“Not only did I get to hear the inside story of what actually happened, I learned that Sam was the whistleblower that caused not only one Pardon Attorney to step down, but two and therefore is responsible for paving the way for the changes we are currently benefiting from today.”



Watch Cheri and Amy speak at NORML press conference at L.A. City Hall calling for pardons for all pot lifers. Video on CAN-DO site.



VP Cheri Sicard with Gary Johnson in Las Vegas

CAN-DO VP Cheri Sicard was invited to speak at the Cannabis Career Institute in Las Vegas and had a chance to talk extensively to Former Libertarian Presidential Candidate Gary Johnson who received an ear full about the pot lifers languishing in prison that need nationwide exposure. Johnson expressed interest in running again, and promised to embrace this issue if he did.



Derek and Amy Povah with Congressman Dana Rohrabacher at Seattle Hempfest



Cheri takes pot lifers to Palm Springs Pride Parade

In 2014 CAN-DO TRAVELS TO D.C., SEATTLE HEMPFEST, O.C. AND MORE...



With Congressman John Conyers at the Changing Lives Dinner in D.C.



ACLU Jennifer Turner, Former Pardon Attorney Maggie Love and Former Pardon Staffer Sam Morison - heroic whistleblower!



Clemency sorority sisters advocating for sisters they left behind



Worldwide Marijuana March



Vietnam Veterans Larry Duke and Billy Deckle each serving LIFE FOR POT have both served over 20 years and counting



VP Cheri Sicard gets the OC NORML Hempy Award



Pot Lifers go to Hempfest - to educate and gain support of cannabis community.



Former Governor and Presidential Candidate Gary Johnson loves 420-The Documentary



Chris Conrad and Mikki Norris receive Lifetime Achievement Award at Seattle Hempfest Mikki visited me in prison and put me on the cover of Shatter Lives - FIRST book to spotlight human cost of the drug war using photos and cases. I owe them so much...

CAN-DO

justice through clemency



Barbra Scrivner and Amy served time together in federal prison. Amy never stopped advocating for Barbra who received a draconian 30-year sentence for “meth conspiracy.” Finally, on 12/17/2014, Barbra’s clemency petition was granted by President Obama after serving 20 years! Sadly, Barbra’s father passed just months before her release. She regrets her father was not able to celebrate this momentous occasion with her. Barbra faces the frightening prospect of losing her father’s home to a Reverse Mortgage and worries about where she, her daughter and grandson will live if that happens.



Amy hopes President Obama will pardon Danielle Metz, serving Life and Mary Ritcherson serving 30 years for “drug conspiracy.” Amy served time and is friends with both Danielle and Mary. “They are merely guilty by association,” said Amy. “Their role was so minor, if it were not for the conspiracy law, they could not have charged them at all. Danielle was never accused of selling drugs and Mary was held responsible for the actions of her husband, who has been free for over 10 years! There was never any evidence that she played a role in the conspiracy for which she was charged. She was an easy target due to a prior conviction she had for heroin. The only witness that testified against Mary was someone from her former case who did not implicate her for the cocaine conspiracy she was indicted for. Due to a prior offense, she was sentenced as a “Career Offender” adding almost 20 years to her sentence. Mary has already served almost her entire sentence and is a “role model inmate” with no infractions. Danielle Metz has served over 21 years and is #3 on Amy’s Top 25 List of Women who deserve clemency. Mary is #11 because she will be released this year, with or without clemency. To read more about their cases, go to the CAN-DO website and read the profiles of our Top 25 Women.



Read Amy’s Op Ed in San Francisco Chronicle urging Pres. Obama to pardon humans and not just turkeys for Thanksgiving.



We are pleased to announce that on November 18th, 2014, the CAN-DO Foundation elected the extremely talented Cheri Sicard as Vice President and Executive Director specializing in outreach for prisoners convicted of cannabis related charges. Of all the issues surrounding cannabis, it was the plight of prisoners serving life for marijuana offenses that most haunted Cheri. She first got involved creating Facebook pages and websites for Life Without Parole Prisoners Randy Lanier, Paul Free, Craig Cesal and Larry Duke. Cheri communicates daily with the inmates and posts their comments, upon request, on their Facebook page. This has proven invaluable to prisoners who now have a presence, voice and support from the cannabis community and in turn boosts the morale of both the prisoners and their family members as well.

Cheri is a professional writer and internet entrepreneur. Her most recent book was just published by Seal Press and will release on April 20th, entitled: **Mary Jane: The Complete Marijuana Handbook for Women** Pre-ordered through Amazon.