

Guam Virtual Cannabis Workshop

July 8, 8:15am (ChST)

July 7, 6:15pm (EST)

Hosted by Attorney General
Leevin Camacho



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Hafa Adai and Welcome to the Guam Virtual Cannabis Workshop!

Implementing an adult-use cannabis program presents complicated legal and policy questions that impact a range of stakeholders, including policy makers, regulators, industry actors, law enforcement, and the public at large. Collaboration, despite differing opinions, is crucial. In 2019, the Legislature passed, and Governor Leon Guerrero signed into law, the Cannabis Industry Act of 2019. Over the past several years, the Cannabis Control Board has worked hard to develop a first set of rules and regulations. Our office will continue to find ways to support the Board in its development of a legally sound regulatory structure.

As your Attorney General, I am committed to bringing Guam's stakeholders together with subject matter experts who have successfully led and advised implementation efforts. As you can see from the biographies below, collectively our panel of experts has nearly *fifty years of experience* in the cannabis legal and regulatory field (quite a lot considering that the industry has been legal for roughly 10 years!) We are grateful for their time and commitment.

From consultations with Attorneys General and regulators across the country, I have learned that adult-use cannabis implementation is a process that requires a constant gathering of data and feedback, adjustments to law and regulation, and proactive education to industry and consumers alike. I hope this Virtual Workshop generates the type of discussion and collaboration that will lead to a safe and stable regulatory environment.

senseramente,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Cruz', written in a cursive style.

Panelists Biographies



Bruce Turcott

Legal Editor, AGA Cannabis Law Deskbook

Bruce Turcott is Legal Editor of the Attorney General Alliance’s Cannabis Law Deskbook, a broad, in-depth accounting of the complexities found in the ever-evolving field of cannabis law, authored by public sector attorneys and staff who are on the front lines in implementing groundbreaking cannabis adult-use and medical programs. Bruce is responsible for updating Deskbook content as needed to reflect developments in cannabis law across all states and territories and to provide guidance to those engaged in this arena of law and policy.

Bruce was a Senior Counsel in the Washington Attorney General’s Office, Licensing and Administrative Law Division, until retiring in early 2022. As lead counsel for the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB), he advised the state of

Washington for nearly 10 years on implementing the world’s first cannabis licensing system from scratch, including the nation’s first tribal-state cannabis compacts, defended legal challenges to the legalization initiative, and co-chaired an Attorney General’s Office work group to coordinate legal advice across state agencies. He chaired the informal cannabis working group of the National Association of Attorneys General and is a frequent presenter consulted by U.S. jurisdictions and Canada.

Bruce also advised WSLCB on liquor, tobacco, and vapor products law. Prior to his taking a leading role in cannabis law, he advised numerous business and professional licensing programs for the Department of Licensing, advised the Board of Accountancy and the Executive Ethics Board, and served as a legislative liaison for the Department of Social and Health Services. Bruce was an assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Chief of Law for the Federated States of Micronesia.

Bruce was a law clerk for Washington Supreme Court Justice Barbara Durham. He has a J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law, master’s degree in higher education from the University of Washington, and bachelor’s

degree in anthropology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Bruce and his wife, from Sokehs, Sekere, Pohnpei, have two sons born on Pohnpei.



Kathy Hoffman

Rules Manager, Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board

Katherine Hoffman, PhD, MPA serves as the Policy & Rules Manager for the Washington State Liquor & Cannabis Board. She began her career as a general practice paralegal in 1993, working with her husband in municipal, criminal and family matters. She has served the last sixteen years in Washington state government at the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Health, and Health Care Authority working on a variety of issues including Medicaid false claims and anti-kickback litigation, implementation of opioid prescribing reform law, and the development of cannabis, vapor, and alcohol policy, legislation and regulation. She holds both Doctorate and Master's degrees in Leadership and Change from Antioch University Midwest; a Master's degree in public administration with a concentration in public policy, and a Bachelor's degree in political science, both from The Evergreen State College. Her dissertation, *Toward Socially Equitable Conditions: Change in Complex Regulatory Systems*, is scheduled to be published in late summer of 2022. She is a contributing author to the Cannabis Law Deskbook, and has published peer reviewed work in the American Journal of Leadership and Ethics. Her research interest includes complexity theory and complex regulatory systems.



Sundie Seefried

President and Founder, Safe Harbor Financial

Sundie Seefried is Founder and President/CEO of Safe Harbor Financial, the leading provider of reliable banking and financing solutions to the cannabis industry.

