



**2018-01**

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE ACCEPTING THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL POSITION ON CANNABIS (MARIJUANA) AND DRIVING REGARDING THC PER SE LEGISLATION**

**Support of National Safety Council Position on Cannabis (Marijuana) and Driving Regarding THC *Per Se* Legislation**

*Submitted by DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) Technical Advisory Panel*

**WHEREAS**, the number of states, territories, and countries legalizing medical and recreational cannabis products continues to increase; and

**WHEREAS**, vehicle crash fatalities continue to be one of the most frequent causes of death internationally; and

**WHEREAS**, drugged driving and drug-related crashes, deaths, and injuries continue to occur at an alarming rate; and

**WHEREAS**, successful prosecution of impaired driving incidents is a necessary component of the efforts to decrease roadway injuries and deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous states and territories have put forth, or adopted legislation creating a *per se* prohibited level of Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in blood; and

**WHEREAS**, the rapid elimination of THC from blood significantly challenges the use of forensic samples to represent the driver's state at the time of driving; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous scientific studies fail to identify a threshold level of Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in blood as a basis for *per se* legislation;

**RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association joins with the International Association of Chiefs of Police supporting the National Safety Council's Alcohol, Drugs, and Impairment Division in supporting that organization's *Position on Cannabis and Driving* publication, which sets forth conclusions that operating vehicles under the influence of THC increases risk of injury and death and that there is no minimum blood THC concentration which a driver can be considered unaffected after recent cannabis product consumption.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all law enforcement officials, highway safety officials, and Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program coordinators, should take the position with their legislative and governing bodies that there is no scientific basis for the adoption of THC *per se* legislation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all law enforcement officials, highway safety officials, and DEC Program coordinators, should take the position with their legislative and governing bodies that impaired driving statutes should prohibit operating a vehicle under the influence of cannabis and public safety efforts should prioritize the expansion of law enforcement training in recognizing and articulating drug impairment in drivers.

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Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.