



31<sup>st</sup> Annual Advanced Institute  
March 21, 2017  
Lansing Center

## About the Program

This year's sessions will let you better understand emerging issues in core areas of legislative reform and policy.

- 8:30 a.m. Registration Opens
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome by President of MAMA, Clyde Robinson, City Attorney for Kalamazoo
- 9:15 a.m. **News from the Legislature and the Executive Branch**  
The Legislature was extremely active in 2016 and every indication is the pace of legislation is not going to abate in the current term. How can you keep up? What are the hot new bills and upcoming issues you need to be aware of? Jump start your morning with discussion of how the new legislation could impact your community.  
  
Speaker: Chris Hackbarth, MML, Director, State Affairs
- 10:00 a.m. **Information Technology Contracts**  
Vendor contracts for the acquisition of information technology are complex and lengthy. An experienced IT attorney offers "best practices" for negotiating the core contract issues that are most important to municipal attorneys and their clients.  
  
Speaker: Susan M. Kornfield, Partner, Bodman PLC
- 10:45 a.m. Networking Break
- 11:00 a.m. **Medical Marihuana Licensing**  
In September 2016, the Michigan Legislature passed and governor signed into law a series of bills that create a licensing and regulatory framework for medical marihuana. This regulatory framework must be implemented by December 15, 2017. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) is in the beginning stages of establishing this new regulatory structure. Get an update from LARA on the status of the regulatory process.  
  
Speaker: Shelly Edgerton, Director  
Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
- 12:00 Lunch

Share a meal with your MAMA Board of Directors and take this opportunity to let them what's going on in your part of the State.

1:30 p.m.

**Tax Increment Financing Reform**

On January 9, 2017, Governor Snyder signed into law a package of bills, all with immediate effect, that exempt taxes levied for library purposes from being captured by tax increment financing authorities, including downtown development authorities (DDA's), tax increment finance authorities (TIFA's), local development finance authorities (LDFAs) and corridor improvement authorities (CIAs). Internal inconsistencies in the amended acts, policy and procedural considerations for municipalities and other proposed tax increment financing reform legislation will be discussed

Speaker: Patrick F. McGow, Miller Canfield

2:30 p.m.

Networking Break

2:45 p.m.

**Brownfields- Implications of Future Legislative Policy**

A broad coalition is pushing for significant changes to Michigan's economic development statutes. A bill package that, if passed would affect the Brownfield Act and related statutes, was recently re-introduced in the legislature. It is moving forward for consideration ....and this time it may have legs. How will this legislation work? Could it aid more than just Detroit developments? How will it, and other recent changes, impact local brownfield authorities across the state?

Speaker: Kurt M. Brauer, Warner Norcross & Judd

3:30 p.m.

Open Mic: What's the latest discussion around the "ListServ" watercooler.

Moderator: John C. Schrier, Parmenter O'Toole, Vice President of MAMA

## **MAMA is pleased to have the following speakers for this year's Advanced Institute**



### **Clyde Robinson, City Attorney for Kalamazoo MAMA President**

Robinson was re-elected president after serving the past year as president and the prior two years as MAMA vice president. Robinson has been a member of the statewide association for more than 30 years and served on the MAMA board of directors since 2002. Robinson, city attorney for Kalamazoo, has spent his entire legal career practicing municipal law. He worked for the city of Battle Creek from 1980 to 2008, first as an assistant city attorney, concentrating on ordinance prosecution; then as deputy city attorney, leading civil litigation responsibilities in state and federal trial and appellate courts; and finally as Battle Creek's city attorney starting in 1999. In 2008 he accepted the appointment as Kalamazoo's city attorney



### **Chris Hackbarth MML, Director, State Affairs**

Chris Hackbarth rejoined the League in January 2015 as director of state affairs. With over 20 years working in the legislative arena, Chris spent the previous few years as director of the Office of Policy Initiatives for the Michigan Secretary of State and lobbying for Midwest Strategy Group. He has also worked for leadership in the Michigan House and Senate. Hackbarth earned a BA in International Relations from Michigan State University.



