

UNCLASSIFIED

INFORMATION PAPER

20 Apr 2018

Subject: DRUG AWARENESS VAPING OIL, SUBSEQUENT DRUG TESTING, AND ABUSE PREVENTION METHODS

1. Purpose. To provide information about vaping oil, such as cannabidiol (CBD), the testing process, and current Marine Corps policy.
2. Key Points
 - There is a growing concern over the use of vaping oil containing CBD products within the Marine Corps.
 - CBD is a naturally occurring substance found in marijuana, *Cannabis sativa*. CBD oil, extracted from marijuana, is an illicit schedule I substance. CBD is currently sold commercially online and in stores, including vaping shops.
 - Products containing CBD, cannabinol derivatives, and those THC-infused are prohibited within the Department of the Defense (DoD).
 - The Food and Drug Administration does not regulate vaping oil, resulting in ingredients not labeled on the package. This increases the risk of vaping harmful substances.
 - Detection of CBD is difficult, due to drug chemists adding a synthetic compound known as 5F-ADB to CBD, prior to marketing.
 - The Armed Forces Medical Examiners System (AFMES) does not test for 5F-ADB, nor do other drug screening laboratories used within the DoD.
 - The Drug Demand Reduction Program's (DDRP) intention is to ensure DDRP is capable of testing for such products as 5F-ADB in the near future.
 - To that end, AFMES is working to add 5F-ADB to their testing panel and will provide guidance, when they are ready to receive samples.
 - Per MCO 5300.17, Marines using any drug "with the intent to induce intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of their own central nervous system, or that of another, is prohibited."
 - This order, enables commanders to discipline Marines who engage in this type of illicit behavior.

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- o Commanders can pursue punishment under Article 92, even if the Marine has no prior knowledge of the entirety of the vaping oil ingredients.
- The Marine Corps has preventive efforts commanders can use to assist in deterring drug use:
 - o Education and training of Marines on the consequences of drug use, including CBD and other synthetic cannabinoid drugs, like Spice.
 - o Commanders are encouraged to use the expertise of installation Drug Demand Reduction Coordinators, Unit Substance Abuse Control Officers, Law Enforcement Officials, civilian outreach speakers who specialize in regional drug trends, and Staff Judge Advocates to routinely provide education and training.

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