



**CANNABIS REGULATORS ASSOCIATION**

**2024 CANNRA External Stakeholder Meeting**

June 4 & 5, 2024

**AGENDA**

**Monday, June 3**

**7:30 AM – 5:00 PM – Registration**

**Tuesday, June 4**

**7:00 AM – 5:00 PM – Registration**

**7:30 AM – 9:00 AM – Breakfast**

**8:30 AM – 9:00 AM – Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – OPENING PLENARY: A Regulatory Perspective on the Current Landscape – Insights from the CANNRA Board of Directors**

*Tracks: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science; Consumer and Product Safety, Research, and Public Health; Social and Economic Equity*

**Moderator:**

Gillian Schauer, PhD, MPH, Executive Director, Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA)

**Panelists (CANNRA Board):**

Will Tilburg, JD, MPH, Director, Maryland Cannabis Administration, CANNRA President

Dominique Mendiola, JD, Senior Director, Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division; CANNRA President-Elect

Adria Berry, JD, Executive Director, Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority; CANNRA Treasurer

Kirsten Davis-Franklin, MA, Deputy Policy and Legislative Liaison, Illinois Cannabis Regulation Oversight Office;  
CANNRA Board Member

Nicole Elliott, Director, California Department of Cannabis Control; CANNRA Board Member

Amy Moore, JD, Director, Division of Cannabis Regulation, Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services;  
CANNRA Board Member

Andrew Turnage, MEd, Executive Director, Georgia Access to Medical Cannabis Commission; CANNRA Board Member

**10:00 AM – 10:30 AM – Networking Break**

**10:30 AM – 11:45 AM – MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**BREAKOUT SESSION 1: Looking Towards an Interstate and International Commerce Reality: How to Harmonize Policies and Set Standards to Protect Consumers**

*Track: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science*

**Moderator:**

Nicole Elliott, Director, California Department of Cannabis Control; CANNRA Board Member

**Panelists:**

Sephida Artis-Mills, President and Co-Founder, United Empowerment Party

Ross Gordon, Co-Founder, National Craft Cannabis Coalition

Adam Smith, JD, President, Alliance for Sensible Markets

David Vaillencourt, MSc, Founder & Board Chair, S3 Collective; Founder & CEO, GMP Collective

## **BREAKOUT SESSION 2: Cannabis and Hemp Regulations in Tribal Nations and Indigenous Communities**

*Track: Social and Economic Equity*

### **Moderator:**

Dominique Mendiola, JD, Senior Director, Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division; CANNRA President-Elect

### **Panelists:**

Lisa Brunner, MTAG, Chairwoman, Medicinal Cannabis Control Commission, White Earth Tribal Nation

Bill Hayes, Director of Administration, Inter-Tribal Cannabis Commission

Mary Jane Oatman, MA, Executive Director, Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association

Eric Steenstra, Executive Director, Vote Hemp

## **BREAKOUT SESSION 3: Worker Safety and Protections in the Cannabis and Cannabinoid Industry**

*Track: Consumer and Product Safety, Research, and Public Health*

### **Moderator:**

Lila McKinley, JD, State Program Director, State of Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection

### **Panelists:**

Megan Carvalho, MSW, Organizing Coordinator, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

Bradley King, PhD, MPH, CIH, Industrial Hygienist, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Dru O'Rourke, Program Manager, National Safety Council

Jeremy Unruh, JD, MBA, Board Member, Coalition for Cannabis Scheduling Reform

## **11:45 AM – 12:45 PM – Lunch**

OPTIONAL: Tribal Regulators Lunch & Discussion with the Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association

## **12:45 PM – 1:45 PM – PLENARY: Charting a Regulatory Path Forward for State-Regulated Cannabis and Cannabinoid Hemp in the U.S.)**

*Track: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science*

### **Moderator:**

Gillian Schauer, PhD, MPH, Executive Director, Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA)

### **Panelists:**

Norman Birenbaum, Senior Public Health Advisor, Food and Drug Administration

Michael Bronstein, President, American Trade Association for Cannabis and Hemp

Chris Fontes, President, US Hemp Authority

Rod Kight, JD, Attorney, Kight Law Office PC

Amber Senter, Executive Director, Supernova Women

## **2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

### **BREAKOUT SESSION 1: Data-Driven Insights About the Evolution of Cannabis and Cannabinoid Markets and Consumers**

*Track: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science*

### **Moderator:**

Amy Moore, JD, Director, Division of Cannabis Regulation Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; CANNRA Board Member

### **Panelists:**

Adam Crabtree, MBA, MS, Chief Executive Officer, NCS Analytics

David Hammond, PhD, Professor, School of Public Health Sciences, University of Waterloo

