

To whom it may concern,

I wish for my name to remain anonymous. In 2025, my sibling died here in Kansas City due to kratom (mitragynine intoxication). They were found on the kitchen floor by our sibling and their daughter, who is a child. Our lives have been turned upside down from the traumatic effects of kratom.

Kratom is advertised as a safe, natural supplement that produces opioid-like effects. Kratom is sold in gas stations and smoke shops across the country, allowing easy access to purchase these products. Consumers of kratom are failed to be warned of the adverse effects of kratom which include but are not limited to; dependency and addiction, seizures, respiratory distress, agitation, depression, anxiety, heart arrhythmias, overdose, and death.

Kratom companies often operate under fictitious names/aliases, secretive affiliations, alter egos, etc. to deter from responsibility. These companies thrive on customer dependency, building consistent clientele through repeat customers, while spreading the false indication that kratom is safe and cannot inflict harm or death. If death occurs, it is dismissed as most likely being a polysubstance death (a death that occurs with kratom plus additional drugs). The death of my sibling is not such, with mitragynine intoxication as the sole cause of death. Our family has learned that we are not alone, these deaths are all over the country.

Companies like these are everywhere and they are **right here in Kansas City**. You must change this. Ban kratom. It's killing people.

Save the next unsuspecting victims and their families the nightmare that so many of us are experiencing, all due to kratom.

Thank you