In 2012, the RI General Assembly passed amendments to Sections 21-28-4.01, 21-28-4.11, and 21-28-4.14 of the RI General Laws within Chapter 21-28, entitled “Uniform Controlled Substances Act.” These amendments, which take effect on April 1, 2013, decriminalize the possession of one ounce (1 oz.) or less of marijuana in most cases, thereby making such possession a civil offense with penalties starting at one hundred fifty dollars ($150.00).

A course containing the PowerPoint presentation entitled, “Marijuana Update – Changes to Offenses and Penalties April 1st, 2013”, has been uploaded into PowerDMS. This course contains a review of the legislative changes that have taken effect and also presents the procedural changes that this Department has adopted as a result.

All sworn Department members must complete this course on or before April 1, 2013. Any questions or issues regarding these legislative or procedural changes should be directed to the Training Bureau staff.

**APPROVED:**

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