



AMERICAN KRATOM ASSOCIATION

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For more information, contact:
Pete Candland, Executive Director
Cell: (703) 608-4649
Email: pete.candland@americankratom.org

AKA FILES COMPLAINT AGAINST HHS & FDA TO EXTEND COMMENT PERIOD ON WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION EXPERT COMMITTEE PRE-REVIEW OF KRATOM

WASHINGTON, D.C. – August 7, 2021 – The American Kratom Association (AKA) filed a complaint on Friday, August 6, 2021, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); HHS Secretary Becerra; the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and Acting FDA Commissioner Woodcock. The complaint seeks Declaratory and Injunctive Relief to extend the comment period on the FDA submission to the World Health Organization (WHO) Expert Committee Pre-Review of kratom from August 9 to August 30, 2021.

“The FDA received notice of the proposed WHO Expert Committee Pre-Review of kratom on June 10, 2021, but deliberately delayed the required Federal Register Notice soliciting public comments for 42 days until July 23, and then required public comments to be submitted no later than August 9,” said Mac Haddow, Senior Fellow on Public Policy for the AKA. “That provides scientists and the public only 17 days – 11 business days – to prepare and submit comments. That is unreasonable, violates requirements of the Controlled Substances Act, and the procedural safeguards of the Administrative Procedures Act.”

[LINK TO AKA COMPLAINT CAN BE FOUND HERE](#)

The complaint highlights the long-standing FDA hostility to kratom, including two failed attempts under U.S. law by the FDA to make the case to the Drug Enforcement Administration to schedule kratom’s alkaloids as Schedule I substances, like heroin, Ecstasy, and LSD. Former Assistant Secretary of Health, Brett Giroir, M.D., characterized the FDA’s submission to schedule kratom as relying on “disappointingly poor evidence and data.”

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ABOUT AKA

The American Kratom Association (AKA), a consumer-based non-profit organization, is here to set the record straight about kratom and give a voice to those who are suffering and protect their rights to possess and consume kratom. AKA represents millions of Americans. www.americankratom.org

Contact Pete Candland, Executive Director with the AKA, at pete.candland@americankratom.org for more information or to arrange an interview.