

# Nationwide Criminal Defense Lawyer, Vince Imhoff, Commends Move Toward Federal Marijuana Decriminalization

*Will the victimless crime of marijuana possession be decriminalized by the Biden administration?*

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, USA, October 12, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As midterm elections approach and the Biden administration attempts to shore up their support in minority communities, the White House announced President Biden will pardon all prior federal offenses of simple marijuana possession.

Biden tweeted: "As I've said before, no one should be in jail just for using or possessing marijuana. Sending people to jail for possessing marijuana has upended too many lives — for conduct that is legal in many states."

Criminal convictions can make finding a job or renting a home difficult. President Biden said his anticipated action will "help relieve the collateral consequences arising from these convictions."

Biden is also urging governors to follow suit with state marijuana offenses while telling Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra and Attorney General Merrick Garland to re-evaluate how marijuana is classified under federal drug laws.

Big cities like New York have already moved toward decriminalizing low-level marijuana crimes.

"The federal government currently classifies marijuana as a "schedule one" substance, the same as heroin and LSD – and more serious than fentanyl," Biden said.

Criminal defense attorney, [Vince Imhoff](#), says: "President Joe Biden formally announced that he will pardon those who have been convicted of simple marijuana possession under federal or Washington, D.C., laws, and is calling on Governors across the nation to enact similar legislation



Vince Imhoff, Famed Criminal Attorney

on a state level. Justice-impacted individuals experience a myriad of collateral consequences upon re-entry to society, even with a minor conviction. Decriminalizing marijuana removes these civil disabilities—such as restrictions on the right to obtain housing, employment, and even educational opportunities. We commend President Biden on taking a necessary step to right the wrongs of a flawed and inequitable criminal justice system, and helping our nation become one of second chances.”

While Biden might be said to be in the right track, his pardon will ultimately change little in the lives of those convicted of simple marijuana possession in violation of federal law. Over 6,500 citizens of the USA were convicted of violating federal law for simple possession of marijuana between 1992 and 2021, but no individuals in federal prison are there solely for the possession of marijuana.

Once the midterm elections have passed, will President Biden follow through and set into motion the steps needed to fully decriminalize pot possession and use?

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