

# Troutman Pepper Cannabis Communications Newsletter — September 4, 2024

## WRITTEN BY

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Troutman Pepper's Cannabis Practice helps clients throughout their business cycle enter or expand into the cannabis space. Our team combines the resources of attorneys in areas such as licensing and taxation, regulatory compliance, corporate and transactional, intellectual property, and real estate, among others, to provide comprehensive services.

Our Cannabis Practice provides advice on issues related to applicable federal and state law. Marijuana remains an illegal controlled substance under federal law.

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## CANNABIS REGULATORY UPDATES

### HAPPY HOUR AT 4:20? LESSONS FROM MINNESOTA'S BOOMING HEMP-DERIVED THC BEVERAGE MARKET

By [Jean Smith-Gonnell](#) and [Zie Alere](#)

When Minnesota legislators passed House File 4065 in 2022 — legalizing the sale of certain hemp-derived THC edibles and beverages — few could have [predicted](#) that a multimillion-dollar THC-infused beverage market would result. Today, Minnesota consumers enjoy access to THC beverages in many places traditionally reserved for alcohol — liquor stores, breweries, bars, and restaurants.

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### NCAA DRUG TESTING & CANNABINOIDS: A BREAK-UP STORY

By [Jean Smith-Gonnell](#) and [Carmen Williams](#)

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is the largest governing body in college athletics. The NCAA regulates all aspects of student athletics among 1,100 schools in the United States. It also organizes the athletic programs for over 500,000 collegiate student athletes. Part and parcel to their governance of collegiate athletics is the NCAA's responsibility for maintaining the integrity of competition by conducting drug testing procedures for student athletes under their purview. On June 26, 2024, the NCAA removed cannabis from its banned drugs list for Division I college football championship and post-season. This decision has significant legal and policy implications that extend beyond the realm of collegiate athletics. Arguably, this decision is a part of the evolving public perception of marijuana.

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