

# Overview of Marijuana Evidence for Criminal and Liability Cases

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CLE Presentation

UT Law CLE Presentation

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1

## Disclaimer

- These slides are for informational purposes only. This information is not legal advice or a specific scientific opinion. The circumstances of each claim maybe unique as they relate to the presented information.

2

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BA in Chemistry

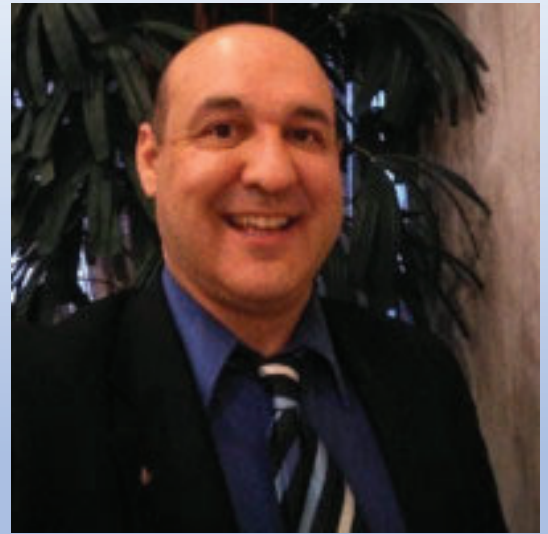
PhD In Toxicology (Biomedical Science)

Board Certified in Toxicology

Adjunct Faculty at University of Texas Medical  
Branch, Galveston Texas, Department of  
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Over 30 Alcohol, Drug, Chemical Exposure Cases.

Chaired National Workshop on Science and Law,  
Cannabis and the Courtroom



3

## Overview

- Background Information on Marijuana
- Regulatory Issues for Marijuana (THC) and Cannabidiol (CBD)
- Checklist / Recommendations for Investigations
- Case Study & Select Epidemiological Evidence

4

# Goals

- Provide an Understanding of the Critical Factors when reviewing criminal cases & liability claims involving Marijuana / Cannabis / THC products.
- Propose Checklist for Due Diligence
- Provide Understanding when an expert opinion will provide you value in supporting a claim decision.

5

## THC and Cannabis Plants

### THC

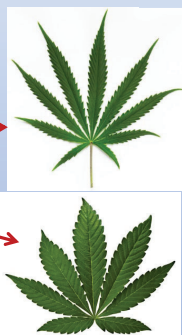
- Characteristics of Stimulant, Sedative, Tranquilizer, Hallucinogen
- Natural product from the Cannabis plant (*Cannabis sativa*)

### Other Cannabinoids

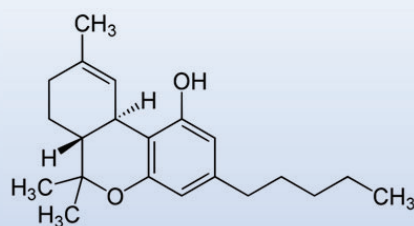
- 61 cannabinoids in *Cannabis sativa*
- *Cannabis indica*
  - more THC than CBD

### Preparations

- Plant material: <15% THC
- Sinsemilla: <17% THC
- Resin/Hash: <20% THC
- Hash oil: 20-70% THC



100 Cannabinoids  
545 Compounds  
Limited Study



$\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol  
(THC)

### Characteristics:

**Hydrophobic**

**pKa: 10.6**

**$V_d$ : ~10 L/kg**

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Forensic Toxicologist  
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Northern Laboratory, Manassas, VA

6

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## Title search: Reviewing Marijuana Evidence for Criminal and Accident Investigation

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
2020 Reviewing Marijuana Evidence for Criminal and Accident Investigation session  
"Reviewing Marijuana Evidence for Criminal and Accident Investigation"