

# Pot Topics: Canada legalizes cannabis; Colorado pot sales top 1B

**Sunday, October 21, 2018**

Scott Bettridge, chair of Cozen O'Connor's Immigration practice, was quoted in the *Chicago Sun-Times* discussing the recent impact on immigration with the legalization of marijuana in Canada. The U.S. Customs and Border Patrol can permanently bar visitors if an agent decides they've participated in illegal drug trafficking — and under CBP rules, anyone working in Canada's legal marijuana industry fits that definition. "It's become a very significant issue," said Scott. "They've confirmed that if you work in the industry or even an investor, you could potentially face a lifetime on entering the U.S. This isn't a ban just on businesses travel – we're talking vacation, family reasons, visiting your kid in school in the United States. It's a lifetime ban. It's very far-reaching."

To read more of the article, [click here](#).



**Scott Bettridge**  
Chair, Immigration Practice

[sbettridge@cozen.com](mailto:sbettridge@cozen.com)  
Phone (305) 704-5953  
Fax (305) 704-5955

#### **Related Practice Areas**

- Immigration Policy & Strategy

#### **Industry Sectors**

- Cannabis