# Workplace Policies and Procedures in the Era of Legalized Marijuana

William J. Judge, JD, LL.M.

July 2019









# Because our time is short, let's focus on:

#### 9:30 - 12:00 is the scheduled seminar

9:30 - 10:30: National landscape of

marijuana

9:30 – 9:45: Quick break

9:45 - 11:15: Minnesota state-specific law

11:15 – 12:00: Developing defensible drug/alcohol programs to meet these challenges



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# **Overview of Drug Testing Industry**

- Over 40 Years of Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing.
- Approximately 45 million tests done each year.
- Evolving Issues Present More Complicated Issues For Management Each Year.

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# It's become a complex world



# **Caution!** Actions Without Information



May Cost You.

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**Cost of Non-Compliance** 

**Ranging between** 

\$30,000

&

\$2 million

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# Medical Marijuana



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# **Federal Position**

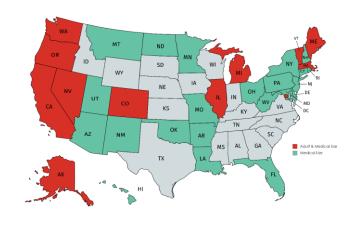
# Marijuana is still a Schedule I Drug



- 1. Congress: Budget Limits on DOJ/DEA action
- 2. Native American Guidelines
- 3. Directive re: "hands off" approach (STATES Act)
- 4. Department of Transportation (DOT)
- 5. Federal Contractors must follow federal law.

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# **As it Stands Today**



- 33 states and Washington, DC authorize medical use of marijuana.
- 11 states and Washington, DC authorize personal-adult and medical use for any over 21.

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# These 18 States Authorize the Use of CBD

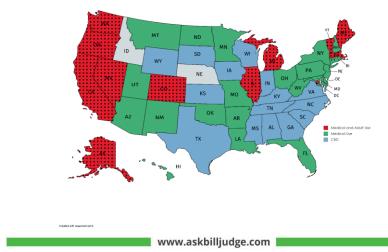


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# **The Complete Picture**

33 states & Washington, DC authorize the medical use of marijuana; 11 States allow Medical and Adult-Personal Use of marijuana & 18 states allow the medical use of CBD (Non-Hemp)



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# OR ID SD MN WI MI PA NI CA NEW YORK NO CA AZ NM OK AR MS AL GA Need rol occumendada usa

# **Need Not Accommodate**

These 14 states laws specify that employers need not accommodate use or an employee being under the influence of marijuana at work.

The language of some states varies, such as Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania and are more protective of employers.

But, Massachusetts, Nevada, and New York require employers to at least determine if the employees medical issues can be accommodated.

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# 10 state laws . . .

Provide that an employer may not discriminate against an individual due to that individual's **STATUS** as a qualified medical marijuana patient.

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# **Employer Can Take Action** if . . .

In these **11** states an employer is specifically authorized the take action if an employee if found to be **using** or **under the influence** of marijuana on duty.

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#### 5 states . . .

Employer can discipline for being under the influence.

But a **positive test alone** is **not proof** of being under the influence.

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# Recent Key Court Cases

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# **Legal Updates: Hot off the press**

- New York City New law (Intro. No. 1445-A) prohibits preemployment testing for marijuana, effective 5/10/2020.
- Nevada New law (Assembly Bill 132) makes NV the first state to prohibit pre-employment testing for marijuana, effective 1/1/2020.
- Illinois The 11th state to legalize the adult personal use of marijuana, effective 1/1/2020. Language of the law brings some confusion for employers.
- New Jersey Amended Medical Marijuana Law, limits employers.

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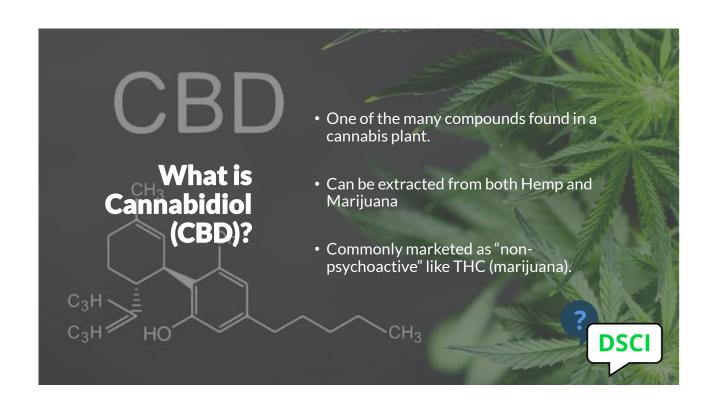
# **State Laws Differ**

