



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Cynthia A. Franklin, Director
FROM: Robert Beasley, Enforcement Supervisor
DATE: January 20, 2015
SUBJ: Colorado Trip Report

Good Morning, Director Franklin:

The purpose of this trip was to attend a two-day marijuana conference in Colorado sponsored by CLMS (Coalition of Legalized Marijuana States) to participants from the state of Alaska, city of Anchorage and the state of Oregon, and to attend an additional three-day marijuana conference sponsored by the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police.

I departed Anchorage en route to Denver, Colorado on Alaska Airlines, Sunday, January 11, 2015 at approximately 6:00 a.m., arriving at Denver International Airport shortly after 5:00 p.m.

The CLMS conference began on Monday, January 12, 2015 with registration from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Presentations began at 8:30 a.m., working through lunch, and ending for the day at 5:00 p.m.

Presenters throughout the day were Andrew Freedman, State Director of Marijuana; Colorado Attorney General's Office, Advisory Board; Marijuana Industry Attorney, Christian Sederberg; Brian Tobias, Colorado Office of Policy, Research and Regulatory Reform; and, Breakout Sessions for Marijuana Enforcement, Law Enforcement and Policy / Legislative.

Later that evening (Monday, January 12, 2015) the group I was with toured Dixie, a marijuana laboratory that specializes in manufacturing edibles and marijuana infused products. Their Chief Operating Officer, Chuck Smith, conducted the tour.

On Tuesday, January 13, 2015 I attended the second day of the CLMS conference, which began promptly at 8:30 a.m. Presenters that day were Dr. Sam Wong and Dr. Lalit Bajaj with the Colorado Children's Hospital; Representatives from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment; working through lunch with a presentation by Professor Sam Kamin, DU Laws; followed by Ashly Kilroy and Marley Bordovsky, City of Denver; and, members of the Colorado Public Safety Panel. The conference ended at 5:00 p.m. Later that evening, my group toured a medical and recreational marijuana dispensary called Denver Relief.

On Wednesday, January 14, 2015 my group toured a commercial marijuana grow operation. We observed where plants were cultivated and in a flowering state, as well as an area of approximately one-thousand mature, budding plants. We also toured the facility's oils area where hash oil, wax and other derivatives of marijuana are extracted and/or produced.

Following the tour, I arrived at the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police Conference location in Lone Tree, Colorado where registration was open from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., and received my registration information and packet.

At 12:30 p.m. the conference began with a welcome and opening remarks by Jim Gunning, Mayor of Lone Tree, Colorado; George Brauchler, District Attorney, Arapahoe County; John Walsh, United States Attorney; Jim Burch, The Police Foundation; and, John Jackson, President, Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police. Presenters for the day were as follows:

Marijuana Overview: John Suthers, former Colorado Attorney General presented a broad policy overview of marijuana in Colorado, and how Colorado legalization of marijuana happened and how Colorado continues to proceed with legalization.

Regulations 101: Chris Halsor, former member, Colorado District Attorney's Council; Michael Song, Colorado Attorney General's Office; and Moderator, Andrew Freedman, Coordinator of Marijuana Policy, Office of Governor John Hickenlooper. The workshop was a broad overview of the state of marijuana legalization and regulation in Colorado. Information presented included the role of various state agencies in both medical and recreational marijuana regulation, and the role of local governments. It addressed their constitutional challenges, descriptions of Colorado statutes that govern regulation, and an overview of the role of local governments, including both zoning regulations and law enforcement activities.

Colorado Town/City Approaches to Marijuana Regulations: Greg Testa, Chief of Police, Boulder Police Department; Shannon Haynes, Chief of Police, Breckenridge Police Department; David Broadwell, Assistant City Attorney, City and County of Denver; and Moderator, Louis Koski, Director, Colorado Department of Revenue, Marijuana Enforcement Division. Presentations were on topics such as local regulations, licensing, approving and monitoring businesses, community policing partnerships and school impacts. The day ended at 5:15 p.m., with an evening reception afterwards.

On Thursday, January 15, 2015, the conference began at 7:45 a.m. and ended at 5:55 p.m., followed by a reception in the lobby. Presenters for the day were as follows:

Medical Marijuana – A Greater Understanding: Ken Greshman, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment; Dana Erpelding, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment; Tom Massey, former member, Colorado House of Representatives; Dr. Ken Finn, Scientific Advisory Council, Medical Marijuana Research Grant Program; and Moderator, Marco Vasquez, Chief of Police, Erie Police Department. Topics discussed were Amendment 20, patients, caregivers, physicians, health effects, overdosing, children, security for home grows, forms of “medicine” and politics of making change to laws related to “medicine.”

