

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 3, 2018
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ATLANTA NOON THU APRIL 5: FORMER WHITE HOUSE DRUG SPOKESMAN BOB WEINER TO CHALLENGE LEGALIZERS' PREMISE "DRUG WAR FAILED" AND MARIJUANA "HARMLESS" AT "SAM" SUMMIT AT RX SUMMIT

OPEN TO MEDIA, HYATT REGENCY ATLANTA, 265 Peachtree St. NE, International South Room, Press Availability immediately following

ASSERTS OVERALL DRUG USE DOWN HALF BY COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY, NOW NEED TO REDUCE MORE, ESPECIALLY OPIOIDS; WILL GIVE FACTS MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION INCREASES CAR CRASHES, ER NUMBERS, DRUG DEATHS, OTHER DRUG USAGE AND ADDICTION

WEINER TO CONTRADICT MEDIA NORMS ALLEGING "DRUG WAR FAILURE" JUST BECAUSE "COOL" FOR RATINGS, AND WILL SLAM STATE LEGALIZATION MOVEMENTS & MOST IN HIS OWN DEMOCRATIC PARTY FOR PANDERING TO LEGALIZERS AS VOTING BASE DESPITE FACTUAL DATA

SAM ("Smart Approaches to Marijuana") Summit meeting Thursday at RX Summit to feature experts in medical, parenting, treatment, prevention, science arenas; Other "SAM speakers 9-5:30, press availabilities throughout

(Atlanta, GA) – Former Clinton and Bush White House National Drug Policy Spokesman Robert Weiner will speak at the "SAM" (Smart Approaches to Marijuana) Summit at the RX and Heroin Drug Abuse Summit in Atlanta **Thursday, April 5 at Noon-12:30** and will "challenge the legalization movement, with passage in 30 states, and their "premises that the drug war has failed and marijuana is harmless." Weiner was also spokesman for the U.S. House Select Committee on Narcotics and the House Government Operations Committee.

Weiner will present national data to show that "overall drug use is down by half by a comprehensive strategy and now we need to reduce it more, especially opioids." Weiner will also contend that data from states which recently legalized show that marijuana legalization "increases car crashes, hospital emergency room cases, drug deaths, other drug usage, and addiction."

Weiner said he will "contradict media norms alleging drug war failure just because it is cool for ratings," and will slam state legalization movements and most in his own Democratic Party for "pandering to legalizers, especially the young on this issue, as a voting base despite factual scientific data."

MEDIA ARE INVITED FOR THIS INTRIGUING "OTHER SIDE" PRESENTATION at noon and follow-on press availability at 12:30.

Other SAM speakers run from 9-5:30, with press availabilities throughout, all in the Hyatt Regency International South Room.

Weiner congratulated SAM President Dr. Kevin Sabet, a White House Drug Policy Office colleague, “for doing the impossible: creating the most credible and respected organization in the country to counter the popular and media favored myth that legalizing marijuana – medical and recreational—is the answer to the nation’s and all the states’ drug problems.”

SAM SUMMIT speakers are:

WHO:

Kevin A. Sabet, President, SAM

Aubree Adams, a parent whose family has been harmed by marijuana

Darryl Rodgers, a parent who has lost a child as a result of marijuana

Ben Cort, a Colorado-based leader in the field of substance abuse recovery

Mervyn Jones, Director, State and Local Government Affairs, SAM

Luke Niforatos, Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Advisor, SAM

Roneet Lev, MD, Chief, Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego

Julie Schauer, Founder, Parents Opposed to Pot

Sally Schindel, Activist, Momsstrong.org

Dana Stevens, Executive Director, Community Action, Service & Advocacy

Jeffrey Veatch, Activist

Robert Weiner, Former Spokesman, White House National Drug Control Policy Office and U.S. House Select Committee on Narcotics

Source: Robert Weiner Associates and Solutions for Change