- 1. Marijuana,
- 2. Smokeless,
- 3. CBD

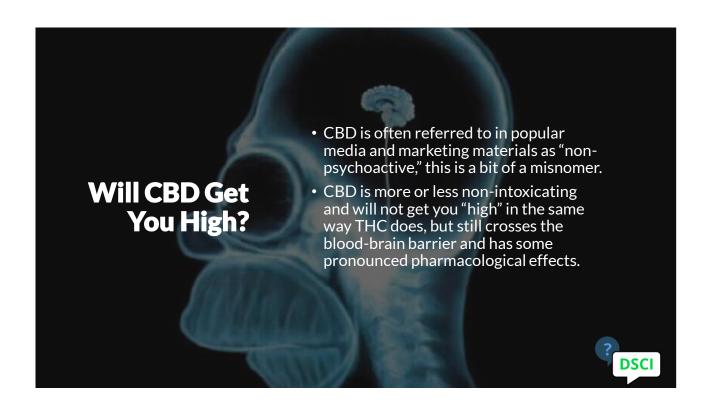
don't be confused

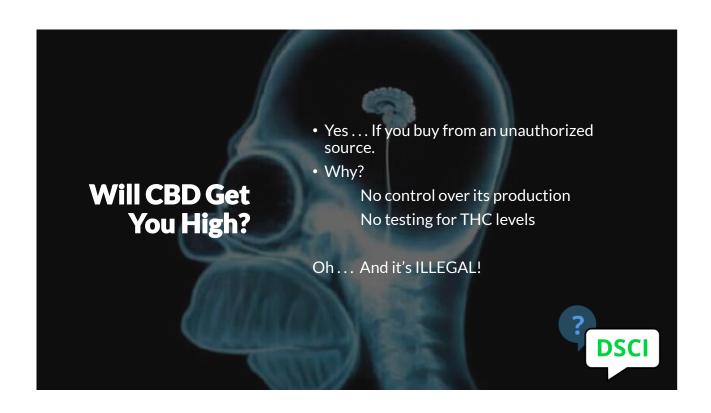


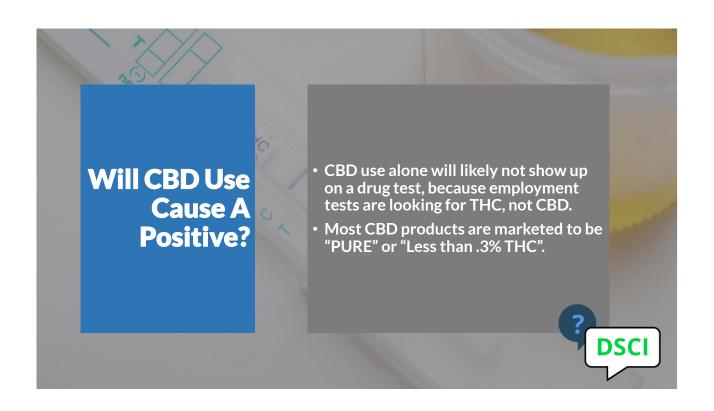
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our products are not intended to diagnose, cure or prevent any disease.

ARRIVED AT THIS IS SITE FROM A CONSUMER OF CAUSE AND THE CELEBRITIES FEATURED TO Very little oversight and lack of testing requirements = No quality control.

• Products could contain far more THC concentration than advertised.

• Those that use a lot of CBD products that contain elevated levels of THC could potentially fail a drug test for THC.

\*\*Not Likely\*\*

\*\*Not Li

**HEMP** 

**Additional Complications** 





1937 - The Marijuana Tax Act – placed heavy tax on cannabis sales including hemp

1942 - Department of Agriculture issues "Hemp for Victory" film

1970 - Controlled Substances Act added all parts of the cannabis plant to the CSA including hemp.

2014 - Farm Bill approved

2018 (June) - Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced approval of marijuana-derived CBD (Epidiolex)

2018 (September) – Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) announces Epidiolex is Schedule V drug. (0.1% THC);

2018 - Farm Bill adopted. Removes hemp from the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

# Is CBD legal? Maybe ... But!

#### The "Farm Bill" -- Signed December 20, 2018

- Removed hemp (industrial hemp) from the CSA;
- Allows the US Dept. of Agriculture to regulate the crop like any other crop;
- Allows hemp production in all 50 states;
- Allows hemp-derived CBD to be marketed in interstate commerce.
- Designates the states and Tribal Authorities as primary regulatory authority;

#### FDA Statement -- December 20, 2018

- Role didn't change still regulated products containing cannabis
- Role is to protect the public and provide "regulatory pathways" for food, drug and cosmetic products
- Requires any cannabis product (hemp-derived or otherwise) claiming therapeutic benefits or disease claims to be approved before marketed.
- Illegal to market food containing CBD as an active ingredient since the FDA has already approved such a product that went through the rigorous FDA approval process.

All states are obligated to refrain from passing laws that directly conflict with FDA regulations.





