

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the possible Scheduling of Mitragynine as a Controlled 1 substance.

My 25 year old son Tyrell died for Mitragynine Toxicity on February 6th 2024. Tyrell was my only child and my best friend. He had a great job as a waiter, worked out every day, and had family and friends who loved him immensely.

He died from drinking a Kratom seltzer drink. The front of the can said alcohol free, caffeine free, and sugar free. Who would think having too many of those would take his life? Here he was just hanging out at a Kava bar, which is a nonalcoholic bar. But as I researched more, I realized he may have been getting addicted to them without even knowing it.

I am sure you have received messages from Pro-Kratom people or from the American Kratom Association who say its beneficial and that most people who died from it have opiates in their system or toxicology only tested for Kratom because it was found in their home.

My response to them is 1) The AKA is a billion dollar business and of course they dont want to lose money. 2) My son was found dead in his home and a full toxicology was done on him because there was nothing in his home to suggest what he had died from. I have police reports that say that. That dispels them being tested solely for Kratom because its found in the home. Secondly, no opiates were found in my sons toxicology report and his sole cause of death, on his death certificate, states Mitragynine Toxicity. There was no secondary cause.

Many people who are in favor of Kratom are recovering addicts. And I applaud anyone who is able to turn their life around and get into recovery. However, I feel that it may not be that healthy to change one addiction for another.; and to work so hard to get clean just to get addicted to something different.

The city I live in just banned Kratom as of January 2nd, 2025 and now the surrounding towns are looking into banning as well. Our city has dealt with a drug problem for a long time and the Board of Health had grave concerns about Kratom. They felt that they had to do something as the people running the recovery centers were calling with concerns about their recovering addicts becoming addicted to this. The Board also realized the dangers of Kratom.

You will also hear Kratom advocates state that they believe it should be regulated not banned. But if you do your research, you will see that the majority of deaths from Kratom are people over the age of 25. To regulate it to people over 21 is really not supporting or saving anyone.

Id like to close with reiterating my want to ban Kratom(Mitragynine). When my son died, so did I. I may be alive but I am the walking dead. How did I raise him right his entire life to only have him succumb to a seltzer drink that was labeled as caffeine free, sugar free, and alcohol free? To regulate it will not be beneficial. It needs to be banned. There is not enough research done and not enough evidence to prove it is beneficial. The DEA had concerns about Kratom all the way back to 2016. My sons death affected dozens of people. So even one Kratom death has destroyed dozens of lives. Lastly, you will hear advocates say Kratom has saved my life. Well I say to them, where is a letter from your doctor stating Kratom saved your life? Because, I have a certificate of death, from a doctor, saying Mitragynine(Kratom) took my sons life.

Thank you  
Holly Trouville