

CITY OF BANNING
PRESS RELEASE

June 20, 2012

For Immediate Release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: CITY OF BANNING ADDRESSING ILLEGAL OPENING OF MARIJUANA DISPENSARY

The City of Banning has initiated code enforcement procedures against the illegal opening of a marijuana dispensary along West Ramsey Street in Banning. Andy Takata, Banning City Manager said, "Citizens and Council Members brought this illegal activity to the attention of City Staff and the City Attorney and we have been working to get this 'business' removed from the community. Council Members voted a number of years ago and created an ordinance prohibiting medical marijuana facilities in the City of Banning. While the dispensary operations are illegal under Federal law, the problem recently has been with conflicting State Law which allows medical use and growing of small amounts of marijuana."

In addition to the City ordinance prohibiting this type of use, a City business license and sign permit have not been issued for the marijuana dispensary. The same business has also set up shop in Beaumont and Palm Springs. City staff is actively pursuing the situation and will keep the community informed.

For additional information please contact the Banning Community Development Director Zai Abu Bakar at (951) 922-3131.

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