

UpFront

By Samantha Meinke

SBM Marijuana Law Section Second Annual Conference



Courtesy photo

Kneeling: Allen Peisner. Row 1, left to right: Allison Arnold, Darren McCarty, Daniel Grow, Mary Chartier, and Matt Abel. Back row: Bruce Block, Bernard Jocus, and Robert Hendricks.

More than 150 people participated in the State Bar of Michigan Marijuana Law Section's second annual conference September 7-9 in Detroit.

Attendees heard presentations from the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs on the implementation of the Facilities Licensing Act as well as presentations on a range of topics including tax and banking

issues, the status of communities opting in to allow marijuana businesses, and defenses for marijuana-related criminal offenses.

The conference featured national speakers, including Paul Armentano, Andrew Littleman, and Jeremy Unruh. A highlight of the conference was hearing from Detroit Red Wings hockey great Darren McCarty, who signed autographs and posed for photos. ■

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Sen. Steve Bieda Receives Award



Photo by Hella Branham

Senator Steve Bieda was honored on October 1 by Proving Innocence, a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting the wrongfully convicted, for his successful efforts in passing legislation that provides compensation to wrongfully convicted individuals in Michigan. ■