



**ILCAAAP**

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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## **Marijuana Alert - December 29, 2021**



### **Toi Hutchinson to become CEO of Marijuana Policy Project**

**Hutchinson, who was Gov. J.B. Pritzker's senior adviser for cannabis control, stepped down to become president and CEO of the Marijuana Policy Project, or MPP, which took credit for writing much of the legalization law in Illinois.**

**...The governor's office did not respond immediately to a request for comment on whether the timing of Hutchinson's departure was related to a provision in a new state ethics law that takes effect Jan. 1 that prohibits executive branch officials from taking jobs that involve lobbying at the state level for six months after leaving their government jobs. [Read](#)**

### **A Stunner: Des Plaines Aldermen Change Minds; Deny 'Pot Shop' On Miner Street Downtown**

**The tally was 6 to 1 with four aldermen who voted in favor of the proposal two weeks ago changing their minds. The main reason given for the reversal, council members said, was the input from many of their constituents who urged them to vote against the proposal. [Read](#)**

### **Marijuana dispensary training center opens in Wrigleyville**

**Cresco is giving first priority to community members they say have**

historically been impacted by the war on drugs. They will also work with colleges and universities. [Read](#)

## **Cannabis-Related Fatal Car Crashes Double In 20 Years**

Deadly car crashes involving both cannabis and alcohol consumption have more than doubled in the United States in the past two decades, as have car crash deaths involving just cannabis, researchers report.

... The study comes out amid suggestions that loosening cannabis policies could lead to a reduction in alcohol use if individuals substitute alcohol for cannabis. But according to the researchers, **the study suggests that cannabis and alcohol are increasingly being used together when it comes to impaired driving, and that cannabis increases the likelihood of alcohol use in crash deaths.** [Read](#)

## **Calif. POT companies warn of impending industry collapse**

Leading California cannabis companies warned Gov. Gavin Newsom on Friday that the state's legal industry was on the verge of collapse and needed immediate tax cuts and a rapid expansion of retail outlets to steady the shaky marketplace. [Read](#)

## **Visa Warns Against Misuse Of 'Cashless ATMs' Used By Cannabis Retailers To Skirt Restrictions**

Visa, the world's second-largest card payment company, recently issued a compliance memo to customers warning them that **miscoding point-of-sale transactions through the use of so-called cashless ATMs—a practice used by some cannabis retailers as a workaround to accept credit or debit cards for purchases**—could lead to penalties or other unspecified enforcement action. [Read](#)

## **She's gone and not coming back**

"She's gone and she is never coming back" that was the harsh statement I heard one morning after making my way to my mailbox three weeks after my daughter was killed by a marijuana-impaired driver. [Read](#)

**Legislative Session begins January 4th  
Have a Blessed New Year!**

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1132 West Jefferson,  
Springfield, IL 62702  
217-546-6871

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