### **Susan M. Kornfield Chair, Intellectual Property Practice Group Bodman PCL**

Susan M. Kornfield has been practicing law for over 30 years and is the chair of the Intellectual Property Practice Group of Bodman PLC. She represents authors, technologists, artists, educators, publishers, museums, libraries, and archives. Susan has lectured internationally on issues involving intellectual property law, in particular intellectual property and technology. She has served as an arbitrator on matters involving intellectual property disputes and has been qualified as an expert witness in matters involving intellectual property matters. Susan served on the "Provost's Advisory Committee on Copyright" at the University of Michigan and serves on an advisory committee to Stanford University that addresses issues involving libraries and academic information

resources. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan Law School, teaching “Intellectual Property Practice.” In 2014, she received the Robert Cummiskey award from the State Bar of Michigan for 32 years of pro bono legal services. Susan has been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America, Michigan Super Lawyers, Top Lawyers in Metro Detroit, Managing Intellectual Property, and Michigan Lawyers Weekly, and has a Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating.



**Shelly Edgerton, Director**

**Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs**

Prior to joining LARA, Shelly Edgerton dedicated 27 years of service to the state Legislature, most recently in the capacity of Deputy Senate Majority Counsel in the Senate Majority Policy Office. She also held positions as Assistant Senate Majority Counsel and Chief of Staff for Senator Dave Honigman. Edgerton earned her bachelor’s degree and a Master of Public Administration degree from WMU, and her juris doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.



**Patrick F. McGow**

**Principal, Public Finance Group Leader**

**Miller Canfield**

Patrick McGow advises cities, counties, townships, villages and authorities on a broad range of infrastructure financing and related legal matters. In addition to serving as bond counsel in financing transactions, Patrick counsels his clients on other related matters such as special assessments, elections, millage and ballot proposals, state and federal tax issues, and other finance matters. In the area of tax increment financing, Patrick assists in establishing tax increment financing entities, such as Downtown Development Authorities, Tax Increment Finance Authorities, Local Development Finance Authorities, Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities and Corridor Improvement Authorities. As a recognized leader in his field, Patrick has written legislation on a variety of municipal finance and tax increment financing issues.



**Kurt M. Brauer**  
**Partner, Agribusiness and Food Industry Group**  
**Warner Norcross & Judd**

Kurt Brauer specializes in economic development, and currently serves as chair of the firm's Agribusiness and Food Industry Group. He is a past chair of the State Bar of Michigan's Environmental Law Council. He counsels clients in economic development, environmental compliance and regulatory matters. He supports his firms transactional groups, including Corporate, Real Estate, Agribusiness and Municipal, with an emphasis on environmental law, brownfield redevelopment and business expansion incentive packages. Mr Brauer has assisted Michigan municipalities in various environmental, real estate and economic development matters, including Brownfield Redevelopment, Michigan Business Tax Credits, Michigan's Commercial Rehabilitation Act and Community Development Block Grants. Mr Brauer has been named a Top Lawyer in Environmental Law by DBusiness (2017), Best Lawyers in America (2010-present) and Michigan Super Lawyers (2014-present). Mr. Brauer earned his juris doctor with honors from Wayne State University and his BA from Oakland University.



**John C. Schrier,**  
**MAMA Vice President**

John Schrier has served on the MAMA Board of Directors since 2009. He is a partner at Parmenter O'Toole, where he has been employed since 1984. John provides assistance to the Firms municipal clients, including the Cities of Montague (City Attorney 1993 to present), Muskegon (City Attorney 2002 to present), North Muskegon (City Attorney 1995 to present), Roosevelt Park (City Attorney 2012 to present), and Village of Shelby (Village Attorney 2006 to present). Prior to Parmenter O'Toole, John worked for the Michigan House of Representatives Democratic Staff (1983) providing assistance to the Michigan House of Representatives Senior Citizen and Retirement Committee and Citizens Research Council of Michigan (1978-83) as a Lent Upson-Loren Miller Fellow (1978-1980) and Research Associate (1980-1983). John is a graduate of Hope College (Bachelor of Arts, 1978), Wayne State University (Masters in Public Administration, 1980) and University of Detroit Law School (JD, 1984).