

Marijuana Law

Theme Introduction

By Bernard A. Jocuns

Before the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act of 2008, attorneys practicing outside of the criminal law arena had limited exposure to marijuana law in the state of Michigan. Now, with the advent of the new law and nine cases reaching the Michigan Supreme Court, combined with the success of regulated responsible adult marijuana legislation (in other states), it only made sense for Michigan attorneys to come together and form the SBM Marijuana Law Section.

The creation of this newest section was necessitated by the fact that marijuana law affects numerous other areas of the law, including family, criminal, business, healthcare, and property law.

Members of the Marijuana Law Section include prosecutors, private practitioners, and attorneys in academia. The views of the section are diverse, and all attorneys are welcome. If you are concerned about the future of the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act or would like to learn how marijuana

law affects other areas of the law in our state, you will enjoy reading the diverse array of articles that follow, written by a talented group of attorneys from our section. The section is excited to share our members' knowledge and expertise, and we look forward to continuing to contribute to the State Bar of Michigan. ■



Bernard A. Jocuns has practiced as a trial attorney throughout Michigan since 2003 and is currently based in Lapeer. His practice focuses on criminal defense with an emphasis on marijuana-related issues. He received his undergraduate degree from The Pennsylvania State University and his JD from the Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School. He is chairperson of the SBM Marijuana Law Section.