



Sherard Rogers,

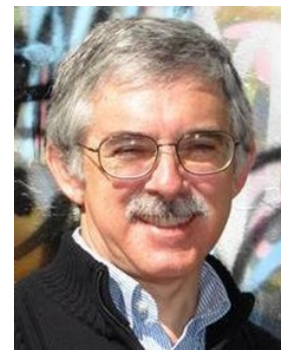
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Meet Sherard Rogers, member of the ICR Governing Board

Sherard Rogers is a current and original member of the ICR Board of Directors and serves as a member associated with cannabis-related industries. He has over 20 years of experience in banking and financial services. In 1992, he began his 10-year banking career completing the management training program at Nations Bank and managing banking centers throughout the Southeast regions and finishing with Bank of America. In the Premier Banking Division, where he served as a Private Banker to Affluent clients. Following this, Rogers served as Vice President of Wealth Management at CSI Capital Management, Inc., and also Relationship Manager to 25 of the top Professional Athletes in various sports which included multiple top five lottery and draft picks. Rogers prides himself on developing financial well-being of clients beginning in lower rounds or undrafted in which later convert to significant second contracts. Due to his accomplishments and success in the industry, Rogers also served as Executive Producer of Locker Room Magazine and since has spent the last 15 years building Strategic Resource Management Group, LLC a family office servicing professional Athletes, and other high-profile individuals. Rogers has also invested interests in the Marijuana industry in several capacities including creating jobs by purchasing a Medical and Recreational Dispensary, Lab, Kitchen, and Grow in Denver, Colorado. Sherard also actively sits on the board of directors for “BBRB” Black Brown and Red Baged, A Coalition of owners of color provisioning a voice of Diversity for business owners in the Cannabis industry.

What do we know about Dispensaries and Crime? Do Management Practices Matter?



Guest Contribution: PI's: Dr. YongJei Lee, University of Colorado Colorado Springs; Dr. SooHyun O, Tarleton State University; Dr. John E. Eck, University of Cincinnati

With the legalization of marijuana use in Colorado since 2014, the number of marijuana dispensaries for medical and recreational use increased dramatically. During the same period, public concerns regarding the potential risk of dispensaries in relation to crime have grown exponentially. These concerns have generated a good deal of scholarship examining the link between dispensaries and crime. Most studies of this kind have examined crimes within a certain vicinity of dispensaries. To the best of our knowledge, none of the previous studies have explored crimes at dispensaries and answered why crime varies across different dispensaries. This study seeks to better understand whether and how crime is distinctively distributed across different dispensaries. We also try to answer why crime varies across different dispensaries using the place management framework since findings from the current studies emphasize that property owners' management practices are crucial in suppressing or facilitating crimes at their facilities. Our team had presented the preliminary findings of this research at the Institute of Cannabis Research (ICR) conference in 2020. This brief letter includes both summary and up-to-date findings of our research.

In general, dispensaries are a type of facility that creates opportunities for crime because of high customer traffic, cash sales, and desirable target products. These opportunities may attract motivated offenders to dispensaries. Nevertheless, dispensaries behave just like other facilities as well: most host little or no crime, and only a few host considerable crime. How can dispensaries be a crime problem to communities, when most dispensaries show no evidence of elevated crime? If most dispensaries are not associated with elevated crime, but a few are, and this discrepancy is due to management practices, does public concerns relating dispensaries to crime need to be reconsidered?

Combining our data sets including dispensary locations (parcels) and crime in Colorado Springs, Colorado, we find that only a few dispensaries experience a disproportionate number of crimes (see Figures 1 and 2). This hints at the possibility that crimes at a few dispensaries may be attributed to how dispensaries are managed rather than the inherent risk of the dispensary.

