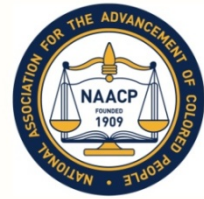


**For Immediate Release:**

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**It's Time to End the War on Drugs**

Cheyenne Weldon, Executive Director of Texas NORML and Outreach Program Director for the NORML Women's Alliance, discusses how the War on Drugs is doing more harm than good to local communities.

San Antonio, TX – July 5, 2013

Americans are being incarcerated more now than ever in our history. Most of this increase in crime is due to the War on Drugs. Many of the currently illegal drugs have been used for thousands of years for both spiritual and medical purposes. Yet, over the past few decades, drugs enforcement laws have become the New Jim Crow of our land turning people convicted of drug possession into second class citizens.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) released a report last month about the billions of dollars wasted on racially bias arrests and this fruitless war benefiting no one besides the prison industrial complex. We are turning nonviolent American citizens into criminals with limited opportunities to recover. It is time to end marijuana possession arrests.

This Thursday, San Antonio NAACP welcomes Texas NORML's Cheyanne Weldon as a guest speaker at its general meeting open to the public. In 2012 she was honored as High Times' Freedom Fighter of the Month, Skunk Magazine's Tokin' Female, and awarded the Ella Josephine Baker Community Organizer of the Year by the NORML Women's Alliance. Cheyanne has spoken at rallies and conferences throughout Texas, podcasts and radio shows around the country, and made appearances on the local Fox News affiliate in Austin. Ms. Weldon has testified before the Texas House of Representatives Criminal Jurisprudence Committee seeking to reduce penalties on minor possession of cannabis.

San Antonio NAACP holds its general meetings every month on the second Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the Barbara Jordan Community Center, 2803 East Commerce Street, San Antonio, TX 78203. For more information, visit: [www.SanAntonioNAACP.org](http://www.SanAntonioNAACP.org).

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