# Bizarre World of CBD State Laws (Pre-Farm Bill Examples)



| State      | Allowed? | Details   |
|------------|----------|---|
| Alabama    | No       | All CBD is illegal except Epidiolex   |
| Arizona    | No       | State law enforcement has interpreted medical marijuana law to exclude all extracts including CBD |
| California | Yes      | But only if derived from marijuana, NOT hemp.   |
| Colorado   | Yes      | HB 19-1295 permits hemp-derived foods.  |
| Illinois   | Yes      | 2018 bill signed legalizing industrial hemp.  |
| Iowa       | Yes      | But only if purchased through one of five state run stores.                                       |
| Kansas     | Yes      | But "zero" THC allowed.   |
| Missouri   | ?        | Under review.   |
| Ohio       | Yes      | But, only on the exempt part of the plant if sold through the state medical marijuana program.    |
| Washington | Yes      | So long as it is less than 0.3% THC.  |

# Take 5

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# A Look at Specific State Laws

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# Minnesota Medical Marijuana



# **Minnesota Law**

| Minnesota Medical Marijuana Law   |            |  |  |  |
|---|------------|--|--|--|
| Statutory Language  | Key Points |  |  |  |
| The law states: S.F. No. 2470 (2014)  |            |  |  |  |
| 152.22 DEFINITIONS  |            |  |  |  |
| ***   |            |  |  |  |
| Subd. 6. Medical cannabis. "Medical cannabis" means any species of the genus cannabis plant, or any mixture or preparation of them, including whole plant extracts and resins, and is delivered in the form of:  (1) liquid, including, but not limited to, oil; (2) pill; (3) vaporized delivery method with use of liquid or oil but which does not require the use of dried leaves or plant form; or (4) any other method, excluding smoking, approved by the commissioner | No Smoking |  |  |  |

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# **Minnesota Law**

| Minnesota Medical Marijuana Law  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Statutory Language   | Key Points  |  |  |  |
| The law states: S.F. No. 2470 (2014)   |   |  |  |  |
| 152.23 LIMITATIONS.  (a) Nothing in sections permits any person to engage in and does not prevent the imposition of any civil, criminal, or other penalties for:   | Nothing in the law permits                                |  |  |  |
| (1) undertaking any task under the influence of medical cannabis that would constitute negligence or professional malpractice;   | Undertaking any task under the influence of marijuana.    |  |  |  |
| (2) possessing or engaging in the use of medical cannabis:  * * *  (iii) in any public place, including any indoor or outdoor area used by or open to the general public or a place of employment as defined [by law] and  * * *   | Possessing or using marijuana in any place of employment. |  |  |  |
| (4) operating, navigating, or being in actual physical control of any motor vehicle, aircraft, train, or motorboat, or working on transportation property, equipment, or facilities while under the influence of medical cannabis. | Operating vehicle or equipment under the influence.       |  |  |  |

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#### Minnesota Law

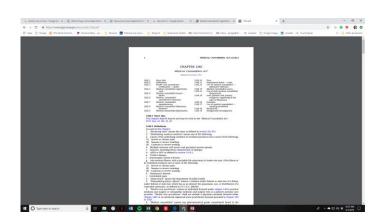
#### Minnesota Medical Marijuana Law **Key Points** Statutory Language The law states: S.F. No. 2470 (2014) Discrimination (c) Unless a failure to do so would violate federal law or regulations or cause an employer to lose a monetary or licensing-related benefit under federal law or regulations, an employer may not discriminate against a person in hiring, termination, or any term or condition of employment, or otherwise penalize a person, if the discrimination is based upon either of the following: • At risk for monetary loss under federal law, regulation or loss of monetary or licensing benefit . . . May not discriminate in hiring, termination, or any term or condition of employment . . . (2) a patient's positive drug test for cannabis components or metabolites, unless the patient used, possessed, or was impaired by medical cannabis on the premises of the place of employment or during the hours of employment. If based on (d) An employee who is required to undergo employer drug testing pursuant to section 181.953 may present verification of enrollment in the patient registry as part of the employee's explanation under section181.953, subdivision 6. Patients status as an enrolled medical marijuana patient, • Patients positive drug test unless . . . patient used, possessed, or was otherwise impaired by medical It is unknown at this point how Section 12, Subd. 3 (c) will impact employer actions, specifically employer discipline. While it is true that Minnesota law, Sec. 181.953, • on the premises of the place of employment or during work Subd. 10 (b), limits employer action upon a "first" positive drug test, the question is whether this would even be considered a positive test for purposes of Sec. 181.953, time.

