

### Hot off the Press!

#### **FMCSA Establishes National Drug and Alcohol Testing Clearinghouse for Commercial Truck and Bus Drivers**

The long-awaited announcement of a FMCSA final rule that establishes a national drug and alcohol clearinghouse came on December 2, 2016.

The clearinghouse database will serve as a central source of drug and alcohol testing violation records of CDL holders. Employers covered by the FMCSA regulations will be required to access the database during the pre-hire phase as well as annual searches for current employees.

The reporting of violation information will be the collaborative responsibility of employers, MROs, TPAs and SAPs.

US Transportation Secretary, Anthony Fox touts the clearinghouse as a “new technological tool that will make our roads safer.” Click the link to read the full announcement:

<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/newsroom/fmcsa-establishes-national-drug-and-alcohol-testing-clearinghouse-commercial-truck-and-bus>

**Congratulations to the following individuals on their recent re-certifications:**

***Adam Hall, CSAPA***

***Deb Halston, CSAPA***

***Robert Johnson, CSAPA***

***Larry Wills, CSAPA***

***Judy Krup, CDAPA-MC***

#### **In this issue:**

- **SAPAA Conference highlights**
- **Profile on marijuana wax**
- **Spotlight on Affinity**
- **FTA conference registration open**
- **Marijuana voting results**
- **FRA to begin drug testing track workers**
- **New schedule 1 drug**
- **2016 Sue Clark Award recipient**

### Training Opportunities Ahead



The USDOT’s Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) has opened registration for the upcoming **Substance Abuse Management and Program Compliance courses**. FTA funds the course; however, the course material focuses heavily on “Part 40” and is pre-approved for CCDAPP continuing education hours. The locations include Los Angeles, CA; Jacksonville, FL; Owensboro, KY; Pierre, South Dakota; Santa Maria, CA and Baltimore MD. For more information, please visit the TSI website: <https://tsi-dot.csod.com>

## AFFINITY SEEKS ADVISORY BOARD INPUT FOR NEW PRODUCT LAUNCH



**AFFINITY**  
EMPOWERING

Since 2006, Affinity has been the leading TPA in professional health monitoring by providing successful compliance monitoring solutions to state licensing boards, recognized alternative programs, professional health programs and treatment providers. The company currently supports more than one hundred clients in North America. One of Affinity's core strengths is the development of scalable and highly secure software systems. Since 2004 they have provided these solutions to 14 Department of Defense agencies.

Affinity will soon be launching SPECTRUM, an SAAS (software as a service) workplace solution currently being developed with assistance from a key advisory group of Third Party Administrators. The advisory group is working closely with the software developer to fill important gaps in current systems, making SPECTRUM a true end-to-end system. The software is extremely user friendly for both an employee and case manager and will fulfill all DOT requirements. **If you have an interest in joining Affinity's advisory board please reach out to John Talalas at 617-905-2800.**

## Profile on Marijuana Wax

In recent years a unique form of marijuana has gained popularity. Street names for this powerful, high THC concentrate include: wax, "budder," honey oil and shatter.

The "wax" is separated from the marijuana plant material using a butane extraction method. A "dab" of the honey-like substance is placed into a metal reservoir on a glass water bong, or the dab is vaporized using a "vape pen". The distinctive telltale

odor of burning marijuana is eliminated in this new form of consumption.

The THC levels found in the wax form can be as "high" as 80 percent.



## SAPAA Conference Camaraderie

This year's SAPAA Conference was another sensational success! CCDAPP extends a big "kudos" to SAPAA leadership and all of the committee members that played a role in the planning and execution of the event, particularly Mary Brown-Ybos, CSAPA.

The CCDAPP commissioners were also successful in spreading the word about our commission's purpose during the annual SAPAA Conference. A CCDAPP session was held at the end of day two of the Training Institute and was extremely well attended. Participants were interested in learning about the certifications that are available through our commission, as well as the process used to certify Substance Abuse Program Administrators and Drug and Alcohol Program Administrators.

In addition to the session, our vendor booth allowed us the opportunity to connect and interact with current certification holders and provide information to many conference attendees that were previously unfamiliar with CCDAPP.

If you were unable to attend the 2016 SAPAA Conference, be sure to plan ahead for next year's event which is being held August 21-25 at the Green Valley Ranch near Las Vegas, NV.



*CCDAPP raffle prizewinner, John Burgos, CPC with Diana Byrnes, CCDAPP Vice President*

## 2016 Sue Clark Award for Excellence Recipient



*Leila Procopio-Makuh, CSAPA*

The 2016 Sue Clark Award for Excellence was presented to Leila Procopio-Makuh during the SAPAA Annual Conference in September.

