The rise and fall of the Compassionate Caregivers

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The October DEA raid and closing of New Remedies medical marijuana dispensary is the latest chapter in the rise and fall of Compassionate Caregivers that first began in 2001 when Larry Kristich rented 1740 Telegraph and founded Oaksterdam’s third cannabis company. CC would go on to employ over 100 workers and bravely lead the battle to expand regulated cannabis outlets across California.
The director of New Remedies and former CC manager, Sparky Rose, was released after posting a one million dollar bond. He is being prosecuted for operating the San Francisco outlet, a cannabis production facility there, and an Oakland cannabis industry employment agency. Rose bought the assets of Mission Street Caregivers, the last CC storefront, and changed the name early this year.

The latest DEA attacks can be traced back to 2005. By that time CC had expanded to seven locations across the state, including a West Hollywood storefront known as the Yellow House. That summer the LAPD raided the outlet, and when CC’s 1.5 million dollar bank account was seized all but the San Francisco and Oakland locations closed.

In September 2005 the Oakland CC, which had moved to 2135 Broadway, closed due to building code violations. In March of 2006, the DEA closed Beyond Bomb, the cannabis food company that supplied CC and New Remedies. One of the production facilities raided was 1740 Telegraph, the original home of CC.