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Iowa Code Ch. 124E

2017



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#### **Qualifying Conditions**

To qualify must be able to prove permanent lowa residency and provide physician certification of one of the following conditions:

- Cancer if the illness or its treatment produces one or more of the following: severe or chronic pain, nausea or severe vomiting, cachexia or severe wasting.
- Seizures
- · Crohn's disease
- Untreatable pain any pain whose cause cannot be removed and, according to generally accepted medical practice, the full range of pain management modalities appropriate for the patient has been used without adequate result or with intolerable side effects.
- Multiple Sclerosis with severe and persistent muscle spasms
- AIDS or HIV (as defined in Iowa Code, section 141A.1)
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Parkinson's disease
- Any terminal illness with a probable life expectancy of under one year – if the illness or its treatment produces one or more of the following: severe or chronic pain, nausea or severe vomiting, cachexia or severe wasting
- Ulcerative colitis
- $\bullet$  Severe, pediatric autism with aggressive or self-injurious

behaviors (effective 4/2/19)

#### Allowable Forms of Medical Cannabidiol in lowa

- •Oral forms tablets, capsules, liquids, tinctures and sublingual forms
- •Topical forms gels, ointments, creams, lotions and transdermal patches
- •Nebulizable inhaled forms
- •Suppositories rectal and vaginal
- •Vaporization (effective 5/15/19)

#### **Dispensary Locations**

Medical Cannabidiol will be available at five dispensaries across the state on <u>December 1, 2018</u>. The locations include:

•MedPharm Iowa – 5700 Sunnybrook Drive, Sioux City, IA 51106 •Have A Heart Compassionate Care – 3615 9th Avenue, Council Bluffs, IA 51501

•MedPharm Iowa – 7229 Apple Valley Drive, Windsor Heights, IA 50324 •Iowa Cannabis Company – 1955 La Porte Road, Waterloo, IA 50702 •Have A Heart Compassionate Care – 2222 E. 53rd Street, Davenport, IA 52807

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Illinois Medical Marijuana (410 ILCS 130/40)





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# **Illinois Law**

| Illinois Medical Marijuana Law  |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Statutory Language  | Key Points  |  |  |  |
| The law prohibits discrimination because of ones status as a medical marijuana patient :  |   |  |  |  |
| (410 ILCS 130/40)   |   |  |  |  |
| Sec. 40. Discrimination prohibited.   | Discrimination Clause   |  |  |  |
| (a)(1) No school, employer, or landlord may refuse to enroll or lease to, or otherwise penalize, a person solely for his or her status as a registered qualifying patient or a registered designated caregiver, unless failing to do so would put the school, employer, or landlord in violation of federal law or unless failing to do so would cause it to lose a monetary or licensing-related benefit under federal law or rules. * * * | Status alone – can't discriminate      Unless doing so violates federal law or jeopardizes financial status or licensing under federal law. |  |  |  |

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# **Illinois Law**

| Statutory Language  | Key Points   |
|---|--|
| Sec. 50. Employment; employer liability.  (a) Nothing in this Act shall prohibit an employer from adopting reasonable regulations concerning the consumption, storage, or timekeeping requirements for qualifying patients related to the use of medical cannabis.  (b) Nothing in this Act shall prohibit an employer from enforcing a policy concerning drug testing, zerotolerance, or a drug free workplace provided the policy is applied in a nondiscriminatory manner.  (c) Nothing in this Act shall limit an employer from disciplining a registered qualifying patient for violating a workplace drug policy.  (d) Nothing in this Act shall limit an employer's ability to discipline an employee for failing a drug test if failing to do so would put the employer in violation of federal law or cause it to lose a federal contract or funding.  (e) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to create a defense for a third party who fails a drug test. | Employer can adopt rules re medical use of marijuana  Employer can have "zero tolerance" policy.  Employer can discipline medical marijuana patient who violates employer's policy.  Employer can discipline medical marijuana patient for testing positive on a drug test per federal rules (e.g. DOT).  Employee has no defense under the law. |

# **Illinois Law**

| Illinois Medical Marijuana Law  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Statutory Language  | Key Points   |  |  |  |
| Sec. 50. Employment; employer liability.  (f) An employer may consider a registered qualifying patient to be impaired when he or she manifests specific, articulable symptoms while working that decrease or lessen his or her performance of the duties or tasks of the employee's job position, including symptoms of the employee's speech, physical dexterity, agility, coordination, demeanor, irrational or unusual behavior, negligence or carelessness in operating equipment or machinery, disregard for the safety of the employee or others, or involvement in an accident that results in serious damage to equipment or property, disruption of a production or manufacturing process, or carelessness that results in any injury to the employee or others. If an employer elects to discipline a qualifying patient under this subsection, it must afford the employee a reasonable opportunity to contest the basis of the determination. | Employer may consider medical marijuana patient "impaired" if demonstrating behavioral symptoms.      An accident = impairment resulting in: |  |  |  |

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# **Illinois Law**

| Illinois Medical Marijuana Law   |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Statutory Language   | Key Points   |  |  |  |
| Sec. 50. Employment; employer liability.  (g) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to create or imply a cause of action for any person against an employer for: (1) actions based on the employer's good faith belief that a registered qualifying patient used or possessed cannabis while on the employer's premises or during the hours of employment; (2) actions based on the employer's good faith belief that a registered qualifying patient was impaired while working on the employer's premises during the hours of employment; (3) injury or loss to a third party if the employer neither knew nor had reason to know that the employee was impaired.  (h) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to interfere with any federal restrictions on employment including but not limited to the United States Department of Transportation regulation 49 CFR 40.151(e). | <ul> <li>No cause of action created based on</li> <li>Good faith belief that med. marijuana patient used or possessed at work.</li> <li>Good faith belief the med. Marijuana patient was impaired on premises during work hours.</li> <li>Injury or loss to a third party if employer neither knew nor had reason to know the employee was impaired.</li> <li>Nothing in this law interferes with employer obligations under federal law (e.g. DOT)</li> </ul> |  |  |  |

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# Illinois Adult Personal Use of Marijuana

**HB 1438** 

Cannabis Legalization Equity Act.

