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## Why are **LOWEST LEVEL ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY (LLEP)** policies important?

1. LLEP laws empower community to have input and oversight into the way cannabis prohibition is enforced or not in their city/town
  2. LLEP laws allow law enforcement to use taxpayer resources to investigate real crimes of violence and property crimes, not non-violent, victim-less crimes that are public health issues, not criminal justice issues
  3. LLEP laws allow city government to save and spend tax dollars on essential government functions
  4. LLEP laws will help eliminate the racially discriminatory policing in Minneapolis, as evidenced by having the nation's worst racial disparity in marijuana arrests. Nationally, the marijuana arrest disparity is nearly 4 African Americans for every 1 European American (4:1). Minneapolis is 65% White and 20% Black and usage rates are relatively equal. In Minneapolis, the disparity was a disgraceful 11.5 African Americans arrested for every 1 European American between the years of 2004 – 2012 (12:1).
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**Source: FBI/Unicorn Crime Reporting Program Data and US Census Data**



## **CAMPAIGN TO STOP MARIJUANA ARRESTS IN MINNEAPOLIS**

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LOWEST LEVEL ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY (LLEP)

# What is a LOWEST LEVEL ENFORCE- MENT PRIORITY (LLEP) policy?

Lowest Level Enforcement Priority (LLEP) is a public policy passed by a city or county legislative body, i.e. a City Council or County Board, OR an initiative passed by voters at the municipal / city level to divert local police department resources from being wasted in enforcing senseless cannabis prohibition laws which primarily punish cannabis consumers and distract police from preventing and solving real crimes of violence and property crimes.

## How do LOWEST LEVEL ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY (LLEP) laws advance full legalization?

1. LLEP laws help raise awareness of the widespread criminalization of cannabis consumers despite Minnesota's status as a "decriminalized" state. It influences the public narrative and helps condition elected officials at all levels of government and the general public to embrace the reasonable notion that cannabis consumers should not be criminalized at all. There may be greater value in the process than in the policy product.
2. Every state that has fully legalized cannabis has first passed a local LLEP law. Our Minneapolis campaign provides a model for Minnesotans and elected officials in other cities and towns to replicate statewide.
3. LLEP campaigns allow organizers and advocates to identify potential allies and opposition for future statewide legalization campaigning.

## How you can help us win!

1. Attend Action Committee meetings nearly every other Thursday, 7-9pm at **MN NORML**
2. Join our LLEP campaign street team: contact **Leroy@mnnorml.org** or **612.432.9672** for more info
3. Join our Legislative Advocacy Committee: contact **Marcus@mnnorml.org** or **612.749.4332**
4. Lobby Minneapolis City Council members: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/>

Arrest Rates for Marijuana Possession by  
Race in Minneapolis