Home Grows: George Brauchler, District Attorney, Arapahoe County; James Henning, Lieutenant, Denver Police Department; Beverly Bookout, Officer, Boulder Police Department; and Moderator, Michael Song, Colorado Attorney General's Office. Topic were on Colorado's biggest regulatory and legal challenge, the challenges of home grows, including safety hazards of public health for neighborhoods, health and safety in general as well as the dangers associated with hash oil extractions and its process.

Butane Hash Oil Extractions: Pat Long, Sergeant, Thornton Police Department. Topics of discussion were what is hash oil, how it is made and what are the dangers. It also included what Colorado has seen with regard to hash oil explosions, and are there safe methods for manufacturing hash oil.

Edibles: Diane Carlson, SMARTCO; Dr. Lalit Bajaj, Children's Hospital; Ron Kammerzell, Deputy Senior Director of Enforcement, Department of Revenue; and Moderator, Shannon Haynes, Chief of Police, Breckenridge Police Department. Topic discusses were on concentrations, portions, labeling and packaging, child proofing, look alike products, overdosing, health effects and the black market.

Marijuana and Impact to Youth: Ben Cort, Center for Dependency, Addiction and Rehabilitation, University of Colorado. Topics discussed involved marijuana use among teens and its addictive effects.

Marijuana Regulations: Lewis Koski, Director, Colorado Department of Revenue, Marijuana Enforcement Division. Topics discussed were enforcement of ordinances, relationships to law enforcement, types of licenses and the various different kinds of licenses as they pertain to medical marijuana with amendment 20 and recreational marijuana with respect to amendment 64. Further discussion was on information systems, gaps and what is missing.

Revenue / Economic Impact: Barbara Brohl, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Revenue; Larson Silbaugh, Colorado Legislative Council; Rich Holman, Breckenridge Assistant Town Manager; and Moderator, Kevin Bommer, Colorado Municipal League. Topics discussed were regarding when the public says tax it, what can they expect and what is the long term outlook for marijuana taxation, revenue and expenditures once regulation is fully implemented.

Law Enforcement Training: John Jackson, Chief of Police, Greenwood Village Police Department; and, Carolyn Berry, Colorado POST (Police Officer Standards and Training). Topics discussed were on how Colorado funds are being used to prepare law enforcement officers for marijuana DUID enforcement.

Driving Stoned: Chris Halsor, former member, Colorado District Attorney's Council; Steve Garcia, Major, Colorado State Patrol; Glen Davis, Highway Safety Manager, Colorado Department of Transportation; and, Moderator, Bob Ricer, Chief of Police, Avon Police Department. Topic included Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana, recognizing the signs, symptoms and how legalization has impacted probable cause.

On Friday, January 16, 2015, the conference began at 7:45 a.m. and ended at 12:30 p.m. Presenters for the day were as follows:

Industry Perspective: Jamie Lewis, Cannabis Business Alliance; Michael Elliot, Marijuana Industry Group; Megan Sanders, CEO Mindful; and Moderator, Ann Marie Jensen, Jensen Public Affairs. Topics discussed were banking, legal issues, future growth and industry response to regulation

Data Collection: Andrew Freeman, Director of Marijuana Coordination, Colorado Governor's Office; Kevin Wong, RMHIDTA (Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas); Jack Reed, Statistical Analyst, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice; and Moderator, Kevin Paletta, Chief of Police, Lakewood Police Department. Topics discussed were challenges in measuring the impacts of legalized marijuana, what Colorado is trying to measure in order to understand the effect of legalization, and what have we measured so far.

Denver Cross Departmental Collaborative Model: Ashley Kilroy, Executive Director, Marijuana Policy; Molly Duplechian, Deputy Director, Marijuana Policy; Jill Jennings-Golich, Deputy Director, Denver Community Planning and Development; Stacy Loucks, Deputy Director, Denver Excise and Licenses; Lt. Tom Pastyorius, Inspector, Denver Fire Department; Danica Lee, Food Safety Section Manager, Denver Environmental Health; Lt. James Henning, Denver Police Department; and Moderator, Ashley Kilroy, Executive Director of Marijuana Policy, City of Denver. Topics discussed were on how Denver Departments work together to ensure public safety regarding marijuana through departmental collaboration.

Town Hall Discussion: John Walsh, U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado; Barbara Roach, Special Agent in Charge for Colorado, U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency; Matthew Durkin, Deputy Colorado Attorney General; Johathan Singer, Colorado State Representative; Dr. Ken Finn, Scientific Advisory Council, Medical Marijuana Research Grant Program; and Moderator, Eli Stokols, Political Analyst, Fox 31.

Upon conclusion of the conference, my group toured a recreational marijuana dispensary in Aurora, Colorado. Following the tour, I departed Denver, Colorado via Alaska Airlines at approximately 5:20 p.m., arriving back in Anchorage shortly after midnight.

END.