A 39-year credit union industry veteran, Seefried was the former CEO of Partner Colorado Credit Union (PCCU). Established in 2015 by PCCU, Safe Harbor was formed to provide an unmet need – compliant banking and financial services to the rapidly growing U.S. cannabis industry. Seefried designed a full scope Cannabis Banking Program for PCCU known as the Safe Harbor program, which has withstood the scrutiny of 16 federal and state exams to date. Now in its 8th year, Safe Harbor has grown to nearly 600 accounts spanning 20 states, and processed over \$12 billion in cannabis-related transactions.

Seefried regularly provides cannabis banking education and expertise to legislators, regulators, attorneys generals, state officials, and financial institutions. She is on a mission to normalize banking for the cannabis industry, while assisting law enforcement and federal agencies to be more effective at combating illicit activities and protecting the financial system.

To share her knowledge, Seefried authored the book ‘Navigating Safe Harbor – Cannabis Banking in Uncertain Times’ in 2016, as well as contributed a chapter on cannabis banking in the university textbook ‘The Politics of Marijuana: A New Paradigm’ by Timothy McGettigan.



Norman Birenbaum

President, Pear Tree Strategies (Founder Cannabis Regulators Association, former Director of Cannabis Programs, State of New York)

Norman Birenbaum is one of the country’s preeminent cannabis policy advisors and regulatory experts. Norman has served as the chief cannabis regulator and policy official for the states of New York and Rhode Island. Mr. Birenbaum was also the founding President of the Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA), an association whose members represent the primary cannabis regulatory agencies from across the country. CANNRA provides a forum for regulators to engage with each other and external stakeholders to identify and develop best practices and model policies. CANNRA also provides policy makers and regulatory agencies with the resources to make informed decisions when considering whether and how to legalize and regulate cannabis.

In 2019 Norman was appointed as New York State’s first Director of Cannabis Programs. Norman oversaw the regulation, administration, and policy development for New York State’s medical marijuana and industrial hemp industries and lead the state’s efforts to legalize cannabis for adult-use. This work resulted in the passage of the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA) legalizing cannabis for adult-use and creating a consolidated Office of Cannabis Management to oversee all cannabis industry sectors within the state. Following passage of the MRTA, Norman oversaw the establishment of the Office of Cannabis Management and coordinated adult-use cannabis implementation across all state agencies. As Director, he also oversaw the creation and implementation of a new regulatory structure for CBD and cannabinoid hemp derived products which allowed them to be sold as a food, beverage, or dietary supplement within New York.

Before joining New York State, Norman established the Rhode Island Office of Cannabis Regulation where he oversaw Rhode Island’s medical marijuana and industrial hemp programs and led Governor Gina Raimondo’s efforts to reform Rhode Island’s medical marijuana programs and legalize cannabis for adult use. Before working in cannabis, Norman served on the staffs of U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren and Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick.

Norman is now in private practice providing cannabis industry stakeholders with strategic consulting services. His practice focuses on advising public officials and government agencies on cannabis policy, regulatory development, and the implementation and oversight of new cannabis markets.



John Hudak

Deputy Director, Center for Effective Public Management, Brookings Institution

John Hudak is deputy director of the Center for Effective Public Management and a senior fellow in Governance Studies. His research examines questions of presidential power in the contexts of administration, personnel, and public policy. Additionally, he focuses on campaigns and elections, legislative-executive interaction, and state and federal marijuana policy.

John's 2016 book, *Marijuana: A Short History*, offers a unique, up-to-date profile of how cannabis emerged from the shadows of counterculture and illegality to become a serious, even mainstream, public policy issue and source of legal revenue for both businesses and governments. In it, he describes why attitudes and policy have changed, and what those changes mean for marijuana's future place in society.

His 2014 *Presidential Pork: White House Influence over the Distribution of Federal Grants* demonstrates that pork-barrel politics occurs beyond the halls of Congress. Presidents capitalize on their discretionary funding authority to target federal dollars to swing states in advance of presidential elections. His other work explores how agency staffing, expertise, and institutional structure facilitate or hinder presidential power and influence. This research explores the balance between political control and bureaucratic expertise in the delivery of public policy.

John's work has been recognized for its quality and contribution by the Midwest Political Science Association and the American Political Science Association's Presidency Research Group. His work has been supported by institutions including the National Science Foundation.

Prior to joining Brookings, John served as the program director and as a graduate fellow at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions. He holds a B.A. in political science and economics from the University of Connecticut and an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Vanderbilt University.