

April 11 – Land Use – L5
The Cannabis Conundrum

SPEAKER BIOS

Dwight H. Merriam founded Robinson & Cole's Land Use Group in 1978. He represents land owners, developers, governments and individuals in land use matters. Dwight is a Fellow and Past President and of the American Institute of Certified Planners, a former Director of the American Planning Association, a former chair of APA's Planning and Law Division, and a former chair of the American Bar Association's national Section of State and Local Government Law. He teaches land use law at the University of Connecticut School of Law and at the Quinnipiac University Law School and has published over 200 articles and nine books and including *Inclusionary Zoning Moves Downtown*, *The Takings Issue*, *The Complete Guide to Zoning*, and *Eminent Domain Use and Abuse: Kelo in Context*. He is the co-editor of Rathkopf's *The Law of Zoning and Planning* and a co-author of the leading casebook in the field, *Planning and Control of Land Development*.

Daniel R. Mandelker, Stamper Professor of Law, Washington University in Saint Louis, is a leading scholar and teacher in land use law, environmental law, and state and local government law. He was the principal consultant and contributor to the American Planning Association's model planning and zoning legislation project. He was also the principal consultant to a joint American Bar Association committee that prepared a model law for land use procedures that was adopted by the ABA House of Delegates. He recently published a handbook on free speech law for on premise signs, a coauthored fourth edition of his APA report on Street Graphics and the Law, and a coauthored new edition of his law school casebook in State and Local Government. Additionally, he received the ABA's State and Local Government Section Daniel J. Curtin Lifetime Achievement Award.

J. Marcus Painter, Esq., chairs Holland & Hart LLP's real estate group. His practice focuses on real estate development, real estate finance, and associated corporate issues (including the counseling of financial institutions and other businesses on conflicts between federal law and state legalized marijuana laws). Mr. Painter currently serves as President of the CLE in Colorado, Inc., and is a Past-Chair of the CBA Real Estate Section Council. He is a Fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys, and is the Vice-Chair of the Foothills United Way. His past bar activities include chairing the CBA Young Lawyers Division and serving on the CBA Executive Council, Board of Governors, Long-Range Planning Task Force, Budget Committee, and Professionalism Task Force. Mr. Painter also served time on the Colorado Real Estate Commission's Forms Committee. He has been an author on many real estate topics, including publications in the Colorado Real Estate Journal and The Colorado Lawyer, and he is a regular faculty speaker at the annual Colorado Real Estate Symposium and other continuing education and industry programs where he has lectured on brokerage issues, real estate legislation, the Clean Air Act's impact on real estate development, sustainability issues in mixed use

development, HUD financing and multi-family development, real estate issues for non-profit entities and liquor licensing issues in retail leasing. Most recently, his article on the complications of legalized marijuana in commercial real estate ownership and financing, was published nationally in the January 2015 ABA Real Property and Probate Journal.

Thomas J. Ragonetti is a senior shareholder and director of Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti, PC. He has been frequently referred to as the preeminent land use attorney in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain region. His practice is focused on land use, government regulation, public-private transactions and related matters. He is a recognized specialist in land use planning and regulation, public finance for private development, annexation, urban development, zoning and historic preservation. Beyond his unparalleled expertise in land use and governmental regulation, Tom has comprehensive and diverse experience in real estate, construction and eminent domain matters.

Tom is keenly interested—both personally and professionally—in Colorado and Denver development issues. He has been working in the area for over 30 years. He has authored, and served as lead advocate for, comprehensive growth management legislation in the State of Colorado. Additionally, Tom is an adjunct professor at the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of Colorado at Denver, where he teaches in the Urban and Regional Planning program. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Denver College of Law, where he teaches Land Use Planning. Tom has served on numerous civic boards and commissions devoted to city planning and community development, and he is a frequent speaker at and chair of local and national continuing legal education programs concerning land use topics.

Prior to his career in law, Tom received a design degree in city and regional planning and worked in urban planning and public financing capacities for the City of Boston, the Economic Consultants Organization, Inc., the State of New York and the United Nations.