Steve Kemmerling, Chief Executive Officer, CRB Monitor

Amanda Reiman, PhD, MSW, Chief Knowledge Officer, New Frontier Data

**BREAKOUT SESSION 2: Regulatory Approaches to Address Public Health Concerns About High Concentration THC products**

*Track: Consumer and Product Safety, Research, and Public Health*

**Moderator:**

Jesus Alcazar, Chief of Staff, New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission

**Panelists:**

Jonathan Caulkins, PhD, Stever University Professor of Operations Research, Carnegie Mellon University

Morgan Fox, Political Director, National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML)

Henny Lasley, Co-Founder and Executive Director, One Chance to Grow Up

Jordan Wellington, JD, Partner, Strategies 64

**BREAKOUT SESSION 3: Improving Access and Market Opportunities for Veterans in Cannabis**

*Track: Social and Economic Equity*

**Moderator:**

Brian Hanna (Veteran, U.S. Army), Executive Director, Michigan Cannabis Regulatory Agency

**Panelists:**

Leo Bridgewater (Veteran, U.S. Army), Co-Founder, Service Disabled Veterans in Cannabis Association

George Hodgins (Veteran, U.S. Navy), MBA, CEO, Biopharmaceutical Research Company

Leslie Lundahl, PhD, Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, Wayne State University

Amber Senter (Veteran, U.S. Coast Guard), Executive Director, Supernova Women

**3:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Networking Break**

**3:30 PM – 4:30 PM – PLENARY: Supporting the Lifecycle of an Equity Licensee – What Happens After Licensing and How Can Policy & Regulation Help Licensees Succeed**

*Track: Social and Economic Equity*

**Moderator:**

Kirsten Davis-Franklin, Deputy Policy and Legislative Liaison, Illinois Cannabis Regulation Oversight Office; CANNRA Board Member; Co-Chair, CANNRA Social and Economic Equity Committee

**Panelists:**

Sabrina Bergen, JD, Senior Vice President, American Bankers Association

Tahir Johnson, President, Minority Cannabis Business Association

Scheril Murray Powell, Esq, Board Member, The JUSTUS Foundation; Founder, Cannabis HR Council

Erin Thurmond, Fellow, The JUSTUS Foundation

Ernest Toney, MS, Founder and CEO, BIPOCann

**4:35 PM – 5:15 PM – CANNRA Regulator Insights and Reflections from the Day**

**Moderator:**

Will Tilburg, JD, Director, Maryland Cannabis Administration; CANNRA President

**Panelists:**

Kristan Barbour, Administrator, Montana Cannabis Control Division

Jessica Burgess, JD, Deputy General Counsel, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

Will Lukela, Agency Director, Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board

Michele Nakata, JD, Program Manager, Hawaii Department of Health

**6:00 PM – 9:00 PM – Welcome Reception\***

*\*The Welcome Reception is funded with meeting registration fees and is open to any meeting attendee. You will need your badge for entry. The reception will include a no-host bar and appetizers.*

## **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5**

**7:30 AM – 3:00 PM – Registration**

**7:30 AM – 9:00 AM – Breakfast**

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM – PLENARY: Cannabis Rescheduling in the U.S. – What are the Potential Implications for States and Licensees?**

*Track: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science*

**Moderator:**

Will Tilburg, JD, Director, Maryland Cannabis Administration; CANNRA President

**Panelists:**

Saphira Galoob, JD, Executive Director, National Cannabis Roundtable

Khurshid Khoja, JD, Co-Chair Policy Council, National Cannabis Industry Association

Andrew Kline, JD, MPA, Co-Chair, Cannabis Industry Group, Perkins Coie LLP; Legal & Policy Counsel, Coalition for Cannabis Scheduling Reform

Cat Packer, JD, Director of Drug Markets and Legal Regulation, Drug Policy Alliance

Steph Sherer, Executive Director, Americans for Safe Access

**10:00 AM – 10:30 AM – Networking Break**

**10:30 AM – 11:45 AM – MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**BREAKOUT SESSION 1: How do Policies Affect Patients? Scientific and Policy Insights on Patient Outcomes and Access to Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoids**

*Track: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science*

**Moderator:**

David Rak, MPH, Research Manager, Medical Cannabis Program, Minnesota Department of Health; Former Co-Chair, CANNRA Committee for Medical Use & Research

**Panelists:**

Mitch Doucette, PhD, MS, Research Director, Leafwell

Steph Sherer, Executive Director, Americans for Safe Access

Jordan Tishler, MD, President, Association of Cannabinoid Specialists

Ryan Vandrey, PhD, Professor, Johns Hopkins University

**BREAKOUT SESSION 2: Improving Product Safety – Future Directions in Lab Testing and cGMP**

*Track: Consumer and Product Safety, Research, and Public Health*

**Moderator:**

Lori Dodson, MS, MT(ASCP), Senior Advisor, Maryland Cannabis Administration; Co-Chair, CANNRA Lab Testing & Product Safety Committee

