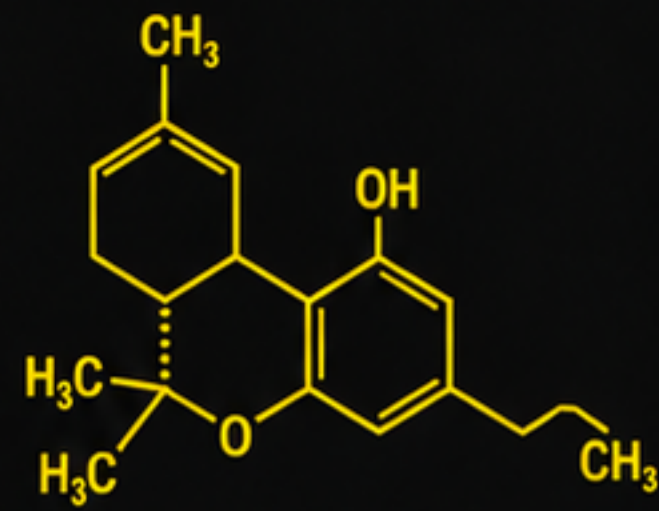




Marijuana Impact Group

Vape Blue Raz






Counterfeit THC Vapes: National Threat Snapshot

! THREAT SNAPSHOT

- 1** Federal and state investigations continue to identify illicit THC vape products as a growing trafficking and public-safety threat across the United States.
- 2** Recurring indicators include cloned branding, imported hardware, synthetic cannabinoid additives, parcel distribution, storefront sales, and online promotion.
- 3** Products are often sold as hemp-derived, blue lotus, valerian root, herbal, or other lower-risk alternatives to conceal illicit contents.
- 4** Youth-oriented flavors, glossy packaging, and social-media marketing continue to broaden exposure and complicate enforcement.
- 5** Sales near military installations and within military communities remain a concern because adulterated or mislabeled products can create force-health, readiness, and disciplinary risk.

📁 CASE STUDIES

-  **Bummy Legion** – Army CID warns the company marketed vape products as “blue lotus” or “valerian root” while concealing MDMB-4en-PINACA, a Schedule I synthetic cannabinoid. The company is under federal investigation.
-  **Black Magic** – North Carolina vape-shop distribution linked to synthetic cannabinoid exposure, serious illness, and military impact.
-  **Counterfeit THC Devices** – Federal cases in Texas describe PRC-linked shipments, cloned branding, and imported hardware and packaging.

🎯 WHY IT MATTERS

Illicit THC vape products are not a routine retail-compliance issue. They represent a trafficking and supply-chain threat driven by deceptive packaging, synthetic cannabinoid additives, online sales, parcel distribution, and retail access through smoke shops and convenience stores. These products endanger public health and safety, expand youth exposure, and generate revenue for criminal networks. Public reporting also identifies the People’s Republic of China as a major source of illegal vaping products entering the United States.



📋 KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Treat illicit THC vape products as a trafficking and supply-chain threat.
- Watch for cloned packaging, identical devices, and bulk cartridges.
- Track storefront, online, and parcel-based distribution together.
- Share intelligence across HIDTA, DEA, Army CID, and local partners.
- Identify PRC-linked sourcing early when imported hardware, packaging, or finished products are involved.

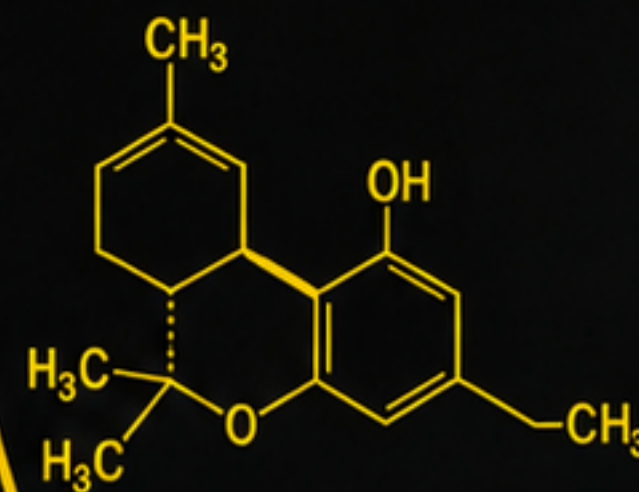


This bulletin is intended for public awareness and law-enforcement reference. Information is derived from publicly available reporting and releasable source material.



