



SEPTEMBER 26–28, 2024 | RADISSON PLAZA HOTEL, KALAMAZOO

9TH ANNUAL

# Cannabis Law Conference

Presented by  
Cannabis Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan

In Cooperation with  
**INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION**

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**New Location This Year!**  
Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center

# Michigan's Premier Cannabis Law Event

Join us at our new location—the conveniently located Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center. Get timely insights from the entire cannabis law community. It's perfect whether you're experienced in cannabis law or ready to jump into this ever-evolving area.

National speaker Paul Armentano from NORML is back to keep you current on the federal policy landscape, as well as the effects of higher-potency THC products on mental health. Executive Director Brian Hanna and Legal Section Manager Alyssa Grissom of the Cannabis Regulatory Agency (CRA) give an update on the new rules and more. State Senator Jeff Irwin and Hazel Park City Council member Luke Londo break down efforts to decriminalize entheogenics.

You will be able to:

- Rub elbows with the new CRA executive director and get updated on new rules
- Stay current on the political and legal landscape, both state and federal
- Advise dispensary owners on the “dangers” of high-potency THC
- Hear from elected officials on the role of entheogenics in Michigan
- Grasp what may or may not be legal in light of potential Farm Bill amendments
- Get insights straight from the Michigan Commercial Receivership Association director
- Prepare your clients for banking issues and ensure compliance

## Networking Opportunities

End each day with fun and relaxing networking receptions. You can even bring a guest for a small fee. Friday's reception includes a presentation of the Cannabis Law Section's Trailblazer Award. Stick around for the Afterglow Party sponsored by Veritas Law Group and held off-site at the firm's Kalamazoo office.

Plus, new this year, there's an optional dispensary tour immediately following Thursday's reception. Details will be provided at the event.

## The Best Local and National Speakers



**Brian Hanna**  
Cannabis Regulatory Agency, *Lansing*

Brian is executive director of the CRA, having previously served as the agency's manager of field operations, inspections, and investigations. He gets you up to speed on new rules and more.



**Jeff Irwin**  
Michigan State Senate, *Lansing*

State Senator Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) was elected in 2018 and has worked to allow more juvenile offenders to seal their records and expunge cannabis-related offenses. He talks all things entheogenics.



**Denise A. Pollicella**  
Pollicella Law Group PLLC, *Lansing*

Denise has 28 years of experience in private and corporate practice, focusing on corporate counseling, M&A, and regulatory compliance. She shares strategies for handling licensing contracts.



**Allison Smith**  
G.W. Jones Exchange Bank, *Marcellus*

Allison is vice president of relationship banking, marketing director, and chief compliance officer for the bank, among other roles. She gives insider tips on cannabis banking and compliance.

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# Schedule

CLE: 10 | Level: Basic/Intermediate/Advanced

## Plenary Sessions

3:00pm–4:30pm/Thursday  
**Registration**

4:00pm/Thursday  
**Cannabis Law Section  
Annual Meeting**

Led by the current chair of the Cannabis Law Section. Attendance at the Section Annual Meeting does not require registration for the *Cannabis Law Conference*.

Barton W. Morris, Jr., The Law Offices of Barton W. Morris, *Troy*

4:30pm/Thursday  
**Welcome Remarks and  
Announcements**

Hear from the incoming chair of the Cannabis Law Section.

Michelle R.E. Donovan, Esperance Donovan, *Mount Clemens*

4:45pm/Thursday  
**Update on the Federal Policy  
Landscape Including Congress  
and the Executive Branch**

The prospects for federal cannabis rescheduling 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 cannabis policy in the United States.

Paul Armentano, National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), *Washington, DC*

6:00pm/Thursday  
**Networking Reception**

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

8:00am/Friday  
**Registration, Continental  
Breakfast, and Vendor Showcase**

9:00am/Friday  
**Policy Update from the Michigan  
Cannabis Industry Association**

Gain an overview of the MCIA's legislative and regulatory priorities for 2024. The executive director will cover future legislative goals including the need for merging

medical and recreational licenses, addressing intoxicating hemp products, and more. Additionally, learn about the association's efforts to improve the department's rule promulgation process, overcome regulatory obstacles, improve outdated policies, and ensure strong member participation.

Robin Schneider, Michigan Cannabis Industry Association, *Lansing*

9:45am/Friday  
**Cannabis Regulatory  
Agency Update**

Get the most current status of the cannabis industry, an update about the new rules, and the future of cannabis regulation in the state of Michigan.

Alyssa A. Grissom, Cannabis Regulatory Agency, *Lansing*; Brian Hanna, Cannabis Regulatory Agency, *Lansing*

10:30am/Friday  
**Networking Break**

10:45am/Friday  
**Does Potency Matter? Real Talk  
About THC and Mental Health**

Claims that today's marijuana "isn't your father's pot" date back decades, while allegations that cannabis smoking triggers mental illness date back more than a century. But do these claims have any legitimacy? Should the advent of higher-potency THC products, like concentrates, be a cause for alarm? Explore the origins of these claims and separate myths from facts when it comes to the alleged "new" dangers that high-THC poses to consumers' health.

