

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WFGX-TV
Location: Fort Walton Beach, FL
Quarter ending: March 31, 2015

ISSUE/description: 6. LEGAL MARIJUANA. In the wake of full legalization of marijuana use in Oregon and Colorado, Florida voted to legalize the use of one form of marijuana for medical use.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	01/07/15	09:00PM/2 minutes	News	*
* For over a year parents with children who have epilepsy, cancer and ALS have been fighting to bring a certain type of medical marijuana low in THC and high in CBD to Florida. The Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act of 2014 was supposed to take effect on January 1st. But, state agencies and lawmakers haven't determined how to regulate the drug's distribution. In December, families around the state found out that lawmakers will have to pass a new bill before Charlotte's Web can be distributed. That may not happen until March. If the bill is not passed by March, some families will look into moving to another state, like Colorado, where Charlotte's Web is available.				
2. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	01/12/15	09:00PM/1.5 minutes	News	**
** The second attempt to legalize medical marijuana in Florida starts today. Backers will start gathering the 683,000 voter signatures they need to make the 2016 ballot. The new proposal has been revised to fill what critics called loopholes in the 2014 initiative. It says parents would have to consent for a child to receive medical marijuana. Also, only people with "debilitating medical conditions" can be prescribed the drug and only by a licensed medical physician. The Department of Health could also deny felons to deliver marijuana to patients. These issues came up by opponents in 2014 when the measure got 57.6 % of the vote, just shy of the 60 % required to pass an amendment to the state constitution.				
3. Facing Florida	01/25/15	11:30AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	***
*** Though Amendment #2 didn't pass, lawmakers in Tallahassee and proponents and opponents are discussing the possible full legalization of Marijuana. We interviewed a former law enforcement official who now says Marijuana should be made legal.				
4. Facing Florida	02/01/15	11:30AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	****
**** This week we again discussed proposed Medical Marijuana legislation which goes a lot further than just approving the "Charlotte's Web" strain for medical use.				

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5. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	02/05/15	09:00PM/1 minute	News	*****

***** Twelve negotiators in the Florida Capitol are working into the night to develop a rule for the growing and distribution of low THC marijuana. Lawmakers wanted a rule in place by January 1st. But because the Department of Health didn't follow the law, the first rule was thrown out. 11-year-old Rayann Moseley from Gulf Breeze is the reason lawmakers approved Charlotte's Web for children with seizures. Now Rayann's mother is one of 12 negotiators working long hours to get a rule in place. Only one of the negotiators at the table in the Capitol has marijuana experience. Joel Stanley pioneered extracting Charlotte's Web at his Colorado Nursery. Also negotiating are a handful of growers who may apply for licenses. If there are no legal challenges to the final licenses awards, the first legal medical marijuana should arrive in early summer.

6. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	02/10/15	09:00PM/1 minute	News	*****
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***** Some of the people who opposed Amendment Two last fall are now behind legislative efforts to *expand the "Charlotte's Web" bill. Last year, Florida voters rejected Amendment Two, the measure that would have legalized using marijuana as medicine for multiple ailments. "Charlotte's Web" is a medical marijuana strain used to treat seizures in children. It alone was approved last year. Now, some lawmakers say it's better to just expand that bill rather than go through another constitutional fight in 2016. More than 57% of voters approved Amendment 2 last November. But it needed 60% to pass. Opponents fear that if medical marijuana winds up in the state constitution, it's only a matter of time before recreational marijuana winds up there too.

7. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	03/13/15	09:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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***** The low THC marijuana known as "Charlotte's Web" may not be available for patients in Florida until the end of the year. Several challenges to the proposed rules for the growing and distribution of the medicine have caused delays. The most recent filed this week. A Jacksonville attorney filed a challenge to the Department of Health's proposed rule for carrying out the Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act. The challenge was filed on behalf of four year old Dahlia Barnhart, who has an inoperable brain tumor; it essentially said the DOH is deciding who can grow and distribute the product based on political connections, rather than expertise. "We support what the Department of Health has done; they have had several committees and workshops for people to weigh in," said Holley Moseley. It's been an emotional week for Holley and Peyton Moseley of Gulf Breeze. They've been in the forefront, pushing to bring Charlotte's Web to Florida. Their daughter RayAnn suffers from epilepsy and could benefit from the compassionate cannabis. The Moseley's thought patients across the state would be receiving the cannabis oil January first. But, government red tape stopped the progress. With more hoops to jump through now, patients might not see Charlotte's Web available in the state until the end of this year.