



CENTER FOR ALCOHOL POLICY

19th Annual Alcohol Law and Policy Conference

Sheraton Minneapolis Downtown
Minneapolis, MN | August 24-26, 2026

Monday, August 24

4:00pm – 7:00pm	<u>Registration</u>	<i>Mill City Foyer</i>
5:30pm – 7:00pm	<u>Welcome reception</u>	<i>Nicollet Ballroom (14th floor)</i>

Tuesday, August 25 All Education Sessions in Mill City Ballroom

7:30am – 3:00pm	<u>Registration</u>	<i>Mill City Foyer</i>
7:30am – 8:30am	<u>Breakfast</u>	<i>Mill City Foyer</i>
8:30am – 8:40am	<u>Welcome remarks</u>	

Kelly Roberson, Executive Director, Center for Alcohol Policy

8:45am – 9:45am	<u>Alcohol & THC: Venn Diagrams, Distinct Circles</u>
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Norm Birenbaum, Founding President (Former), Cannabis Regulators Association

Traci Toomey, Professor, Division of Epidemiology & Community Health & Director, Cannabis Research Center, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

Ebony Connor, Deputy General Counsel, Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission

Diana Eberlein, Chair, Coalition of Adult Beverage Alternatives

Moderator: Steve Schmidt, Center for Alcohol Policy

9:50am – 10:50am Challenges of Stolen Alcohol

Anthony Jimenez, Special Agent in Charge, Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Commission

Janelle Christian, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau

Kaitlyn Holmecki, American Trucking Association

Moderator: Matthew Botting, Law Offices of Matthew Botting

10:55am – 11:55am Developments in Per-Capita Alcohol Consumption

Lester Jones, Vice President, Analytics and Chief Economist, National Beer Wholesalers Association

Moderator: Steve Schmidt, Center for Alcohol Policy

12:00pm – 1:00pm Lunch *Crystal Ballroom*

1:05pm – 2:05pm Intellectual Property Issues Are for Everybody!

Charles Hildebrandt, Roberts Law Group

2:10pm – 3:10pm Anti-Trust & Pricing

Elizabeth Odette, Office of the Attorney General of Minnesota (*invited*)

Brian McCalmon, Shareholder, Vedder

Moderator: Dimitri Christopoulos, Principal, Christopoulos Law Firm

5:30pm – 7:00pm Reception: Leadership in Alcohol Regulation Award
Nicollet Ballroom (14th floor)

Wednesday, August 26 All Education Sessions in Mill City Ballroom

7:30am – 12:30pm Registration *Mill City Foyer*

7:30am – 8:30am Breakfast *Mill City Foyer*

8:30am – 8:35am Morning remarks *Mill City Ballroom*

Kelly Roberson, Executive Director, Center for Alcohol Policy

8:35am – 9:35am Developments in Trade Practices

Stephen Amato, Member, McBrayer Firm

Paul Pisano, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, National Beer Wholesalers Association

Brandt Erwin, Shareholder, Madigan Dahl and Harlan

Moderator: Jerry Oliver, Center for Alcohol Policy

9:40am – 10:10am Keynote Address

General Drew H. Wrigley, Attorney General of North Dakota

Introduction: Patrick Lynch, Center for Alcohol Policy

10:15am – 11:15am SCOTUS & Litigation Update

Deborah Skakel, Blank Rome

John Neiman, Maynard Nexsen

Moderator: Brannon Denning, Center for Alcohol Policy

11:20am – 11:30am Closing remarks

Kelly Roberson, Executive Director, Center for Alcohol Policy

11:30am Departures