



# Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: Bob McConnell**  
**(561) 239-1345**  
**executive.director@ascia.org**

## **ASCIA supports U.S. Attorney General's removal of restrictions on the ability of Federal prosecutors to enforce Federal law**

The Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA) announced its support for the action taken on January 4 by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions to rescind Justice Department policy memos issued in 2013 which discouraged United States Attorneys from enforcing Federal law in states that have relaxed state laws against marijuana production and sales.

ASCIA President Mark Gwyn, Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, stated, "Attorney General Sessions made clear through last week's action that Federal law should be enforced consistently across the country. We know that the black market for marijuana is thriving in states that have decriminalized or legalized marijuana production and sales. Transnational criminal organizations are deriving proceeds from marijuana trafficking in states that have legalized marijuana production and sales, and the Federal government should not be precluded from acting to disrupt and dismantle them."

Gwyn also stated, "While we understand the unique challenges posed by laws in some states that conflict with Federal law regarding marijuana, the Attorney General's action affirms that if Federal law is broken, then Federal prosecutors should have the ability to act."

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ASCIA is a professional association consisting of the chief executive and senior executives of the statewide criminal investigative agencies in the United States, whether they are an independent bureau within a state, or a state police/department of public safety agency with criminal and other law enforcement responsibilities.

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