Paul Armentano, National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), *Washington, DC*

11:45am/Friday  
**Networking Lunch on Premises**

Enjoy lunch with faculty and colleagues.

2:25pm/Friday  
**Networking Break**

3:30pm/Friday  
**Entheogenics in Michigan**

Hear from elected officials about efforts to decriminalize entheogenic substances in Michigan at the state and local level, the conflict between the way these substances are classified and how they're

used, and the parallels to the effort to legalize cannabis.

Jeff Irwin, Michigan State Senate, *Lansing*; Luke Londo, Hazel Park City Council, *Hazel Park*

4:10pm/Friday  
**Farm Bill, Intoxicating Cannabinoids,  
and "De"-Legalization?**

The Farm Bill opened the door to a national, unregulated, intoxicating cannabinoid market. That new subindustry has the potential to fully eclipse state-legal marijuana businesses. Hemp farmers, state regulators, and aggressive-minded hemp manufacturers are all jockeying for position in anticipation of 2024 Farm Bill amendments, and some marijuana MSOs are taking a "can't beat 'em so join 'em" approach. This dynamic session will discuss what's legal, what shouldn't be legal, and what the future may hold for a national hemp, and by implication, future marijuana landscape.

Benjamin D. Joffe, Benjamin D. Joffe PLLC, *Ann Arbor*; Benjamin M. Sobczak, Dickinson Wright PLLC, *Troy*

5:10pm/Friday  
**Networking Reception  
Sponsored by Ayar Law**  
Enjoy drinks and relax with friends and colleagues, plus the Cannabis Law Section Trailblazer Award presentation.

8:00pm/Friday  
**Afterglow Party Sponsored  
by Veritas Law Group**  
Evening fun with friends and colleagues held off-site at the firm's Kalamazoo location.

8:00am/Saturday  
**Registration, Continental  
Breakfast, and Vendor Showcase**

9:00am/Saturday  
**Handle Enforcement Issues**

Admin hearings and litigation about cannabis violations are on everyone's radar and will likely continue to trend. Hear from the folks who are doing a high volume of these matters. Get tips and tricks and best practices to effectively deal with disciplinary enforcement issues with the CRA.

John W. Fraser, Dykema, *Lansing*; Kristina M. Munsters, Warner Norcross + Judd LLP, *Grand*

*Rapids*; Benjamin M. Sobczak, Dickinson Wright PLLC, *Troy*

10:00am/Saturday

## Criminal Law Update 2024

“Wait—I thought it was legal!” While MRTMA protects many activities relating to cannabis, the courts are still addressing challenges and prosecutions regarding the nature and scope of what is allowed in Michigan. Get the most recent developments (like *People v Kejbou*), cases pending before the appellate courts, search issues (is the smell of cannabis a basis to search), and other practical tips and guidance. This will be an informative session for all lawyers, not just those with a focus on criminal defense.

Daniel W. Grow, Daniel W. Grow PLLC, *St. Joseph*

10:45am/Saturday

## Networking Break

11:00am/Saturday

## Navigating the Storm: Receiverships in the Cannabis Market

Determine when the appointment of a receiver is appropriate. Differentiate the types of receivership; the standards for appointing a receiver; and the applicable licensing, banking, taxing, and regulatory laws governing a receiver in the cannabis industry. Review disposition options including operating the company as is, restructuring operations to maximize profit, or closing shop and liquidating the business.

John W. Polderman, Simon PLC Attorneys & Counselors, *Troy*; Frank R. Simon, Simon PLC Attorneys & Counselors, *Troy*

11:55am/Saturday

## Wrap-Up and Closing Remarks

Michelle R.E. Donovan, Esperance Donovan, *Mount Clemens*

## Core Concepts Track

1:00pm/Friday

### Cannabis Compliance 101

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Review common compliance issues, from licensing to operations, and

best practices for staying compliant and avoiding enforcement actions and fines.

Kristina M. Munsters, Warner Norcross + Judd LLP, *Grand Rapids*

1:45pm/Friday

### Negotiate and Draft Management and Licensing Contracts

Gain strategies for negotiating, drafting, and filing licensing and management services agreements that meet the requirements of Rules 420.1(c)(ii) (D), 420.14, 420.112a, and other Joint Administrative Rules. Review the essential terms and clauses required for each, and more importantly, what language to avoid. Identify whether and when these agreements are needed, how and when to file them, and the potential risks for your client. Get an idea of what the future regulatory landscape holds.