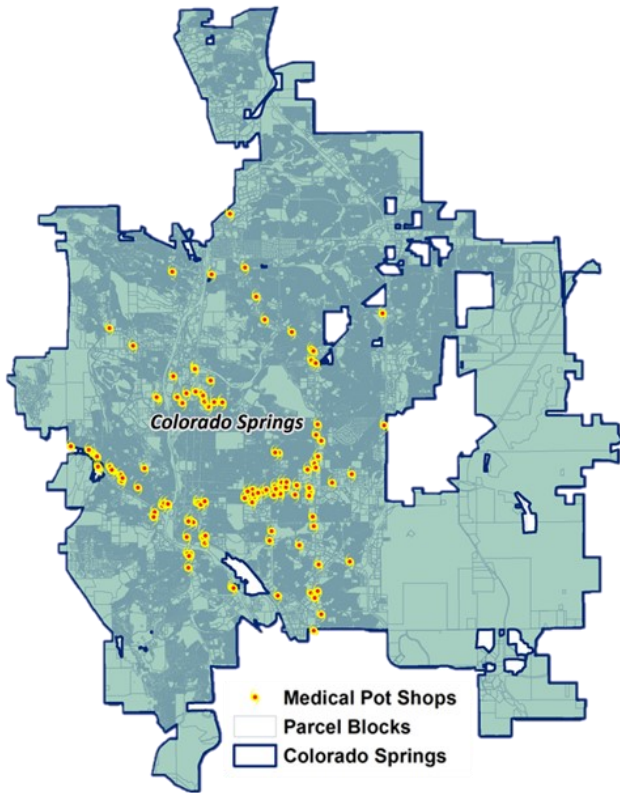


Fig 1. All medical dispensaries in Colorado Springs as of 2019

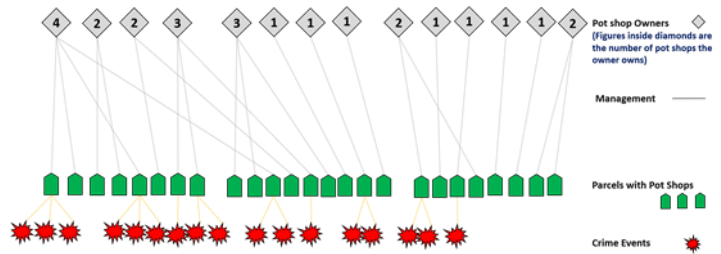


Fig 2. Hierarchical structure among crimes, dispensaries and shop owners

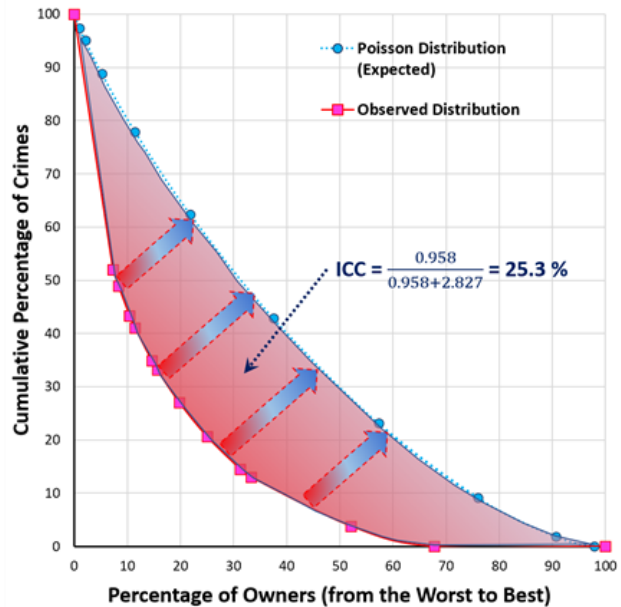


Fig 3. Comparison between the expected distribution and the observed distribution of crime

Further, we examine how management practices explain the variation of crimes across dispensaries. First, we draw an expected distribution of crime among dispensaries (using Poisson distribution) assuming that management does not influence crime. We, then, compare this with the observed distribution of crime among the dispensaries in the data. If management has nothing to do with crime, then the observed distribution should follow the expected Poisson distribution. Figure 3 clearly shows there is a huge gap between the expected distribution and the observed distribution. This implies that the management of dispensaries does influence crime. The Intra-class-Correlation-Coefficient (ICC) in Figure 3 also indicates that over 25 percent of crime variation across dispensaries is attributed to management practices. Therefore, we suggest that the decisions and practices of dispensary owners or managers are important in preventing crime opportunities at dispensaries. At this stage of our research, it is noteworthy that this study did not focus on different aspects of place management practices in the explanation of crime. We think continued work in this regard is warranted in order to determine what specific practices among managers enhance the safety of dispensaries. We hope to share our updated research findings soon in this e-newsletter.



