

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

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October 1, 2021

## EMERGENCY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE SCHEDULING ACTION

Section 329-11(e) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes authorizes the Administrator of the Department of Public Safety, Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED), to make an emergency scheduling by placing a substance into schedules I, II,III, IV, or V, if the administrator determines the action is necessary to address or avoid an imminent hazard or the possibility of an imminent hazard to the health and safety of the public. The Department shall post a public notice thirty days prior to the effective date of the emergency scheduling action, at the State Capitol, in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, and on the Department's website for public inspection. If a substance is added or rescheduled under this subsection, the control shall be temporary and, if the next regular session of the State Legislature has not enacted the corresponding changes in this chapter, the temporary designation of the added or rescheduled substance shall be nullified.

## Methyl 3,3-dimethyl-2-(1-(pent-4-en-1-yl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamido)butanoate (MDMB-4en-PINACA)

MDMB-4en-PINACA is an indazole-based synthetic cannabinoid. It is commonly sold online as a new designer drug. (Wikipedia, 2021)

MDMB-4en-PINACA is often described as a white, yellow, or brown powder that is usually sprayed onto plant material and smoked. It can also be smoked, vaped, consumed orally, or injected.

The effects of MDMB-4en-PINACA include sedation, slowed reaction times, confusion, hypnosis, and loss of consciousness. Of particular note, reference material lists a toxic dose as a very small amount (Synthetic Cannabinoid MDMB-4en-PINACA, 2021)

MDMB-4en-PINACA has been detected across Europe with 768 seizures reported, including seizures in prisons or custodial settings (Addiction, 2021). In Hawaii, law enforcement has detected MDMB-4en-PINACA in one laboratory analysis.

The Narcotics Enforcement Division is not aware of any currently accepted medical uses for MDMB-4en-PINACA in the United States.

The Administrator of the Narcotics Enforcement Division has reviewed reference material and literature related to the emergency scheduling of this substance. The Administrator has determined that due to reports of its international abuse, associated fatalities, and its discovery in Hawaii, that placing MDMB-4en-PINACA into schedule I of the Hawaii Revised Statutes is necessary to address or avoid an imminent hazard or the possibility of an imminent hazard to the health and safety of the public.

Consequently, in accordance with provisions set forth in Section 329-11(e) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Administrator of the Narcotics Enforcement Division is emergency scheduling MDMB-4en-PINACA, their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, unless specifically excepted, whenever the existence of these salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation

## **Order of the Narcotics Enforcement Administrator**:

Section 329-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (g) to read as follows:

(g) Any of the following cannabinoids, their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, unless specifically excepted, whenever the existence of these salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

(28) Methyl 3,3-dimethyl-2-(1-(pent-4-en-1-yl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamido)butanoate (MDMB-4en-PINACA).

This emergency controlled substance scheduling action is taken under the authority of the Administrator of the State of Hawaii, Department of Public Safety, Narcotics Enforcement Division and shall take effect on November 1, 2021 as required under Section 329-11(e) Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Jared K. Redulla Narcotics Enforcement Administrator State of Hawaii Department of Public Safety

Addiction, E. M. (2021, September 29). EMCDDA initial report on the new psychoactive substance MDMB-4en-PINACA. Retrieved from European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction: https://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/initial-reports/mdmb-4en-pinaca\_en

Synthetic Cannabinoid MDMB-4en-PINACA. (2021, September 29). Retrieved from highalert.org: https://highalert.org.nz/alerts-and-notifications/synthetic-cannabinoid-mdmb-4en-pinaca-detected/

Wikipedia. (2021, September Wednesday). MDMB-4en-PINACA. Retrieved from Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MDMB-4en-PINACA