



SEPTEMBER 23–25, 2021 | MT. PLEASANT

6TH ANNUAL

Cannabis Law Conference

Michigan's Premier Cannabis Law Event

Presented by

The Cannabis Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan

In cooperation with

THE INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

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New Location This Year!
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort

It's Time to Reconnect!

The networking opportunities you've missed are back, including lunch, the evening reception, and a cocktail hour featuring the Cannabis Law Section Trailblazer Award presentation to John Sinclair.

The Best Local and National Speakers



Andrew Brisbo

Marijuana Regulatory Agency, *Lansing*

Andrew is the first-ever executive director of the state's Marijuana Regulatory Agency. He delivers the latest developments on administrative rules and more.



John Hudak

The Brookings Institution, *Washington, DC*

John is known for political science-related research and his 2016 book "Marijuana: A Short History." He keeps you current on the federal policy landscape.



Barton W. Morris, Jr.

Law Offices of Barton Morris, *Royal Oak*

Barton is a noted trial lawyer with specialized training in the forensic analysis of controlled substances. He moderates a panel on justice issues related to cannabis.



Denise A. Pollicella

Pollicella PLLC, *Howell*

Denise, managing partner of the firm, has 25 years of experience and is founder of Cannabis Attorneys of Michigan. She shares insights on M&As and securing licensing.

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Michigan's Premier Cannabis Law Event

Nowhere else can you get this many viewpoints in one place—and in person! Join us at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort for timely insights from the entire cannabis law community: state and federal regulatory agencies, law enforcement, municipalities, and more. It's perfect whether you're experienced in cannabis law or ready to jump in.

This newly named conference has expanded its scope to cover the entire industry and bring you up to speed on the rapidly evolving issues. Andrew Brisbo returns to share his inside view on the latest happenings with the MRA. John Hudak of the Brookings Institution keeps you current on the federal policy landscape. A distinguished panel shares advances in social justice issues, from expungement to racial bias. With nearly every practice area covered, there's something for everyone.

You Will Be Able to:

- Get the basics of licensing, plus guidance on securing local licensing
- Help clients tackle employment and workplace safety issues with advice from MIOSHA
- Take away tips and tricks for protecting intellectual property
- Advise clients on the potential consolidation of MMMA, MMFLA, and MRTMA
- Use best practices concerning industrial hemp and its varied uses
- Navigate the tax obligations that apply to cannabis businesses
- Examine *People v Dupre* and get answers to common driving-related questions

“Excellent opportunity to learn and hear from the best. Great program for those entering into this space.

Shelly J. Edgerton, SE Strategies,
Plainwell

“Opportunity to expand knowledge of this field and to interact with legal leaders in the field.

Benham R. Wrigley, Jr., Wrigley
Hoffman PC, *Grand Rapids*

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Schedule

Registration: Thursday, 3:00pm–4:30pm
Registration and Continental Breakfast: Friday and Saturday, 8:00am–9:00am

Plenary Sessions

4:00pm/Thursday

Cannabis Law Section Annual Meeting

Attendance at the Section Annual Meeting does not require registration for the *Cannabis Law Conference*.

4:30pm/Thursday

Welcome Remarks and Announcements

Allison M. Arnold (moderator), Chair-Elect, Cannabis Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, Monroe County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, *Monroe*

4:45pm/Thursday

Update on the Federal Policy Landscape Including Congress and the Executive Branch

The prospects for federal cannabis legalization are evolving rapidly. Examine the factors responsible for these changes, gain an overview of the existing political and legal landscape, and explore what the future holds for marijuana policy reform in the United States.

John Hudak, The Brookings Institution, *Washington, DC*

6:00pm/Thursday

Networking Reception

Relax and join conference faculty, section council members, exhibitors, fellow registrants, and guests for an evening reception.

9:00am/Friday

Marijuana Regulatory Update

The commercial marijuana industry is growing in Michigan and national reform is likely on the horizon. The Marijuana Regulatory Agency continues its mission of protecting consumers while providing opportunities for businesses to thrive in a continuously evolving environment. MRA Executive Director Andrew Brisbo will discuss the agency's goals, potential policy shifts at the state and federal level, and highlight important changes in administrative rules.

Andrew Brisbo, Marijuana Regulatory Agency, *Lansing*

9:45am/Friday

Cannabis...It's Not Just Marijuana

Cannabis law practice is not just marijuana-related. Join us for a speedy journey through the world of industrial hemp from the perspectives of state and federal regulation, farming and business, and medical use. Instructive scenarios will illustrate best practices.

