

# Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

ALCOHOL & MARIJUANA CONTROL OFFICE

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### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Marijuana Control Board DATE: Friday, September 06, 2024

FROM: Joe Bankowski, Enforcement Supervisor RE: Enforcement Report, Marijuana

AMCO enforcement is in the midst of a very busy and challenging summer. The summer travel season has allowed for increased enforcement activity across the state. We are making progress towards our goal of conducting more regular inspections across all license types.

As some of you may be aware, our longtime Criminal Justice Technician Jason Davies is no longer with AMCO as of August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Jason was with us for over 7 years and was instrumental in developing all the administrative processes that are currently in place in the Enforcement Unit. We are feeling the weight of his departure, which necessitated an increase in duties for all members of the team. We are in the process of reclassifying this vacant position and hope to have a job posting announced soon.

The administrative vacancies at AMCO also created the need for further support from Enforcement with alcohol event permits. Investigator Whiteman, along with Director Wilson, have stepped in to manage this process entirely. I want to thank Investigator Whiteman for his diligence during this assignment, ensuring uninterrupted service to our licensees.

We also have one Special Investigator I vacancy that I hope will be posted very soon. I am hopeful we will once again be fully staffed by the next Board meeting in November. Despite these challenges, we remain fully committed to our mission.

AMCO Enforcement has received information that licensees may be using air carriers to covertly transport marijuana products as unattended cargo to communities not on the road system. One instance was confirmed as the items were seized by the Statewide Drug Interdiction Task Force at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport. We understand the unique challenges of operating in these communities, however this activity is a clear violation of 3 AAC 306.750 and risks jeopardizing the entire industry.

Finally, I would like to share that we received a report of a possible unlicensed marijuana retail store in the Matsu Valley. Enforcement promptly initiated an investigation and took action to protect the health

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and safety of the public. The matter remains under investigation and I hope to share more information in the future.

## **ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS - SEPTEMBER 2024 BOARD MEETINGS**

### ALCOHOL STATISTICS

Alcohol Advisories	15
Alcohol Notice of Violations	24
Alcohol Permit Reviewed	186
General Complaints	9
N/A	1
Non Rural Inspections - Alcohol	1
Non Rural Inspections - Alcohol	181
Non Rural Investigations	3
Over Service/Sale to Drunken Person	1
Rural Inspections - Alcohol	52
Training Provided/Agency Asssist for LE Agencies	2
Walk Throughs - Alcohol (cut a case #)	25

#### MARIJUANA STATISTICS

Enforcement Calls/Requests	1
General Complaints	8
Marijuana Notice of Violations	8
METRC Violations	2
N/A	6
Non Rural Inspections - Marijuana	54
Non Rural Investigations	2
Odor Complaints - Checks	6
Renewal Inspections	1
Rural Inspections - Marijuana	3
Walk Throughs - Marijuana (cut a case #)	14