

Keynote Presentation – Social Justice Hon. Crystal People Stokes, Social Justice

In March 2021, NYS Assembly Majority Leader People-Stokes sponsored, and successfully passed, the landmark New York State Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA - A.1248), the most progressive and comprehensive cannabis legislation in the United States. Social justice and economic equity are the primary motivators of this monumental legislation. The most critical aspect of MRTA is the legislation's commitment to delivering community reinvestment and equity for people of color that have been harmed most by the War on Drugs.

Regulation, Compliance Panel - Moderated by Kaelan Castetter, Castetter Cannabis Group, Managing Director

A successful business must have a productive workforce as well as a safe workplace. This has become more of a challenge due to the legalization of recreational marijuana in New York. This expert panel of attorneys will discuss a variety of employer-focused topics such as employer rights regarding marijuana in the workplace, updating substance abuse/drug testing policies and pre-employment processes, interaction between recreational, medical marijuana and ADA, and more. Please join us as we discuss these topics and more with:

- **Taylor C. Ventre** - Harris Beach
- **Mark F. Pincelli** - Phillips Lytle
- **Luke Wright** - Harter Secrest

Business Opportunities and Economic Development - Moderated by Kaelan Castetter, Castetter Cannabis Group, Managing Director

With the recent legalization and onset of an entirely new industry comes a wealth of opportunity for individuals, entrepreneurs, businesses, and the communities they reside in. Ensuring we do our best as a community to maximize this opportunity economically, and provide equitable access, requires conversations with industry thought leaders, strategists and entrepreneurs who have forged their own path in communities that are further down the road than New York State. Please join us as we discuss these topics and more with:

- **Glenna Colaprete** - Glenna's CBD Best Oil, Rochester
- **Hunter Friedland** - Cirona Labs, Geneva
- **Andrea Cabral** - Former MA CEO Ascend Wellness Holdings, Boston

Building the New York Cannabis Industry - Keynote Address - Chris Alexander, Office of Cannabis Management, Executive Director

Hear from Office of Cannabis Management Executive Director Chris Alexander about the steps they're taking to build the most equitable and inclusive cannabis industry in the nation, including the latest updates on the timeline for licensing and sales, and the forthcoming opportunities.

Policy and Implementation - Moderated by Kaelan Castetter, Castetter Cannabis Group, Managing Director

As New York stands up one of the world's largest marketplaces, policymakers have a unique opportunity to shape almost every aspect of the industry. On this panel we will be taking a deep dive with statewide policy leaders into the complex and exciting regulatory developments to come in New York. The discussion will cover a wide range of topics including licensing, initiatives to make the industry more diverse, product standards and more. Please join us as we discuss these topics and more with:

- **Senator Jeremy Cooney** - 56th District of the New York State Senate
- **Patrick McKeage** - Office of Cannabis Management
- **Heather Trela** - Rockefeller Institute of Govt.

If you wish to sponsor this event, click [HERE](#)

Questions? Email Gena Stein at Gena.Stein@GreaterRochesterChamber.com