Journal of Cannabis Research

The *Journal of Cannabis Research* (JCR) is the official publication of the Institute of Cannabis Research. It is the only broadly multidisciplinary journal of cannabis research, encompassing not only clinical and scientific research, but also research into social, business, economic, legal, environmental, and ethical impacts of cannabis use and the changing legal status of cannabis. To learn more about the aims and scope of the journal as well as submission guidelines, please visit: [Journal of Cannabis Research](#)

Here are two recently JCR published articles that are authored by Colorado State University-Pueblo researchers who are supported by the ICR:

- ◆ [The frequency distribution of reported THC concentrations of legal cannabis flower products increases discontinuously around the 20% THC threshold in Nevada and Washington state](#)
- ◆ [The biosynthesis of the cannabinoids](#)

The Institute of Cannabis Research is now accepting donations to support future cannabis research. You, our friends, colleagues and supporters, have the ability to help us continue to support cutting edge research by donating to the ICR Research Fund. We hope you will consider contributing to this important opportunity to enhance our understanding of the applications and impacts of cannabis. All donations contributed are tax deductible. Please consider a year-end donation. To donate or to get more information please click on the donate button:

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ICR WEBINAR SERIES
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ICR Webinar Series



George Hodgkin

May Webinar: The ICR is pleased to host George Hodgkin and Ajay Nayak for our May 13th webinar at 1:00pm MST, offering two discussions on the Academic and Business Perspectives of Compliance in Cannabis Research

Title: Access to Federally Compliant Cannabis for Research

George Hodgkin is the Founder and CEO of Biopharmaceutical Research Company (BRC), an applicant with the Drug Enforcement Administration to produce federally compliant cannabis products for research. BRC holds several DEA Schedule I Registrations and engages in compliant cannabis research. He is a former Navy SEAL officer and alumnus of the Stanford University Graduate School of Business. He was commissioned as an officer in the Navy in 2009, after earning a BA in Economics and Mandarin from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a Morehead-Cain scholar. George led SEALs in combat in counter-terrorism operations in Afghanistan and Southeast Asia. His hobbies include fly-fishing and hiking with his family and dog. He and his wife and two sons live in Carmel-By-the-Sea, California.



Ajay Nayak

Title: Navigating through Cannabis Research: An Academic Story of Partnerships and Collaborations

Ajay Nayak is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia. He has an appointment in the Center for Translational Medicine and the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine at TJU. Ajay received his B.Sc. and M. Sc. In Microbiology from University of Mumbai and came to US in 2006 to pursue his doctoral degree from West Virginia University. Ajay was a civilian employee with the Federal government at CDC/NIOSH in Morgantown, WV. Ajay has been actively involved in cannabis research efforts for almost a decade. His primary areas of interest in the field of allergy. He is also interested in examining the physiological and pathophysiological effects of cannabis on human health. He is engaged in multiple collaborations both nationally and internationally to further cannabis research. His lab has an active research grant from NIH to develop diagnostic tools for determining cannabis allergies. When Ajay is not in his lab, he teaches young kids to play the game of cricket at his club in Philadelphia. He lives with his wife, a son and an 8-week-old puppy in the Valley Forge area.



ICR WEBINAR SERIES

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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PUEBLO

Summer Webinars: The ICR is pleased to host two summer webinars as part of our series featuring Clayton Snell on June 10th and Dr. Ziva Cooper on July 8th, both scheduled for Thursday at 1:00pm MST

**Clayton Snell****Title: A Deep Dive into Epidiolex**

Clayton W. Snell, PharmD, received his degree from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia and started working in neurology right after graduation. He completed a fellowship with Rutgers University and Acorda Therapeutics, where he focused on multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease. He has worked in a number of other therapeutic areas including epilepsy, ADHD, migraine, and spinal cord injury. He joined Greenwich Biosciences in 2020, allowing him to continue his work in epilepsy and develop cannabis-based FDA-approved products. Currently located in Denver, CO, Clayton enjoys hiking the state and national parks as well as hanging out with his cat, Gumbo.

