



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION  
OF NEW YORK CITY

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**Statement of Crime Commission President Aborn  
on NYPD Marijuana Policy Change**

NEW YORK - Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission, released the following statement today in response to the NYPD's marijuana policy change:

“The Crime Commission applauds this move by the NYPD to handle low-level marijuana possession cases with a summons rather than an arrest. Low-level marijuana arrests often lead to life-crippling convictions for otherwise law-abiding New Yorkers—and the practice disproportionately affects young men of color. These arrests also divert the time and attention of police – and the resources of our courts – away from more serious criminal justice work.

“By more appropriately ticketing New Yorkers found with a small amount of marijuana, the NYPD will empower police with more discretion on the street, save countless New Yorkers from potentially dooming and unnecessary arrest records, and significantly improve community relations in neighborhoods disturbed by a high number of these arrests.”

About the Citizens Crime Commission:

The Crime Commission is a non-partisan non-profit organization working to make New York City's criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. For more information on the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, please visit our website: [www.nycrimecommission.org](http://www.nycrimecommission.org)

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