Michelle R.E. Donovan (moderator), Clark Hill PLC, *Detroit*; Russ Cersosimo, Hemp Synergistics, *Leetsdale, PA*; Dave Crabill, IHemp Michigan, *Ferrysburg*; Molly Mott, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, *Lansing*; Brooke Weingarden, Birmingham Maple Clinic, *Troy*

11:00am/Friday

Getting to Yes: Strategies to Convince Municipalities to Opt In and for Securing Local Licensing

Passing three marijuana statutes was only half the battle. In a municipal climate historically resistant to marijuana, the MMFLA and MRTMA local control provisions have added widespread confusion, copious litigation, and in some areas, an industry standstill. How can we convince communities to welcome the licensed marijuana industry in such a climate? We will explore strategies for defeating statutory barriers and the drug war mindset to get municipalities to say yes, and your clients licensed.

Catherine P. Kaufman, Bauckham Sparks Thall Seeber & Kaufman PC, *Portage*; Denise A. Pollicella, Pollicella PLLC, *Howell*

11:40am/Friday

Networking Lunch on Premises with Hot Topic Discussions

Enjoy lunch with colleagues, share your thoughts on the conference's most thought-provoking topics, and get your questions answered.

4:00pm/Friday

Justice in the Cannabis Space

Cannabis has been legally prohibited and criminalized for the past 50 years. It has come at a great cost with hundreds of thousands of criminal records, imprisonment, lost jobs, racism, and minority oppression. It will take a

herculean effort to restore justice and provide reparations to those historically disadvantaged by cannabis prohibition. Panelists will discuss their respective organization's activities and their collective goals for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the cannabis industry.

Barton W. Morris, Jr. (moderator), Law Offices of Barton Morris, *Royal Oak*; Sarah Gersten, The Last Prisoner Project, *Denver, CO*; Yousef Rabhi, Michigan House of Representatives, *Lansing*; Eli Savit, Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office, *Ann Arbor*

5:15pm/Friday

Networking Cocktail Hour

Enjoy drinks with colleagues and great networking, plus the Cannabis Law Section Trailblazer Award will be presented to John Sinclair.

8:00pm/Friday

Afterglow Party Sponsored by Ayar Law Firm

Evening fun with friends and colleagues.

9:00am/Saturday

Weighing the Costs and Benefits of Legalization

Marijuana legalization provides tangible public benefits, but also causes legitimate concerns. Learn about the positive and negative consequences of marijuana reform in a crash course from The Brookings Institution's leading marijuana policy expert.

John Hudak, The Brookings Institution, *Washington, DC*

10:10am/Saturday

Getting High with Friends: Events, Consumption Lounges, and Other Specialty Licenses

Learn how to effectively serve clients seeking cannabis events, consumption lounges and special licenses types in Michigan. Grasp how they are regulated at the state and local levels today and understand where the law is headed. Draw on the experience of Colorado and California and the hurdles presented with these license types in other states.

Robert A. Hendricks, Warner Norcross + Judd, *Grand Rapids*; Amanda Ostrowitz, Fyllo, *Chicago, IL*

CLE: 10.25 | Level: Basic/Intermediate/Advanced

11:10am/Saturday

MMMA, MMFLA, and MRTMA, Oh My! Consolidation Update and Q&A

Get practical insights on legislative updates to Michigan's cannabis statutes so that you can effectively advise clients on transitioning to new licensing structures. Plus, get all your pressing questions answered by the experts.

John William Fraser (moderator), Chair, Cannabis Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, Grewal Law PLLC, *Okemos*; Cheyenne Benyi, Grewal Law PLLC, *Okemos*; Daniel W. Grow, Daniel W. Grow PLLC, *St. Joseph*; Christopher S. Patterson, Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC, *Okemos*

11:55am/Saturday

Closing Remarks

Allison M. Arnold, Chair-Elect, Cannabis Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, Monroe County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, *Monroe*

Core Concepts Track

1:00pm/Friday

Michigan's Marijuana Licensing 101

Get the critical guidance you need to apply for commercial medical and adult use marijuana licenses. Plus, grasp the regulatory requirements, initial licensing application and social equity process, license amendments and renewals, and other required reporting notifications.

Thomas M. J. Lavigne, Cannabis Counsel®, *Detroit*; Roma P. Thurin, Thurin Law Group PLLC, *Livonia*

1:40pm/Friday

Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana: a New Standard?

In Michigan, legalization of medical and recreational marijuana has led to confusion as to the marijuana driving law. Gain answers to the most common questions about driving under the influence of marijuana. Does marijuana impair driving? How does Michigan test for driving while high? How long after using/smoking marijuana can one safely drive? Plus, get an overview of the Michigan Court of Appeals decision, *People v Dupre*.

Bruce Alan Block, Bruce Alan Block PLC, *Grand Rapids*; Kenneth Stecker, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, *Lansing*

2:35pm/Friday

Making Weed-Work, Work

Join the Pleasantrees legal team's discussion of best practices concerning the development, maintenance, and management of a cannabis workforce in order to maximize productivity, maintain employee satisfaction, and minimize rotations of the revolving door. Without a doubt, the specialized nature of the cannabis industry can make the navigation of seemingly simple employment issues far more complicated. Gain lessons learned and unpack strategies that every leader in the space needs to know.

