



## PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY: PAUL ARMENTANO

Paul Armentano has nearly three decades of experience working professionally in cannabis policy. He is the Deputy Director of NORML – The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws – the nation’s oldest and only consumer-oriented cannabis reform advocacy organization.

His writing on cannabis and cannabis policy has appeared in over 1,000 publications, scholarly and/or peer-reviewed journals, as well as in more than two dozen textbooks and anthologies. Mr. Armentano is the co-author of the book *Marijuana is Safer: So Why Are We Driving People to Drink?* (2009, 2013: Chelsea Green), which has been licensed and translated internationally. He is also the author of the book *Clinical Applications for Cannabis and Cannabinoids* (2021: National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) which summarizes over 450 peer-reviewed studies specific to the safety and efficacy of cannabis among different patient populations.

Mr. Armentano works closely with politicians and regulators with regard to drafting and enacting cannabis policy reforms, and he is a frequently sought speaker on the topic at legal and academic seminars.

Mr. Armentano was the principal investigator for defense counsel in the federal case *U.S. v Schweder et al.*, one of the first legal cases in decades to challenge the constitutionality of cannabis as a Schedule I controlled substance. He was also an expert in the successful Canadian constitutional challenge, *Allard v Canada*, which preserved qualified patients right to grow cannabis at home.

He is the 2013 Alfred R. Lindesmith award recipient in the achievement in the field of scholarship, and he is the 2019 Al Horn Memorial Award recipient in appreciation of advancing the cause of justice.

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