

**UPDATED:** Complete Olympic Results



Home [News](#) [Weather](#) [Investigators](#) [Entertainment](#)

48° [Connect](#)

# Marijuana Criminal Cases Dropped En Masse by Philadelphia District Attorney

The new DA's message to police who arrest people for simple pot possession: We're going to drop the charges.

By [Brian X. McCrone](#)

Published at 6:27 PM EST on Feb 15, 2018 | Updated at 6:20 PM EST on Feb 16, 2018



Bruce Ryan/NBC10

Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner, Feb. 15, 2017.

The Philadelphia District Attorney said criminal charges for marijuana possession against 51 people were dropped en masse last week ahead of a meeting with assistant district attorneys Thursday where the DA would outline a new pot policy.

The new policy will be straight-forward, according to District Attorney Larry Krasner.

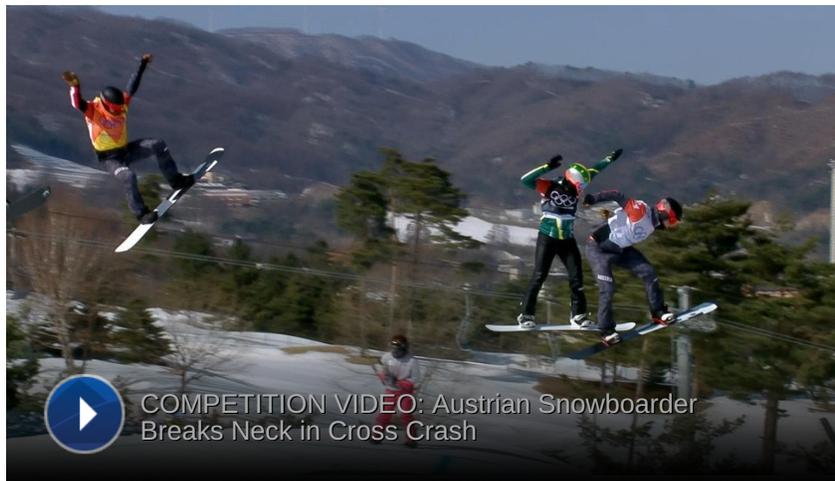
- [Travel Writer Rick Steves Pushes Pot Legalization in NJ, DE](#)

"We are going to tell them, yes, drop any cases that are simply marijuana possession," Krasner said at a press conference prior to the staff meeting. He stressed that the policy only applies to simple possession, not charges like possession with intent to deliver or selling it.



Today's Top 5 Things to Follow in PyeongChang.

His approach builds on 4-year-old rules implemented by Mayor Michael Nutter and the previous District Attorney, Seth Williams. Initially introduced by current Mayor Jim Kenney when he was a city councilman, they gave Philadelphia police the power to issue citations for marijuana possession. That essentially made pot possession punishable by a fine.



COMPETITION VIDEO: Austrian Snowboarder Breaks Neck in Cross Crash

Previously, getting caught with marijuana meant an arrest and often-lengthy amount of time being processed at a police district.

Krasner said citations are now issued about 90 percent of the time someone is caught with marijuana.

- [5 to Watch: Mikaela's Shiffrin's Gold Debut & Team Luge](#)

"What we're talking about is the 10 percent or so that are being charged as they used to be, as misdemeanors in court," he said. From now on, if a police officer arrests someone for marijuana possession, he said his office will not pursue the case.

A spokesman for Krasner said he did not have a list of the cases that were dropped last week.

- [Makeshift Meth Lab Caused Atlantic City Casino Fire: Police](#)

"I did it because I felt it was the right thing to do," Krasner said. "We could use those resources to solve homicides."



Five to Watch: Gold Medal Game in Men's Hockey and Team USA's History-Making Flag Bearer

### TRENDING STORIES

- 1 VIDEO 3 Deputies Didn't Enter Parkland School: Sources
- 2 VIDEO Impeachment Talk a Sign of GOP's Long-Term Worry About Court
- 3 VIDEO Five to Watch: Gold Medal Game in Men's Hockey and Team USA's History-Making Flag Bearer
- 4 VIDEO Hundreds March in Center City in Support of Unions
- 5 PHOTOS Shirtless Tongan, Halfpipe Debut: Olympics' Viral Moments



### MEDAL COUNT

Country				Total
1  Norway	13	14	11	<b>38</b>
2  Canada	11	8	10	<b>29</b>
3  Germany	13	8	7	<b>28</b>

[Complete Olympics Coverage >](#)