

MEET THE PRESENTERS

And learn more about the topics they will present.



ED SHEMELYA

NMI Coordinator, HIDTA Program



BIO:

Ed Shemelya is a 30-year veteran of the Kentucky State Police and is currently the National Coordinator of the National Marijuana Initiative (NMI), an Initiative that is responsible for assisting and improving the capabilities of the 33 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas nationwide in carrying out the National Drug Control Strategy objectives of disrupting domestic trafficking and production of, and reducing demand for, marijuana and derivative products.

The NMI strives to dispel misconceptions about marijuana and raise awareness of issues surrounding the drug, so that citizens and policymakers can make well-informed choices regarding marijuana use and regulations.

Prior to his current assignment, he served as the Eastern Region Marijuana Coordinator for the Appalachia HIDTA (AHIDTA) and was responsible for the oversight of marijuana cultivation activities within the four state Appalachia HIDTA region. Shemelya began his law enforcement career in 1979, where he worked patrol, general investigations, and narcotics within the Pikeville Post of the KSP. Promoted to Sergeant in 1985 and Lieutenant in 1988 he served the agency in many capacities from Internal Affairs, R&D, and as commander of the State Police first full-time Special Response Team. In 2003 he was appointed Commander of the Kentucky Governor's Marijuana Strike Force and the Kentucky Eradication Initiative, within the AHIDTA. This multi-agency task force comprised of Federal, State and Local agencies is tasked with fighting Kentucky's outdoor and indoor marijuana problem. During his six years as commander the Kentucky Eradication Task Force was recognized as the most outstanding eradication Task Force in the nation for four consecutive years by the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Legalization After Ten Years - What Have We Learned?

In this presentation, we will examine adult use legalization after a decade to determine what we have learned and equally important what we still need to know. The attendee will get a comprehensive look at the impacts of marijuana legalization to public health and public safety. This presentation will also contain the most current research and data as well as examine opportunities necessary to understand what to expect for the next decade of legalization.