

Land Use Considerations for Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers

BRPC 5th Thursday Dinner Series

Thursday, May 30, 2013



Cork & Hearth Restaurant
Route 20
Lee, MA 01238



In March 2013, the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office disapproved the Town of Wakefield's ban on medical marijuana treatment centers. The Attorney General's ruling means that under state law a municipality cannot prohibit a medical marijuana treatment center from locating within its boundaries. However, according to the AG's Office a municipality may properly regulate a medical marijuana treatment center through its land use regulations.

Please join BRPC for dinner and an educational presentation by Attorney Dwight Merriam from the law firm of Robinson & Cole for a discussion of land use consideration for medical marijuana treatment centers. Mr. Merriam is an accomplished land use attorney, professor and planner whose attached biography speaks for itself.



PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED SHEET FOR EVENT DETAILS

Dwight H. Merriam, Past Chair of the American Bar Association's Section of State and Local Government Law, 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, a former chair of the American Bar Association's national Section of State and Local Government Law; the Connecticut member of Owners' Counsel of America, a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, a member of the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute National Advisory Board, a Fellow of the Connecticut Bar Foundation, a Counselor of Real Estate, a member of the Anglo-American Real Property Institute, and a Fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers.

He teaches land use law at the University of Connecticut School of Law and at the Vermont 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*.

Dwight has been named to the Connecticut *Super Lawyers* list in the area of Land Use Law since 2006, is one of the Top 50 Connecticut *Super Lawyers* in Connecticut 2011, one of the *Top 100 New England Super Lawyers* in 2011 (*Super Lawyers* is a registered trademark of Key Professional Media, Inc.), ranked in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in Connecticut in the area of Real Estate, listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the areas of Land Use & Zoning Law and Real Estate Law since 1991 and the areas of Litigation - Land Use & Zoning and Litigation - Real Estate for 2012 and 2013, and listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® as Hartford Lawyer of the Year in the area of Litigation - Land Use & Zoning for 2013 and in the area of Land Use & Zoning Law for 2012.

He received his B.A (cum laude) from the University of Massachusetts, his Masters of Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina, where he was invited back as the graduation speaker in 2011, and his J.D. from Yale. He is a featured speaker at many land use seminars, and presents monthly audio land use seminars for the International Municipal Lawyers Association. Dwight has been cited in the national press from The New York Times to People magazine and has appeared on NBC's The Today Show, MSNBC and public television.

Dwight served for seven years on active duty in the Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer, including three tours in Vietnam, and 24 more years in the reserves, retiring as a Captain following his command of the reserve augmentation unit of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center.

5th Thursday Dinner – May 30, 2013
“Land Use Considerations for Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers”

5:30 PM Cocktail Hour ★ 6:30 PM Dinner & Speaker

PLEASE SUBMIT RESERVATIONS EARLY AS WE EXPECT THIS EVENT TO BE VERY POPULAR – ONCE WE REACH CAPACITY AT THE RESTAURANT WE CANNOT ACCEPT ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

___ **Yes, I (we) will be attending!**

Name (s) _____

Town _____

Board/Title _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

**Cork & Hearth
Route 20
Lee, MA 01238**

Dinner Selections

A buffet dinner will be served that includes the following selections:

**Fresh Baked Rolls & Fresh Salad
Chicken Marsala
Fresh Baked Scrod
Penne Marinara
Zucchini Medley
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Coffee/Tea & Dessert**

\$32.00 for Planning Boards, Zoning Boards, Boards of Selectmen, Building Inspectors, Town Managers and Administrators, and Municipal Planning Professionals.

\$37.00 all others.

Payment at the door will not be accepted.

Please mail payment in advance to:

(Checks must be made out to BRPC)

**Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
1 Fenn Street, Suite 201
Pittsfield MA, 01201**

Reservations **must** be received by: **Wednesday, May 22, 2013**

Late reservations cannot be accepted. If you have special dietary restrictions please let us know

Cancellations received after May 22nd are non-refundable.

Please contact Brian Domina: bdomina@berkshireplanning.org or 413-442-1521 ext. 14 for details.