#### Article 10.

\* \* \*

#### Section 10-50. Employment; employer liability.

(a) Nothing in this Act shall prohibit an employer from adopting reasonable zero tolerance or drug free workplace policies, or employment policies concerning drug testing, smoking, consumption, storage, or use of cannabis in the workplace or while on call provided that the policy is applied in a nondiscriminatory manner.

(b) Nothing in this Act shall require an employer to permit an employee to be **under the influence** of or use cannabis in the employer's workplace or while performing the employee's job duties or while on call.

(c) Nothing in this Act shall limit or prevent an employer from disciplining an employee or terminating employment of an employee for violating an employer's employment policies or workplace drug policy.

(d) An employer may consider an employee to be impaired or under the influence of cannabis if the employer has a good faith belief that an employee manifests specific, articulable symptoms while working that decrease or lessen the employee's performance of the duties or tasks of the employee's job position, including symptoms of the employee's speech, physical dexterity, agility, coordination, demeanor, irrational or unusual behavior, or negligence or carelessness in operating equipment or machinery; disregard for the safety of the employee or others, or involvement in any accident that results in serious damage to equipment or property; disruption of a production or manufacturing process; or carelessness that results in any injury to the employee or others. If an employer elects to discipline an employee on the basis that the employee is under the influence or impaired by cannabis, the employer must afford the employee a reasonable opportunity to contest the basis of the determination.

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# Illinois Adult Personal Use of Marijuana

**HB 1438** 

Cannabis Legalization Equity Act.

#### Article 10.

(e) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to create or imply a cause of action for any person against an employer for:

(1) actions, including but not limited to subjecting an employee or applicant to reasonable drug and alcohol testing under the employer's workplace drug policy, including an employee's refusal to be tested or to termination of employment, based on the employer's good faith belief that an employee used or possessed cannabls in the employer's workplace or while performing the employee's job duties or while on call in violation of the employer's employment policies;

(2) actions, including discipline or termination of employment, based on the employer's good faith belief that an employee was impaired as a result of the use of cannabis, or under the influence of cannabis, while at the employer's workplace or while performing the employee's job duties or while on call in violation of the employer's workplace drug policy; or

(3) injury, loss, or liability to a third party if the employer neither knew nor had reason to know that the employee was impaired.

(f) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to enhance or diminish protections afforded by any other law, including but not limited to the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act or the Opioid Alternative Pilot Program.

(g) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to interfere with any federal, State, or local restrictions on employment including, but not limited to, the United States Department of Transportation regulation 49 CFR 40.151(e) or impact an employer's ability to comply with federal or State law or cause it to lose a federal or State contract or funding.

(h) As used in this Section, "workplace" means the employer's premises, including any building, real property, and parking area under the control of the employer or area used by an employee while in performance of the employee's job duties, and vehicles, whether leased, rented, or owned. Workplace" may be further defined by the employer's written employment policy, provided that the policy is consistent with this Section.

(i) For purposes of this Section, an employee is deemed "on call" when such employee is scheduled with at least 24 hours' notice by his or her employer to be on standby or otherwise responsible for performing tasks related to his or her employment either at the employer's premises or other previously designated location by his or her employer or supervisor to perform a work-related task.

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# Illinois Adult Personal Use of Marijuana

**HB 1438** 

Cannabis Legalization Equity Act.

Section 900-50. The Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act is amended by changing Section 5 as follows:

(820 ILCS 55/5) (from Ch. 48, par. 2855)

Sec. 5. Discrimination for use of lawful products prohibited.

(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, including Section 10-50 of the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, and except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this Section, it shall be unlawful for an employer to refuse to hire or to discharge any individual, or otherwise disadvantage any individual, or therwise disadvantage any individual, with respect to compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment because the individual uses lawful products off the premises of the employer during nonworking and non-call hours. As used in this Section, "lawful products" means products that are legal under state law. For purposes of this Section, an employee is deemed on-call when the employee is scheduled with at least 24 hours' notice by his or her employer to be on standby or otherwise responsible for performing tasks related to his or her employment either at the employer's premises or other previously designated location by his or her employer or supervisor to perform a work-related task, hours.

(b) This Section does not apply to any employer that is a non-profit organization that, as one of its primary purposes or objectives, discourages the use of one or more lawful products by the general public. This Section does not apply to the use of those lawful products which impairs an employee's ability to perform the employee's assigned duties.

