



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON
BUREAU OF POLICE

VERA KATZ, MAYOR
Mark A. Kroeker, Chief of Police
1111 S.W. 2nd Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

February 1, 2001

United States Sentencing Commission
One Columbus Circle, N.E., Suite 2-500
Washington D.C. 20002-8002
Attention: Public Information

Re: Proposed Amendment to Increase Ecstasy Sentencing

Dear Commissioner:

I am writing to you to encourage passage of an amendment to the federal sentencing guidelines that would enhance penalties for the manufacture, importation, and exportation or trafficking of Ecstasy.

Our community has realized a dramatic rise in the distribution and use of Ecstasy over the last year. We are finding much more Ecstasy available in our city than in years past. Information we are receiving through intelligence and investigation indicates that the user base is very young, ranging in age from mid-teens to mid-20's. In November 2000, Portland recorded its first ever Ecstasy death, when an 18-year-old young man overdosed on Ecstasy at a local "rave club".

The proliferation of this drug on our community, specifically on our young people is having a devastating effect. Tougher laws and sanctions will help reduce the impact of Ecstasy. I strongly support passage of increased penalties for Ecstasy.

Very truly yours,


MARK A. KROEKER
Chief of Police

MAK/jf

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