Craig A. Aronoff, Aronoff Law, *Royal Oak*; Denise A. Pollicella, Pollicella Law Group PLLC, *Lansing*

2:40pm/Friday

### Occupational Safety and Health in the Michigan Cannabis Industry

Get the latest observations and a review of the MIOSHA standards and the health and safety risks in the cannabis industry from MIOSHA.

Keith Langworthy, MIOSHA, *Lansing*

## Business Track

1:00pm/Friday

### Succession Planning with Licenses and Cannabis Businesses

Get an introduction to estate planning and administration for cannabis business owners. Pick up drafting techniques for compliant structural safeguards and best practices for cannabis businesses. Review regulatory reporting obligations and practical considerations regarding administration upon death or incapacity. Discuss estate and gift tax considerations for cannabis business valuations.

John W. Fraser, Dykema, *Lansing*; Molly P. Petitjean, Buhl Little Lynwood & Harris PLC, *East Lansing*

## New Location This Year!

The Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center is conveniently located and near everything from local breweries to trendy art studios. Secure your discounted room today: [www.icle.org/cannabislaw/hotel](http://www.icle.org/cannabislaw/hotel).

1:45pm/Friday

### Cannabis Banking and Compliance

In an ever-changing regulatory landscape, the current market for cannabis banking and compliance and how to successfully navigate it will be covered. Gain insight on current trends in legislation impacting cannabis banking for all sectors from ancillary businesses to plant touching. Additionally, learn how your clients should prepare for a banking conversation, what to expect with the account opening process, and compliance related to cannabis and ancillary accounts.

Nicole Perry, Credit Union 1, *Lombard, IL*; Allison Smith, G.W. Jones Exchange Bank, *Marcellus*

2:40pm/Friday

### Doing Business in a Mature Cannabis Market

Explore the complex intersection of cannabis licensing, corporate structuring, and tax obligations in the current cannabis marketplace. Delve into best practices for navigating regulatory frameworks to include the likely impact of marijuana moving from Schedule I to Schedule III, optimize business operations, and ensure compliance in the ever-evolving cannabis industry.

Matthew Abbo, D & A Advisory Group, *Troy*; Marc E. Seyburn, Seyburn Law PLLC, *Bloomfield Hills*

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### D. Networking Events | Optional

**Networking Reception**  
(09/26/24, 6:00pm-7:00pm)

**Networking Reception Sponsored by Ayar Law**  
(09/27/24, 5:10pm-6:10pm)

**Afterglow Party Sponsored by Veritas Law Group**  
(09/27/24, 8:00pm-10:00pm)

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

\$495 General

\$395 Section Member

\$445 ICLE Partner

\$195 New Lawyer (Not yet reached 4th anniversary date of MI Bar admission)

\$395 per Registrant (4+ Registrants from the Same Firm)<sup>1</sup>.

FREE Judges (Limit 40, must attend in person)<sup>2</sup>

24CI-1172

### C. Materials Format for Conference Registrants | Pick One

FREE Electronic Materials

\$45 Print Handbook<sup>3</sup> and Electronic Materials

### F. Payment Info

Conference Registration (Box B) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Registrants: Add \$45 for  
Print Handbook (Optional, Box C) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Networking Events (Box D) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Materials for Non-Registrants (Box E)  
(Add 6% MI Sales Tax to This Line Only) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your payment online with credit card:  
[www.icle.org/cannabislaw](http://www.icle.org/cannabislaw)

**Alternate payment options:** If you are unable to make your credit card payment online, please call ICLE to process: 877-229-4350. If you need to pay by check, please mail form with payment to: PO Box 1343, Ann Arbor, MI 48106

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Prices guaranteed until 09/26/24. Cannot combine discounts. <sup>1</sup>Please attach additional sheet listing registrants attending. All registrations must be submitted and paid for at the same time. <sup>2</sup>Current sitting state court judges (limit 40) attend in person for free and must call ICLE or submit order form to register. <sup>3</sup>Limit one print handbook purchase per registrant. Print handbooks are nonrefundable after the event cancellation date. **Complete Seminar Policies:** [www.icle.org/info/seminarpolicies](http://www.icle.org/info/seminarpolicies). **Cancellation Policy:** For a full refund, notify ICLE by 09/12/24. Registrants who cancel after that date will be charged a \$60 cancellation fee. No refunds will be issued after 09/19/24. **Walk-in Registrations:** Permitted on a space-available basis or if registrants fail to claim their seat in the first 15 minutes of the seminar. **Persons with Disabilities or Dietary Restrictions:** For special arrangements please contact ICLE no later than seven days before the seminar.

**Accommodations:** A discounted block of rooms has been reserved at Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center in Kalamazoo. Visit [www.icle.org/cannabislaw/hotel](http://www.icle.org/cannabislaw/hotel) or call 269-343-3333 and mention ICLE to reserve a room. Reservations must be made by 09/05/24. Registrants are responsible for their own hotel expenses.