Leila began her career as the Drug and Alcohol Program Manager for Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority; she is a former FTA audit team member and previous CCDAPP Commissioner. In addition to being the principal of LPM Consulting, based in Northridge California, Leila is also a lead instructor for the Transportation Safety Institute and a presenter at the annual FTA Drug and Alcohol Program National Conference.

Leila is a mentor, friend, industry leader and source of knowledge for many, many colleagues. Congratulations, Leila! To learn more about the Sue Clark Award: <http://www.ccdapp.org/sue-clark-award/>



## FDA Agrees to New Trial for Ecstasy as Relief for PTSD

According to an article published by the New York Times on November 29, 2016, the Multidisciplinary Assoc. for Psychedelic Studies sponsored six analyses treating 130 PTSD patients with the stimulant. After three doses of MDMA patients reported a 56 percent decrease of severity of symptoms. Read the full article here: [http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/29/us/ptsd-mdma-ecstasy.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/29/us/ptsd-mdma-ecstasy.html?_r=0)

“Cannabis Man” at right, successfully urged Floridians to vote “Yes on Amendment 2” on November 8<sup>th</sup>. A total of nine states had marijuana initiatives on the ballot and here’s how it turned out:

### RECREATIONAL

	Yes	No
Arizona	48%	52%
California	56%	44%
Maine	50%	50%
Massachusetts	54%	46%
Nevada	54%	46%

### MEDICAL

	Yes	No
Arkansas	53%	47%
Florida	71%	29%
Montana	58%	42%
North Dakota	64%	36%



Following winter activities such as skiing, ice skating, snow tubing and snowman-building, we might imbibe in a “hot-toddy” to warm us up.

However, Mythbusters (a Discovery Channel show) reports that just one alcoholic drink actually **lowers** your core body temperature.

Here’s why: alcohol causes your blood vessels to dilate, moving warm blood to the surface of your skin, making you

temporarily feel warmer. At the same time however, those same veins pumping blood closer to the skin’s surface cause you to lose core body heat, which is the heat you need to survive. So maybe those St. Bernards in the Swiss Alps should be carrying a barrel of hot cocoa instead of brandy!

On September 7, 2016, the synthetic opioid U-47700, known as “U4” was temporarily added to the Schedule 1 List of the Controlled Substances Act. The Administrator believed that this action was necessary to avoid an imminent hazard to public safety. The street drug is 7.5 times more potent than morphine and resistant to Narcan. U4 is manufactured in China and sold over the Internet. It was detected in the toxicology tests performed on the artist formerly known as Prince.



Registration is now open for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual FTA Drug and Alcohol Program National Conference. This popular FREE conference draws interest from all modes of regulated testing, not just transit. Collectors, Medical Review Officers, Substance Abuse Professionals and Designated Employer Representatives will find the conference to be a great source of information and a wonderful networking opportunity.

<https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/Training/NatConf/2017/Register.aspx>

## OTETA Turned 25 Years Old!!



George H.W. Bush signed the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing on October 28, 1991. This congressional act changed the course of our industry, mandating drug and alcohol testing for roughly 17 million people in the United States.



## Federal Regulators reject railroad’s request to delay new drug-testing rule for track workers. (November 10, 2016)

According to internal federal documents obtained by The Washington Post in September, eight percent of workers involved in rail accidents this year tested positive for drug use—three times higher than 10 years ago. “Delaying track workers from being included in the group of railroad employees tested for drugs and alcohol would delay the important work of preventing injuries and fatalities,” said Sarah E. Feinberg, who heads the FRA.



# CCDAPP Newsletter Q4-2016

Editor and Contributor: Diana Byrnes, CSAPA

Editorial Review: Jana Wolfgang, CSAPA

Please direct comment to: [byrnes@cutr.usf.edu](mailto:byrnes@cutr.usf.edu)



## **CCDAPP Officers:**

*Robi Bolton, CSAPA, President*

*Diana Byrnes, CSAPA, Vice-President*

*Jana Wolfgang, CSAPA, Secretary*

*Diane Northrop, CSAPA, Treasurer*

*Jennifer Peacock, Executive Director*

## **CCDAPP Commissioners:**

*Mary Brown-Ybos, CSAPA*

*Cindy Decker, CSAPA*

*Dr. Martin Duke, MRO*

*Regina Doural, CSAPA*

*Dennis Kerns, CSAPA*

*Venus Mills, CSAPA*

*Dr. Richard Plut*

*Tom Pool, CSAPA*

*Brandie Reid, CSAPA*

*Jeff Sims, CSAPA*

*Helen White, CSAPA*

CCDAPP is grateful for the sponsorship our commission receives. If your organization is interested in learning more about the benefits of becoming a CCDAPP sponsor, please email Jennifer Peacock: [exec.dir@ccdapp.org](mailto:exec.dir@ccdapp.org)