(c) It is not a violation of this Section for an employer to offer, impose or have in effect a health, disability or life insurance policy that makes distinctions between employees for the type of coverage or the price of coverage based upon the employees' use of lawful products provided that:

(1) differential premium rates charged employees reflect a differential cost to the employer; and (2) employers provide employees with a statement delineating the differential rates used by insurance carriers.

(Source: P.A. 87-807.)

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# State Human Rights Laws Further Complicate The Issue

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#### State Human Rights Laws - An Example

Barbuto v. Advantage Sales and Marketing, LLC, and another, SJC-12226, 477 Mass. 456, 78 N.E.3d 37 (7-17-17) the Court relied on state law to find that the employer discriminated against the employee who was also a medical marijuana patient.

The Court rejected ASM's argument that, because the use of marijuana is a crime under federal law, any accommodation would be unreasonable.

The Court equated medical marijuana to any other prescribed drug and said:

The Court said, a "qualifying patient who has been terminated from her employment because she tested positive for marijuana as a result of her *lawful* medical use of marijuana has a civil remedy against her employer" and "may seek a remedy through claims of handicap discrimination in violation of state prohibited practices law. (G. L. c. 151B §4(16)).

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# The Prescription (Opioid) Drug Epidemic

How Do You Deal With It At Work?

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#### **CDC – Latest Numbers**

Drug overdose deaths and opioid-involved deaths continue to increase in the United States. The majority of drug overdose deaths (more than six out of ten) involve an opioid.

- Since 1999, the number of overdose deaths involving opioids (including prescription opioids and heroin) quadrupled.
- 115 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose.
- Since 1999, the amount of prescription opioids sold in the U.S. nearly quadrupled,
- Deaths from prescription opioids—drugs like oxycodone, hydrocodone, and methadone—have more than quadrupled since 1999.

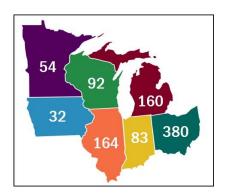


https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/epidemic/index.html

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# **Prescriptions @ Work in the Midwest**



Nearly 1,000 construction workers across the Midwest died from an opioid overdose in 2015

Construction Worker Deaths by State from Opioid Overdoses, 2015



Source: The Midwest Policy Institute: https://midwestepi.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/opioids-and-constructionfinal2.pdf

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# **Prescriptions @ Work in The Midwest**

# The opioid epidemic cost the Midwest's construction industry an estimated \$5.2 billion in 2015.

Illinois \$867 million; Indiana \$450 million; Iowa \$168 million; Michigan \$858 million;

Minnesota \$292 million; Ohio \$2 billion; and Wisconsin \$524 million.

Source: The Midwest Policy Institute:

 $\underline{https://midwestepi.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/opioids-and-construction-and-constructio$ 

final2.pdf

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# PAIN **AMERICA**

- 178 million US adults reported chronic pain unrelated to cancer. (41% increase since 1998).
- 68 million US adults (little more than one-third) with pain reported interference with normal work activities (job or home).
- The use of opioids specifically for pain management increased from 11.8 percent of those with a painful health condition (14.5 million adults) in combined years 1997/1998 to 16.2 percent (30.6 million adults) in 2013/2014. Across years, increased levels of pain-related interference were associated with higher opioid use.
- The use of weak opioids (such as codeine) for pain decreased during the study period, while the use of strong opioids (such as morphine or oxycodone) increased substantially.
- Across years, compared to people with minimal pain-related interference, those with severe pain-related interference were more likely to use strong opioids, to report four or more opioid prescriptions, and to have six or more ambulatory office visits for their pain.

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# **Roadblocks To Employer Action**



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# How the ADA limits Employer drug testing programs:

- 1. What substances are tested;
  - -- Legal vs. illegal drugs
- Requirement that employees report medications they are taking.
  - -- safety vs. non-safety positions

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The ADA

#### 42 U.S.C. § 12114

(a) Qualified individual with a disability

For purposes of this subchapter, a qualified individual with a disability **shall not include** any employee or applicant **who is currently engaging in the** *illegal* **use of drugs**, when the covered entity acts on the basis of such use.

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# The

ADA

#### 42 U.S.C. § 12114

- (b) Rules of construction: Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be construed to exclude as a qualified individual with a disability an individual who—
- (1) has successfully completed a supervised drug rehabilitation program and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of drugs, or has otherwise been rehabilitated successfully and is no longer engaging in such use;
- (2) is participating in a supervised rehabilitation program and is no longer engaging in such use; or
- (3) is **erroneously regarded as** engaging in such use, but is not engaging in such use;

except that it shall not be a violation of this chapter for a covered entity to adopt or administer reasonable policies or procedures, *including but not limited to drug testing*, designed to ensure that an individual described in paragraph (1) or (2) is no longer engaging in the illegal use of drugs.

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The

**ADA** 

42 U.S.C. §12114(d)(1) provides:

#### (d) Drug testing

#### (1) In general

For purposes of this subchapter, a test to determine the **illegal** use of drugs shall not be considered a medical examination.