**Dr. Ziva Cooper****Title: To Be Announced Soon!**

Dr. Ziva Cooper is the Director of the UCLA Cannabis Research Initiative in the Jane and Terry Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences and Department of Anesthesiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine. Her current research involves understanding variables that influence both the therapeutic potential and adverse effects of cannabis and cannabinoids through double-blind, placebo-controlled studies. Current funded projects include 1) understanding differences between men and women in their response to the abuse-related and pain-relieving effects, and the role that circulating hormones and endocannabinoids contribute to these differences, 2) the potential for THC and CBD to reduce reliance on opioids, 3) impact of cannabis use on HIV-associated inflammation, and 4) the effectiveness of cannabidiol to address symptoms associated with rheumatoid arthritis. Dr. Cooper served on the National Academies of Sciences Committee on the Health Effects of Cannabis that recently published a comprehensive consensus report of the health effects of cannabis and cannabinoids. She is past president of the International Study Group Investigating Drugs as Reinforcers, a Board Director for the College on Problems of Drug Dependence, an Associate Editor of The American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, and is on several Editorial Boards of journals including Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research and Neuropharmacology.

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2021 VIRTUAL
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AUGUST 3-5, 2021  COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  PUEBLO

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Cannabis Research Conference Keynote Speakers!



Daniele Piomelli, Ph.D.

Anatomy and Neurobiology and Louise Turner Arnold Chair in Neurosciences at the University of California, Irvine; Co-director of UCI's Center for the Study of Cannabis and Editor-in-Chief of Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research.

Title: The Role of Endocannabinoid and Paracannabinoid Signals in Pain Regulation

Description: The endocannabinoid system is an important regulator of pain processing. Anandamide-mediated signaling at peripheral CB1 receptors may act as a 'gate' that limits entrance to incoming pain-related information. Analogous functions have been ascribed to paracannabinoid messengers – endogenous bioactive lipids that share key biogenetic and degradative steps with the endocannabinoids but do not interact with cannabinoid receptors (from Greek παρά, 'around'). The lecture will highlight the complementary roles of endocannabinoid and paracannabinoid signals in pain regulation.

Mechoulam Lecture:

This lecture series was initiated at the first research conference hosted by the ICR in the spring of 2017 and is named in honor of Dr. Raphael Mechoulam, who delivered the first lecture in the series. This year we are honored to have Dr. Daniele Piomelli deliver the Mechoulam Lecture at the CRC 2021. Dr. Piomelli is a Distinguished Professor of

Anatomy and Neurobiology and Louise Turner Arnold Chair in Neurosciences at the University of California, Irvine; Co-director of UCI's Center for the Study of Cannabis and Editor-in-Chief of Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research.

Anatomy and Neurobiology and Louise Turner Arnold Chair in Neurosciences at the University of California, Irvine; Co-director of UCI's Center for the Study of Cannabis and Editor-in-Chief of Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research.

The Opening Plenary Address will be delivered by Dr. Marilyn Heustis. Dr. Heustis is a Professor at Thomas Jefferson University's Institute for Emerging Health Professions, Former president of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists; Former Chair of the Toxicology Section of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences; Former President of The International Association of Forensic Toxicologists.

Title: Short and Long Term Consequences of Cannabis Use



Marilyn A. Huestis, Ph.D.

Description: Some form of medical cannabis is legalized in almost all US states, and legalized adult use of cannabis for recreational purposes is approved in at least 16 states and the District of Columbia. These changes in public opinion and policy have both short and long-term positive and negative consequences. Detailed discussions of these topics will occur over the next three days of the ICR 2021 Cannabis Conference "Exploring Cannabis Research Frontiers." The potential of cannabinoid pharmacotherapies for numerous indications is great due to the unique and diverse mechanisms of action of Δ^9 -tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), cannabidiol (CBD), cannabigerol (CBG) and the more than 100 other cannabinoids in the cannabis plant. Few pharmacological data are available for most of these cannabinoids and for the hundreds of other chemicals in the complex cannabis species. We will briefly explore some potential pharmacotherapies and what needs to occur next to advance the field of medical cannabis. The highly conserved endogenous cannabinoid neurotransmitter system plays a critical role in important survival functions, such as hunger, reproduction, body temperature, movement, memory and executive function, as well as attempting to maintain homeostasis. Perturbation of this neurotransmitter system with excess amounts of exogenous cannabinoids affect operation of complex equipment and most importantly, maturation of the developing brain. In fetal, infant, child and adolescent brains, the endogenous cannabinoid neurotransmitter system is negatively affected by cannabis exposure in utero, during breastfeeding, from secondhand cannabis smoke, accidental exposure to attractive food products and cannabis self-administration. Introduction of these positive and negative short and long-term consequences of cannabis intake will hopefully challenge your thinking for the many excellent oral and poster presentations to come.