

Item #7⁽¹⁴⁾

**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL
2:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING
OCTOBER 28, 2014**

**SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF
COMMISSIONER JACOBS**

Lindor, Vayola

Subject:

FW: Re: Broward Sheriff's memo

Hello Commissioner Jacobs,

First, congratulations on your election to the House of Representatives. Secondly, thank you for supporting the illegalization of Kratom. Thirdly, I apologize for my burning of the midnight oil in responding to your earlier emails, as I have just completed my preparation for my deposition tomorrow as an expert witness. This previous commitment will not allow me to attend today's most important meeting.

I appreciate all of the concerns that both you and Linda Mautner have shared with me regarding your concerns over the growing pandemic of Kratom users. Kratom is indigenous to Southeast Asia. Interestingly, and to the point, Thailand, Malaysia, and Burma, have declared this to be an addictive substance and with no legitimate medical purposes. Kratom's mechanism of actions are not well characterized, but are believed to act at serotonin, norepinephrine, and mu receptors. These are the identical receptors by which opiates/narcotics (mu), and several classes of antidepressants (serotonin and norepinephrine) exert their mechanisms of action. Thus, the mixture of opiates, anti-depressants, and Kratom could lead to unintentional and accidental death from multi-drug toxicity. In my opinion, Linda's son's untimely death was caused by this adverse mixture as he never presented with any known history of suicidal ideations.

I kindly refer you to an article which appeared recently in Scientific American: <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/should-kratom-be-legal>, which further emphasizes my concerns.

Again, I strongly applaud your efforts to ban the sale of Kratom, both within our community of Broward County, as well as the State of Florida, to insure the safety of our citizens.

Professionally,
Kevin Chaitoff, MD



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