UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Fox Valley
A Campus of the University of Wisconsin Colleges

Dear Participant:

As an undergraduate student in geography at the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley,a campus of the University of Wisconsin Colleges in Menasha, Wisconsin, I am studying the migration of medical marijuana patients to Michigan. I am conducting this research under the supervision of my faculty mentor, Dr. Andrew Shears, an assistant professor of geography at UW-Fox Valley.

Your participation in this study will provide me with the data I need to examine the factors leading to interstate medical migration for access to marijuana, as well as some of the cultural, social and economic impacts of this migration. I expect the interview to last approximately 45-60 minutes.

You will not be identified in this study in any way except by your participant identification number. Please do not share with me any of your identifying information, such as your name, your address, or the names of your immediate family members. If you wish to give me a false name or pseudonym to make our conversations easier, that is fine. I am striving to keep this as anonymous as possible to minimize any risk to you.

In order to ensure that the interview method is effective to gathering this data, I will digitally record the audio of our conversation, transcribe it, and then extract data that is relevant to this study. Once I've completed the transcription, the audio files will be destroyed, eliminating any opportunity for a third party to identify your voice. Transcribing our interview is the only logical, meaningful way I have to assess the data for study. In accordance with UW Colleges research auditing policy, transcriptions identified only by the number, will be kept for three years by Dr. Shears is a secure location under lock and key. After that time, all transcripts will be destroyed.

The aim of this study is to gather information to study potential impacts of marijuana reform legalization in Wisconsin, and to present these findings to lawmakers. The benefit to participants is that their participation will show the personal impacts of marijuana prohibition on patients who need it for medicine to people who can change the laws. I do not anticipate that the study will present risk or inconvenience to you; however, because we are discussing both the medical and recreational use of cannabis both in your past and present, and because possession and use of cannabis is illegal under federal law, I am required to warn you that there could be legal consequences from your status as a medical marijuana patient that we cannot foresee. My process of anonymizing your information should minimize this risk as much as possible. You may choose to not answer any question I ask at any time. If you want to withdraw from the study, you may do so at any time before April 15, 2013 by informing our mutual contact and including your subject number. He will forward your intention to us, and all information gathered from the interview will be removed from the data and destroyed.

Once the study is completed in May 2013, I will be happy to provide you with a copy. I will be providing copies of the study to our mutual contact who introduced us, so please contact him for a copy of the completed research or to relay questions about the project.

In addition, if you have any concerns about your treatment as a participant in this study, please contact the Institutional Review Board administrators for the University of Wisconsin College by emailing: irb-admin@uwc.edu or institutionalreview@uwc.edu, by visiting http://www.uwc.edu/academics/irb on the World Wide web, or by telephoning 1-888-463-6892.

Thank you for your participation!

Jonathan Steffen
Student

Andrew Shears, PhD
Assistant Professor of Geography