

## **Medical CBD and Child Welfare**

### **Multi-Disciplinary Professional Panel Presentation**

#### Session Description:

The Medical Cannabidiol Act has been changing the landscape of child welfare in Iowa since its implementation in 2017. This session will examine compliance and regulation pertaining to Iowa's Medical Cannabidiol Program in an effort to educate attendees who work with or otherwise encounter parents who are legally registered patients. Medical providers will also discuss the impacts of CBD and THC on child well-being and juvenile law judges will provide judicial perspective on the interplay of Medical CBD and child welfare in the courtroom.

#### Training Objectives:

1. Participants will be educated on compliance and regulation pertaining to Iowa's Medical Cannabidiol Program.
2. Participants will understand the current research on medical cannabis (THC and CBD) and its impacts on parental and child health, including the limitations of this research.
3. Participants will learn how Medical CBD impacts child welfare cases and parents who are legally registered patients facing court involvement.

#### Panel Members:

##### *Judicial Panelists:*

##### **Judge Rachael Seymour**

Judge Seymour, Des Moines, was appointed to the bench in June, 2010. She was born in Madrid, Iowa and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in 1995. She earned a Masters of Public Administration and Juris Doctorate with honors from Drake University in 1999. Judge Seymour represented both adults and children while working for the State Public Defender from 1999 until her appointment to the bench. She is a member of the American Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association. She has served on the Juveniles Rule Committee since her appointment in 2010.

##### **Judge Erik Howe**

Judge Howe, Polk City, was appointed to the bench in September 2022. He earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science from Iowa State University in 2009 and his law degree from Drake University Law School in 2012. Judge Howe, prior to taking the bench, was an assistant county attorney in Carroll and Calhoun counties from 2013-2014. He was an assistant county attorney in Polk County from 2015-2022. He is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association and C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court.

*Compliance/Regulation Panelists:*

**Owen Parker, MPH – Bureau Chief, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Cannabis Regulation**

Owen has worked with legacy IDPH and HHS since 2018, implementing and directing Iowa's medical cannabis program. In 2023, he also absorbed direction of Iowa's consumable hemp program. He serves as the Bureau chief for Cannabis Regulation for HHS, which is composed of the medical cannabis and consumable hemp programs, and oversees cannabis products for human consumption in Iowa. Owen is a Voting and Founding Member of the Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA), an organization of principal cannabis regulators across the US and Europe, also serving as the inaugural Co-Chair of the Special Committee on Medical Use and Research. Owen received his Master of Public Health degree from the University of Iowa, and a biology degree and minor in chemistry with honors from the University of Northern Iowa. He has worked in regulation, compliance, and operations of cannabis since 2015, including work in Iowa, California, New York, and Nevada.

**Andrea Hoyt, PharmD, JD, MPA – Compliance Program Manager, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Cannabis Regulation**

Andrea is a proud three-time Drake University alum, with degrees in pharmacy, law, and public administration. While in school, she focused on how compliance interfaces with healthcare, and how that interface impacts patients on both individual and systemic levels. After graduation, she practiced health and business law at a small firm in Des Moines before joining HHS in the beginning of 2023. In her current role, she manages compliance for both the medical cannabis and consumable hemp programs. Andrea is licensed as both an attorney and a pharmacist in Iowa, and still practices as an inpatient/outpatient pharmacist for a local hospital on the weekends.

**Catherine Lucas, JD – General Counsel, Iowa Department of Public Safety**

Catherine graduated with an undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa and a law degree with high honors from Drake University Law School. She clerked for the 4th Judicial District in western Iowa and for the Honorable Gayle N. Vogel of the Iowa Court of Appeals. After clerking, she practiced with a large Des Moines firm, focusing primarily on municipal liability defense, particularly defending law enforcement officers in civil suits. Catherine joined the Iowa Department of Public Safety in 2019 as general counsel.

*Medical Panelist*

**Dr. Andrea Weber – MD, MME**

Dr. Andrea Weber is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Iowa in the Departments of Psychiatry and Internal Medicine. She is board certified in internal medicine, psychiatry, and addiction medicine and specializes in providing medical and psychiatric health care to people who use drugs. She is the Assistant Director of the University of Iowa Addiction and Recovery Collaborative (UI ARC) within the Department of Psychiatry and currently represents psychiatry on the Iowa Medical Cannabis Board.