On December 6, 2018, the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA) went into effect. This guide is for drivers as it relates to the new law.

Information provided by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning

For the most up-to-date information on the MRTMA, visit www.michigan.gov/ohsp.
What a driver can’t do:

1. Drivers cannot operate, navigate, or be in physical control of any motor vehicle, aircraft, snowmobile, off-road recreational vehicle, or motorboat while under the influence of marihuana.

2. Drivers cannot consume marihuana while operating, navigating, or being in physical control of any motor vehicle, aircraft, snowmobile, off-road recreational vehicle, or motorboat. Drivers and/or their passengers are prohibited from smoking marihuana within the passenger area of a vehicle upon a public way.

3. Drivers and passengers cannot transport marihuana into Canada.

What else a driver needs to know:

Police officers will be looking for impairment based on driving, personal observations of the driver, and how a driver performs on standardized and/or non-standardized field sobriety tests. Based on these three stages of an investigation, a police officer may request a chemical test. If a driver refuses to submit to a chemical test, his/her license will be suspended pursuant to Michigan’s implied consent law. Under this law, all drivers are considered to have given consent to the test when they apply for and renew their driver’s license.

The penalties for operating under the influence of marihuana are the same as operating under the influence of alcohol. These penalties can include up to 93 days in jail, up to a $500 fine, license suspension, six points on a person’s driving record, and more. There are heightened penalties if a driver has minors in the vehicle.

What a driver can do:

1. Individuals over the age of 21 can transport 2.5 ounces or less of marihuana. Not more than 15 grams of marihuana may be in the form of a marihuana concentrate.