#### (2) Construction

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to encourage, prohibit, or authorize the conducting of drug testing for the illegal use of drugs by job applicants or employees or making employment decisions based on such test results.

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The

**ADA** 

Federal Drug Testing Programs such as DOT
Are excluded from ADA coverage

42 U.S.C. § 12114

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The

ADA

Can You Require Employees to Report Medications They are Taking?

8. May an employer ask all employees what prescription medications they are taking?

**Generally, no.** Asking **all** employees about their use of prescription medications is not job-related and consistent with business necessity. **In limited circumstances**, however, certain employers may be able to demonstrate that it *is* job-related and consistent with business necessity to require employees in **positions affecting public safety** to report when they are taking medication that may affect their ability to perform essential functions.

https://www.eeoc.gov/policy/docs/guidance-inquiries.html

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The

**States** 



#### How State Laws Can Differ from the ADA:

- Typically state disability laws apply to more employers e.g. Washington Law Against Disabilities applies to entities with 8 or more persons employed. (ADA applies to entities with 15 or more).
- 2. Applies to any person acting in the interest of an employer, directly or indirectly.
- 3. State laws are to be more liberally construed.

RCW T. 49, Ch. 49.60

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The States Washington

Stewart v.
Snohomish County PUD No. 1

\$1.8 Million

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The States Washington

**Clipse** 

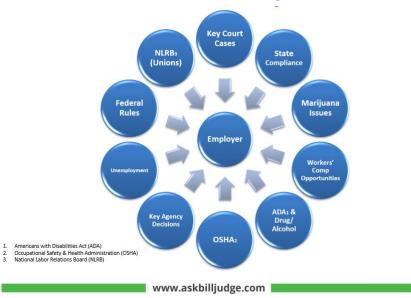
V.

**Commercial Drivers Services, Inc** 

\$85,000

www.askbilljudge.com

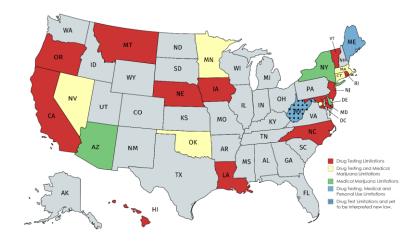
# It's become a complex world



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# **State Law Compliance**





# **Mandatory States**

There are 22 states with rules that MUST be followed if a private employer wishes to conduct drug testing.

**Note:** 3 states are mandatory due to medical marijuana rules and 5 due to both medical marijuana and drug testing rules.

Created with mapchart.net

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# **Key Points**

- Enacted in 1987 making it among the oldest such laws in the country.
- · Must Follow the Rules ("Mandatory").
- Not Required to Test.

#### **Policy Rules:**

- · Must have a written policy.
- Must provide written notice to applicants (post-offer) and employees.
- Must post notice that policy has been adopted.
- Must make policy available for inspection during normal business hours.
- Policy Content:
  - Who
- Refusal
- When
- Retest
- Consequences
- Other Appeal Process

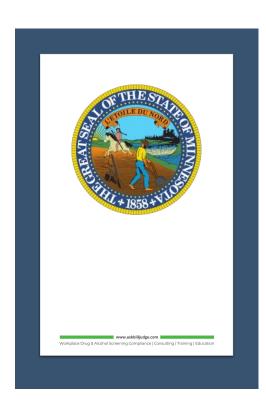
Must have an Acknowledgement Form (sec. 181.193, subd 6.)



# **Key Points**

#### When

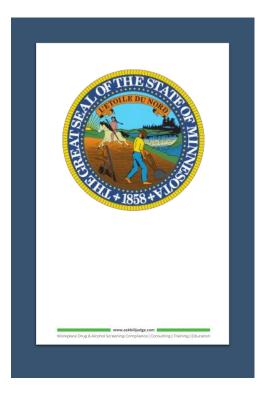
- Job Applicant: Post-Offer, all applicants, must inform the reason for the test (e.g. It's Company Policy).
- Routine Physical: Only once per year, must give 2-weeks' written notice
- Random: Safety-sensitive ONLY. (or Professional Athlete under CBA).
- Reasonable Suspicion: if employer has reasonable suspicion that . . .
  - · Employee is under the influence;
  - Employee has violated a written work rule (like drug testing policy);
  - · Has sustained an injury;
  - · Has caused a work-related accident;
- During and after treatment (if referred by Employer);
- Follow up to treatment (2 years max).



# **Key Points**

# **Testing Rules**

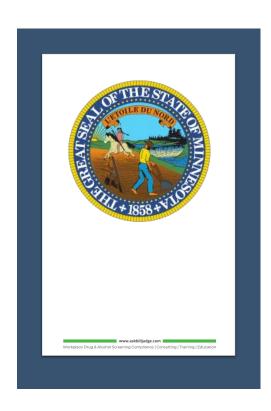
- Must use qualified lab. (SAMHSA, CAP, NY Dept of Health)
- Alcohol tests must be by blood. (Use NY Dept Health or CAP)(sec. 181.953)
- · Must confirm initial screen results.
- Lab must report results in writing within 3 days of obtaining them in the lab.
- Lab must keep all samples for at least 6 months.