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Criminal Actors, Supply Chains, and Counterfeit Indicators

SUPPLY CHAIN PATHWAYS

- 1** PRC-based suppliers remain a primary source of illegal vape hardware, empty cartridges, packaging, and finished products entering the U.S. market.
- 2** Domestic fillers, repackagers, and distributors add THC oils or synthetic additives, then relabel and redistribute products through retail and online channels.
- 3** Online sales, parcel shipping, social media, and smoke shops remain common retail channels.
- 4** Products are often marketed as hemp, blue lotus, herbal, or wellness items to reduce suspicion and evade scrutiny.

CASE HIGHLIGHTS

- Counterfeit THC devices** – Federal prosecutors in Texas described PRC-linked shipments of counterfeit THC vape products routed through DFW.
- Counterfeit packaging networks** – Investigators identified imported labels, boxes, atomizers, and cartridge-filling equipment used to imitate established brands.
- Operation Ganjapreneur** – A multi-agency South Carolina investigation targeting distributors and wholesalers supplying illegal THC products, including vapes and related items.
- PRC-linked supply** – Federal officials have publicly identified China as a primary source of dangerous illegal vaping products entering the U.S. market.

WHAT OFFICERS ARE SEEING

Investigations and seizures show a consistent pattern of cloned branding, imported hardware, flashy youth-oriented packaging, and domestic redistribution through storefronts, mail, and online channels. Products may be marketed as hemp-derived, blue lotus, herbal, or legal alternatives, yet law-enforcement reporting shows these claims can conceal concentrated THC or synthetic cannabinoids.



COUNTERFEIT INDICATORS

- Identical devices or disposable vapes sold in bulk quantities.
- Loose labels, heat-sealed bags, boxes, or cartridge-filling supplies.
- Mixed or misleading product claims such as THC-A, hemp, blue lotus, herbal, or legal highs.
- Packaging that imitates established brands or uses flashy youth-oriented designs.
- Imported hardware or packaging with no reliable manufacturer traceability.



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Military Community Concerns



! MILITARY-AREA CONCERNS

- 1 Products sold near bases or military corridors may be marketed as blue lotus, legal, or herbal items while actually containing synthetic cannabinoids.
- 2 Army CID warnings indicate some blue lotus products may be laced with synthetic cannabinoids, including MDMB-4en-PINACA.
- 3 The concern is force health and readiness, not blame. Adulterated or mislabeled products can contribute to unintentional positive drug tests and disciplinary consequences.
- 4 Retail access near smoke-shop corridors, schools, and young-adult populations increases exposure and risk.

RECOMMENDED FOCUS

- Track storefronts, smoke shops, and online sellers serving military communities.
- Request lab testing when products are marketed as blue lotus or legal alternatives.
- Compare packaging, payment methods, and shipping patterns across cases.
- Share intelligence across DEA, HIDTA, CID, installation law enforcement, and local partners.

🎯 OPERATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

Counterfeit and illicit THC vape products should be addressed as a supply-chain and trafficking threat, not solely a public-health issue. The strongest cases link deceptive packaging, synthetic additives, online distribution, imported components, and local retail access. Public reporting also identifies the People's Republic of China as a major driver of illegal vape availability in the United States. A coordinated response supports force protection, interdiction, and criminal-enforcement outcomes.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

Blue Lotus Products

RISKS TO YOUR HEALTH AND FUTURE

The Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division warrants caution for Army personnel and families regarding products labeled "Blue Lotus." Some products marketed as legal or natural alternatives may be adulterated with synthetic cannabinoids, which can cause serious health effects and result in positive drug tests.



Visual appeal, scent and/or slight psychoactive effects do not indicate safety. Even small amounts of synthetics can cause impairment, adverse reactions, and unintentional violations of Army standards. These violations can lead to disciplinary action, loss of benefits, and damage to your career and readiness.

Be vigilant with what you consume or purchase. If you have questions, contact your chain of command or CID.



Reporting is Anonymous
Scan code to submit a tip.

Created by the Army CID
Public Affairs Office

📋 BLUE LOTUS NOTE

Army CID materials warn that some products marketed as blue lotus or similar legal alternatives may contain synthetic cannabinoids despite deceptive labeling.

🛡️ ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES

- Identify distributors, storefronts, and online sellers.
- Preserve packaging, labels, and payment records as evidence.
- Coordinate with labs when synthetic cannabinoids are suspected.
- Prioritize PRC-linked sourcing, import pathways, and distribution hubs when building broader threat pictures.
- Push intelligence sharing to support interdiction and prevention.



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