

(Neb.)-Nebraska State Patrol Vows To Vigilantly Protect Against Drugs [Listen](#)

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 01/03/2014 11:56 AM

(PANHANDLE)-Now that the state of Colorado has legalized the recreational sale and use of marijuana, surrounding states are bracing for extra drug traffic that may make its way in and out of the state. Trooper Craig Kumpf with the Nebraska State Patrol says for a long time there has been quite a lot of drug traffic attempting to make its way through Nebraska, but with legalization in a bordering state, the dynamics have now been altered.

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Trooper Kumpf says that although marijuana users can become intoxicated from the drug in a similar fashion as those who drink alcohol, marijuana is different in that it does not leave the body nearly as quickly.

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Kumpf said not only is the transport or personal possession of marijuana illegal in the state of Nebraska, but persons are also not allowed to drive impaired as a result of marijuana use, just as it is illegal to drive under the influence of alcohol.

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In addition to alcohol and drugs, there are a variety of stimulants or relaxants that can impair motor vehicle function. Kumpf says they all carry the same weight and penalty of a DUI conviction if pulled over driving while impaired.

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Kumpf says time will tell how it all works itself out in Colorado. In the meantime, he and the other troopers of the Nebraska State Patrol will be ever vigilant in keeping Nebraska as drug free as possible.

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