Jerome Crawford, Pleasantrees Cannabis Company, *Harrison Twp*; Benjamin M. Sobczak, Pleasantrees Cannabis Company, *Harrison Twp*

3:20pm/Friday

Protecting Cannabusiness Innovation: Marijuana, CBD, Industrial Hemp

Cannabis businesses are introducing new product types and creative brand strategies, and counsel is expected to have answers for complicated issues in an ever-changing landscape. Learn the types of IP protection available for cannabis companies and the best strategies for building a robust IP portfolio that allows your client to expand their business. Examine the impact of the Farm Bill on IP protection and whether descheduling of marijuana will address the brand protection and enforcement limitations under current law.

Shabnam Malek, Brand & Branch LLP, *Oakland, CA*

Business Track

1:00pm/Friday

Overview of Tax Issues Related to the Cannabis Industry

With marijuana still being illegal at the federal level, the tax obligations at the federal level versus state and local levels can be quite different and confusing. Learn about all of the tax obligations that apply to marijuana businesses (recreational

and medical), and how to reconcile those differences within your business tax practice.

Venar Raad Ayar, Ayar Law, *Farmington Hills*

1:40pm/Friday

Investing in Cannabis: Securities Law Compliance in the Marijuana Industry

Learn the practical application of federal and state securities laws to raising money in the marijuana industry. Assess various options in raising capital from debt to equity and public to private capital. Meet the additional challenges of compliance and disclosure requirements, and know the risks of failing to comply.

Matthew D. Johnson, Warner Norcross + Judd, *Grand Rapids*

2:35pm/Friday

Cannabis Industry Mergers & Acquisitions: Essential Concepts

The Michigan cannabis industry has become intensely transaction-heavy amid continued growth, fluidity, and an influx of non-operator investors. Review the essential elements of mergers, acquisitions, and related transactions for these highly regulated and still federally illegal businesses. Explore key concepts for creating and keeping your clients both compliant and risk averse while providing them the flexibility to flourish.

Denise A. Pollicella, Pollicella PLLC, *Howell*

3:20pm/Friday

Occupational Safety and Health in the Cannabis Industry

Identify Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) agriculture, general industry, and construction standards that potentially might apply to the cannabis industry. Review specific standards including hazard communication, personal protective equipment, noise, air contaminants, medical services, and first aid/sanitation, and learn about MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training Services.

Anthony R. Smykla, Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration—MIOSHA, *Lansing*

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D. Optional Events

Networking Reception (09/23/21)

Networking Cocktail Hour (09/24/21)

Afterglow Party Sponsored by Ayar Law Firm (09/24/21)

FREE for Registrants

\$45 for Additional Guest

E. Can't Attend the Conference?

Non-Registrants—Purchase the Electronic Materials.

\$195 Non-ICLE Partners

\$136.50 ICLE Partners

B. Conference Registration | Pick One

\$395 General

\$295 Cosponsor Section Member

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\$295 per Registrant (4+ Registrants from the Same Firm)¹

Special Registration

FREE Judges (Limit 40)²

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F. Payment Info

Conference Registration (Box B) \$ _____

Add \$25 for Print Handbook (Optional, Box C) \$ _____

Networking Events (Box D) \$ _____

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(Add 6% MI Sales Tax to This Line Only)

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Please make your payment online with credit card:

www.icle.org/cannabislaw

Need help? Call ICLE at 877-229-4350. During COVID-19, we are not able to accept credit card payment by phone or mail.

Alternate payment option:

If you need to pay by check, please mail form with payment to:
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C. Materials Format | Pick One

FREE Electronic Materials

\$25 Print Handbook and Electronic Materials

Prices guaranteed until 09/25/21. Cannot combine discounts. ¹Please attach additional sheet listing registrants attending. All registrations must be submitted and paid for at the same time. ²Current sitting state court judges (limit 40) attend free and must call ICLE or submit order form to register. **Complete Seminar Policies:** www.icle.org/info/seminarpolicies. **Cancellation Policy:** For a full refund, notify ICLE by 09/09/21. Registrants who cancel after that date will be charged a \$60 cancellation fee. No refunds will be issued after 09/16/21. **Persons with Disabilities or Dietary Restrictions:** For special arrangements please contact ICLE no later than seven days before the seminar.

Accommodations: A block of rooms has been reserved at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mt. Pleasant under ICLE/Cannabis Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan for 09/22–24/21. The room rate is \$159/night. Please call 1-888-7EAGLE7 to reserve a room. Reservations must be made by 09/02/21. Registrants are responsible for their own hotel expenses.