# **Key Points**

#### **Re-Testing Rules**

- Within 3 working days must give written notice of test results (Employee and Applicant)
- Must give written notice of the right to explain a positive and right to request a retest (at employee or applicant expense).
- Within 3 working days of notice of positive Employee or applicant may submit additional information to explain result.
- Within 5 working days the employee or applicant shall notify in writing intent to retest.
- Within 3 working days employer must notify original lab.
- Retest Lab must use original confirmatory cutoff levels.



# **Key Points**

# Discipline

- · Can't fire an employee for first time positive unless,
  - Employee offered an opportunity (at own expense) to participate in treatment/counseling/ etc.
  - Employee refused or failed to successfully complete or has positive result after completion of treatment.
  - May suspend safety-sensitive employee while awaiting test results.

# **Workers Compensation Claim Defense**



# Policy is one thing . . .

"The paper means nothing
If it doesn't come to life through
proper procedures."

# **Procedures** are another

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# **Reasonable Suspicion**

# What Is It?





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# The Issue

# Individual Privacy vs Employer Responsibility

The word "privacy" does not appear in the US Constitution.

# It does in the California Constitution

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# A Drug Test is a Search

Skinner v Railway Labor Executives' Assoc., 489 US 602 (1989)

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# **Legal Search**



"... in justifying the particular intrusion the police officer must be able to point to *specific and articulable facts* which, taken together with rational inferences from those facts, reasonably warrant that intrusion. .. [must be subject to] neutral scrutiny of a judge who must evaluate the reasonableness of a particular search or seizure in light of the particular circumstances. .. judged against an objective standard: would the facts available ... .at the moment of the seizure or the search 'warrant *a man of reasonable caution* in the belief' that the action taken was appropriate? ... Anything less would invite intrusions upon constitutionally guaranteed rights based on nothing more substantial than *inarticulate hunches*, *a result this Court has consistently refused to sanction*.

Terry V Ohio

392 U.S. 1, 88 S.C. (1968)



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#### **BALANCE**

**Employer Responsibility** 

VS.

**Employee Right to Privacy** 

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**Reasonable Suspicion means** 

# **PROOF**

Proof of what?

# **Start With A Hunch**

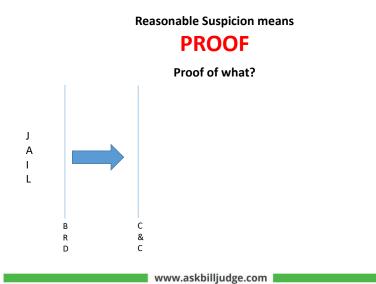
# Now Compare to Other Levels of **Proof**

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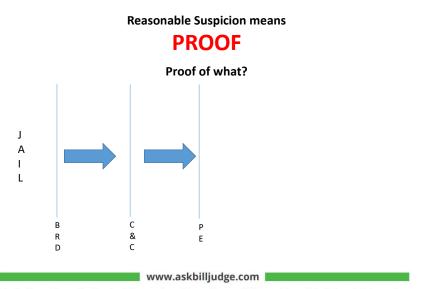
**Reasonable Suspicion means** 

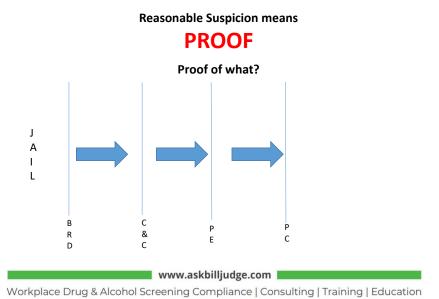
# **PROOF**





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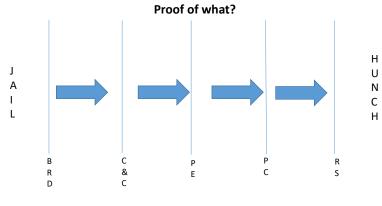




# Reasonable Suspicion means PROOF Proof of what? A I L B C R R R C S www.askbilljudge.com Workplace Drug & Alcohol Screening Compliance | Consulting | Training | Education

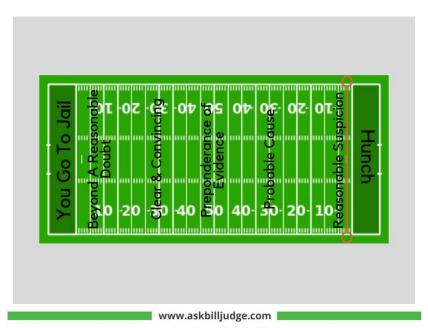
# So, What Does All That Mean?

# Reasonable Suspicion means PROOF



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# Where do you start?



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# **Your Role**



Somebody tell me what to do!

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# Questions?

# Just Ask!

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