



**COLORADO**

**Department of Revenue**

Enforcement Division - Marijuana  
1707 Cole Blvd., Suite 300  
Lakewood, CO 80401

**January 5, 2018**

**INDUSTRY-WIDE BULLETIN: 18-01**

**RE: Yesterday's Announcement from the U.S. Department of Justice**

Dear Marijuana Industry Stakeholders,

Yesterday, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued a memo rescinding the Cole Memorandum, which has provided important guidance for the Marijuana Enforcement Division's (MED) regulation of the marijuana industry over the last four and a half years. Key state officials, including the Governor's Office and Mike Hartman (the State Licensing Authority and Department of Revenue's Executive Director) are engaged and working through policy implications for Colorado.

The Cole Memo was foundational in guiding our efforts to regulate the commercial marijuana industry, and our focus will continue to be the public health and public safety of all Coloradans and visitors to our state. The principles set forth in the Cole Memo will continue to serve as our guideposts for amending and creating our regulatory infrastructure. Yesterday's decision does not alter the strength of our resolve to keep marijuana out of the hands of children and criminals enterprises, prevent public health consequences associated with marijuana use, and prevent diversion to the illicit market. This is a renewed opportunity for the licensed community in our state to display the effectiveness of the commercial regulated system for tracking, testing and taxing marijuana that has made Colorado the worldwide regulatory and market leader.

We will continue to do our job as the voters of Colorado and the General Assembly have directed. We remain committed to working with our stakeholders, including our law enforcement partners, to enhance our regulatory system, to develop and implement fair and sensible rules, and to pursue enforcement activities that promote public safety. We appreciate your continued efforts to support these commitments as responsible members of the licensed community through strict compliance with statutes and regulations.

James Burack  
Director