

## TOM DOWNEY Attorney at Law

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### Presentations, Publications & Other Media

Mr. Downey regularly speaks to trade groups, stakeholder groups, industry associations and attorneys on issues impacting regulated industries, including legalized marijuana, alcohol and gaming. Further, he's a go-to resource for the media, providing background information and legal analysis on issues impacting regulated industries.

Below is a list of his presentations, publications, articles and interviews. To request an interview, please email [info@irelandstapleton.com](mailto:info@irelandstapleton.com).

- Moderator, "The Future of RiNo Development," BusinessDen, February 19, 2019
- Author, "[Opinion: Federal marijuana legalization may not be the dream scenario some imagine.](#)" *The Colorado Sun*, Opinion Columns, December 23, 2018
- Panelist, Colorado Business Committee for the Arts' Art + Cannabis Forum, November 29, 2018
- Co-Author, "Bankruptcy and State Alternatives for Marijuana Businesses," September 7, 2018
- Panelist, "The Enduring Manifestations of Prohibition," Cannabis Law Institute, September 7, 2018
- Quoted in *Law Week Colorado*, "10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Smokes Marijuana Tax Challenge," July 16, 2018
- Quoted on *Colorado Public Radio*, "[The Even Money Says Colorado Will Take It Slow And Steady With Sports Betting](#)" July 9, 2018
- Program Chair, Recreational Marijuana – The Impact of Federal Enforcement on Colorado, CLE Course, Colorado Law Institute, May 17, 2018
- Co-Presenter, "Rescheduling Versus Descheduling – The Impact of Legalization," Colorado Law Institute, May 17, 2018
- Co-Presenter, "US Attorney Jeff Sessions and Marijuana Policy – What Will It Mean for the Industry?," May 17, 2018
- Quoted on *Colorado Public Radio*, "[US Supreme Court Opens Sports Gambling. What's The Colorado Impact?](#)," May 14, 2018
- Speaker, "An Overview of Legal Marijuana," Mesa County Bar Association Luncheon, April 23, 2018



### Practice Areas

Government Relations &  
Regulatory Affairs

### Education

University of Pennsylvania, Wharton  
Business School Executive Program –  
High Impact Leaders (non-degree),  
2009

Villanova School of Law  
J.D., 1993

Vice-Chair, Villanova Law School  
Honor Board

Vice-President, Villanova Law School  
Women's Law Caucus

President, Villanova Law School  
Rugby Club

College of William and Mary  
Bachelor of Arts in Economics, 1989

### Honors & Awards

TOM DOWNEY 2019  
RECOGNIZED BY  
**Best Lawyers**

*Law Week Colorado's* 2018

"Barrister's Best" list - People's Choice  
for Marijuana Law

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- Speaker, "A Changing Landscape: The Federal Update," Pennsylvania Bar Association, March 16, 2018
- Speaker, "X-TEAM: An Overview of Legal Marijuana," X-Team Conference, February 8, 2018
- Co-Presenter, "The Next Industrial Revolution: How the IoT will Change the Way People Live, Work & Play," SCG Legal Annual Meeting, September 8, 2017
- Program Chair, Recreational Marijuana – Weed & the Government: Post-Election Outlook, Colorado Law Institute, May 19, 2017
- Speaker, "Civil RICO and State vs. State," Colorado Law Institute, May 19, 2017
- Co-Presenter, "State Marijuana Laws Under President Trump," Colorado Law Institute, May 19, 2017
- Quoted in *The Westword*, "[Cannabis Industry Not Happy With Sean Spicer's Prediction of 'Greater Enforcement'.](#)" February 24, 2017
- Interviewed on *CBS Channel 4 Denver*, "[State Pot Officials: 'Impossible To Discern' White House Action On Retail Pot.](#)" February 23, 2017
- Interviewed on *Fox31 News*, "[Local attorney, Supreme Court nominee acted in high school play together.](#)" February 3, 2017
- Quoted in *The Denver Post*, "[Donald Trump nominates Colorado's Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court.](#)" January 31, 2017
- Quoted in *The Denver Post*, "[Cops can't be forced to return marijuana in failed drug cases. Colorado Supreme Court says.](#)" January 23, 2017
- Interviewed on *CBS Channel 4 Denver*, "[Trump's Choice For AG Has Some Worried About Impact On Legal Pot.](#)" January 12, 2017
- Quoted in *The Denver Post*, "[DEA should stop stalling on reclassifying cannabis.](#)" August 10, 2016
- Quoted in *The Westword*, "[DEA's Marijuana Rescheduling Announcement May Not Come in 2016.](#)" August 2, 2016
- Quoted in *The Cannabist*, "[DEA: Decision on marijuana rescheduling in 'final stages'.](#)" August 2, 2016
- Quoted in *Front Porch*, "[Op-Ed: How the DEA should classify pot.](#)" August 1, 2016
- Quoted in *The Westword*, "[DEA Delays Marijuana Rescheduling Announcement.](#)" July 19, 2016
- *The Denver Post*, DPTV, "[How the DEA should classify Marijuana.](#)" June 19, 2016
- Author, "How the DEA should classify pot: A three-part approach can satisfy state, feds alike" *The Denver Post*, Perspective Section, June 19, 2016
- Quoted in *The Denver Post*, "Long legal battle over sales license makes Denver cannabis history" June 13, 2016