**Panelists:**

Warren Merkel, MEd, Vice President, ANSI National Accreditation Board

Alena Rodriguez, MSc, Technical Director, S3 Collective

Nandu Sarma, PhD, MPharm, Director Dietary Supplements and Herbal Medicines, United States Pharmacopeia

Cassie Taylor, PhD, Public Health Advisor, Food and Drug Administration

**BREAKOUT SESSION 3: Defining Equity – From Market Impacts to Future Harmonization**

*Track: Social and Economic Equity*

**Moderator:**

Wesley McWhite, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission; Co-Chair, CANNRA Committee on Social and Economic Equity

**Panelists:**

Sephida Artis-Mills, President and Co-Founder, United Empowerment Party

Scheril Murray Powell, Esq., Board Member, The JUSTÜS Foundation; Founder, Cannabis HR Council

Jason Ortiz, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Last Prisoner Project

**11:45 AM – 12:45 PM – Lunch**

**12:45 PM – 1:45 PM – PLENARY: What is Appealing to Youth? Impacts of Packaging, Labeling, and Advertising Policy**

*Track: Consumer and Product Safety, Research & Public Health*

**Moderator:**

Anthony Geltosky, JD, Policy Analyst, Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission

**Panelists:**

Michael Cooper, JD, Co-Chair of the Policy Council and Board Secretary, National Cannabis Industry Association

Darwin Millard, Technical Director, Cannabis Safety & Quality

Rachel O'Bryan, JD, Co-Founder and Strategic Projects Director, One Chance to Grow Up

Alisa Padon, PhD, Research Scientist, Public Health Institute

**2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**BREAKOUT SESSION 1: THC Cannabinoid Beverages – Is There a Case for a Separate Regulatory Pathway?**

*Track: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science*

**Moderator:**

Charlene Briner, Interim Director, Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management

**Panelists:**

Pamela Epstein, JD, Principal, Hedgeislation, LLC

Christopher Lackner, MA, Executive Director, Hemp Beverage Alliance

Ben Larson, Vice Chair, National Cannabis Industry Association

Traci Toomey, PhD, MPH, Professor, Division of Epidemiology & Community Health, and Director, Cannabis Research Center, University of Minnesota

**BREAKOUT SESSION 2: Research Spotlight: New Findings on the Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids and Policy Implications**

*Track: Consumer and Product Safety, Research, and Public Health*

**Moderator:**

Julie Johnson, PhD, Chief of Research, Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission

**Panelists:**

Staci Gruber, PhD, Director, Marijuana Investigations for Neuroscientific Discovery, McLean Hospital; Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School

Rosalie Pacula, PhD, Professor and Elizabeth Garrett Chair in Health Policy, Economics, and Law, Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California

Susan Weiss, PhD, Director, Division of Extramural Research, National Institute on Drug Abuse

**BREAKOUT SESSION 3: Preserving and Enhancing Equity as Markets and Consumers Shift Towards Cannabinoid Hemp**

*Track: Social and Economic Equity*

**Moderator:**

Erin Johnson, JD, MA, Cannabis Regulation Oversight Officer, Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

**Panelists:**

Chelsea Higgs Wise, MSW, Executive Director, Marijuana Justice

Amber Littlejohn, JD, Of Counsel, Ice Miller

Mike Lomuto, Board Chair, Minority Cannabis Business Association

Jessica Tonani, MS, Board Representative, Association of Western Hemp Professionals

**3:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Networking Break**

**3:30 PM – 4:25 PM – CLOSING PLENARY: International Cannabis Policy and Regulation – Implications for Public Health, Consumer Safety, and Equity**

*Tracks: Emerging Topics in Regulatory Science; Consumer and Product Safety, Research, and Public Health; Social and Economic Equity*

**Moderator:**

John Hudak, PhD, Director, Maine Office of Cannabis Policy

**Panelists:**

Jason Adelstone, JD, Attorney, Vicente LLP

Pete Meachum, Board Member, Cannabis Council of Canada (C3)

Jessica Gonzalez, JD, Board Member, Supernova Women

Marie-Christine Stikvoort-Ydema, LLM, Legal Advisor, Inspectorate of Justice and Security, Netherlands

Matthew Wilson, MA, Division Director, Global Drug Policy, Open Society Foundations

**4:30 PM – 5:05 PM – Closing Insights and Reflections from Regulators**

**Moderator:**

Dominique Mendiola, JD, Senior Director, Colorado Marijuana Enforcement Division, CANNRA President-Elect

**Panelists:**

Shawn Casey, JD, Deputy Chief Officer – Regulatory, Policy & External Affairs, Virginia Cannabis Control Authority

Wesley McWhite, Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission

Rich Oborn, MPA, Director of Center for Medical Cannabis, Utah Department of Health and Human Services

Patricia Szappanos-Hart, Cannabis Program Director, Tennessee Department of Agriculture

**5:05 PM – 5:15 PM – Closing Remarks**