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## **MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY SUES CITY OF LAKE FOREST**

*-- HOWARD | NASSIRI Represents Lake Forest Wellness Center and Collective  
In Cross-Complaint Against City --*

ORANGE COUNTY, CA – Damian Nassiri, a partner with the consumer advocacy law firm HOWARD | NASSIRI, is representing Lake Forest Wellness Center and Collective (LFWCC), a medical marijuana dispensary, in its cross-complaint against the City of Lake Forest. The cross-complaint is in response to the City’s lawsuit against multiple marijuana collectives seeking to permanently shut down their businesses. LFWCC responded to the original complaint, asking all charges against them to be dropped. When charges were not dropped, LFWCC filed suit in the Superior Court in April, suing the city for violations of various constitutional rights.

“Our client conducts its business and maintains operations under California’s Compassionate Use Act and the Medical Marijuana Program Act, which legally allows marijuana distribution to qualified patients with a valid doctor’s recommendation,” said Mr. Nassiri, “It’s the City’s officials who have violated our client’s constitutional rights.”

In August 2009, Lake Forest issued an open letter to commercial and rental property owners threatening criminal prosecution, fines of \$1,000.00 or more and up to six months of incarceration against medical marijuana collectives if the landlords did not immediately stop leasing to the collectives. When some of the collectives did not comply, Lake Forest City filed suit claiming the operations of the dispensaries constituted a public nuisance and violated several of the City’s municipal codes. The

Superior Court decision on whether medical marijuana collectives still operating in Lake Forest should be permanently closed is pending.

About HOWARD | NASSIRI

*HOWARD | NASSIRI is a national law firm representing plaintiffs and consumers in many complex and high-profile litigation matters. The firms practice areas include, criminal defense, immigration, loan modifications, predatory lending, labor and employment, bankruptcy, and personal injury.*

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