### Honors & Awards

2016-2019 Top Lawyer Marijuana Law  
5280 Magazine



*Westword's* 2013 "Best of Denver" award for customer service

Denver 150 Unsung Heroes Award (2008)

Mile High United Way's "Anna Jo Haynes Care about Kids Award" (2006)

Ballard Spahr's National Pro Bono Attorney of the Year (2002)

*Denver Business Journal's* 40 Under 40 (2002)

Villanova Law School, Herman Mitchell Schwartz Award Recipient for the most significant contribution to the achievement of equality of opportunity and treatment for women in the legal community

Knights of Columbus Patriotism Award (1983)

### Admissions

Admitted to practice in Colorado

Colorado Supreme Court

U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

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- *Colorado Public Radio*, "[Court Overrules City, Forces It To License Dispensary.](#)" June 10, 2016
- Speaker, "The legalization of marijuana and its impact on nonprofit fundraising," Colorado Society of CPAs, May 24, 2016
- Quoted in *The Washington Post*, "[Marijuana companies join forces to expand beyond state lines.](#)" April 26, 2016
- Quoted in *The Denver Post*, "[Denver council faces marijuana question worth millions to investors.](#)" April 10, 2016
- Speaker, "The Future of Marijuana Industry Accountability; A Case for Providing a Solution," Conference of Western Attorneys General, Brown University, April 5, 2016
- Speaker, "Implications of Legalized Marijuana," Ohio SHRM Conference, March 10, 2016
- Speaker, "Regulation, Colorado Marijuana & the Next Frontier," City Club of Denver, January 5, 2016
- Panelist, Marijuana in Colorado: Advanced Tax, Legal and Accounting Considerations Seminar, Bloomberg BNA, December 1, 2015
- Quoted in *The New York Times*, "*Nonprofits Becoming More Comfortable Accepting Pot Donations*," October 29, 2015
- Legal Talk Network, "[Lawyers, Weed, and Money H.R. 2076 Found Some Fans.](#)" August 28, 2015
- Speaker, "The Legalization of Marijuana and its Impact on Nonprofit Fundraising," a combined event with the Colorado Nonprofit Association and the Colorado Association of Funders and Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, PC, July 14, 2015
- Co-Presenter, *The Impact of Legalized Marijuana*, Metropolitan State University of Denver, June 30, 2015
- Panelist, "The Business of Bud," Above The Law, June 16, 2015
- Above the Law, "[3 Things You Must Know If You Want To Work In Marijuana Law.](#)" June 10, 2015
- Presenter, "Legal Overview of the Recreational Marijuana Industry: A Regulatory Perspective," The Consuls General of the European Union's Nations, December, 18, 2014
- Author, "All That Glitters Green in Colorado Is Not Pot Gold" *The Denver Post*, November 28, 2014
- Author, "We Need A New Social Contract to Avoid A Collision with Millennials" *The Denver Post*, Perspectives Section, August 22, 2010
- Author, "Transplants Unite!" *Rocky Mountain News*, December 13, 2004

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- Author, "A Sensible Redistricting Alternative," *Rocky Mountain News*, January 16, 2004