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Municipal Law News

Michigan Medical Marijuana Act - Webinar Follow-Up

On May 18, 2011, Foster Swift's Mike Homier, Laura Garlinghouse, and Ron Richards presented a free webinar on the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act and the issues that Act presents municipalities. The webinar covered the Act's rules, the various regulation options for municipalities, and recent court updates on the many medical marijuana cases out there. The huge turnout of registrants is greatly appreciated. The issues that the Act presents are clearly a challenge for municipalities state-wide. For anyone interested in the webinar presentation, a full audio and video version of the webinar is available at the following link:

[Watch Webinar Recording & Download PowerPoint Slides](#)

During the webinar, several interesting questions were received – some of which were answered during the webinar and others reluctantly could not be answered due to time constraints. Yet for the benefit of all of our readers, below is one intriguing question that involves the intersection of employer rights and medical marijuana patient rights. [READ QUESTION & ANSWER](#)

GINA Recordkeeping Requirements Are Coming

By: [Michael R. Blum](#)

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) took effect for employers on Nov. 21, 2009. GINA prohibits the use of genetic information in making employment decisions, restricts employers from asking for, requiring, or buying genetic information, and strictly limits the disclosure of genetic information. GINA's enforcement procedures and remedies are identical to those found in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). But unlike Title VII and the ADA, no record retention requirements currently exist under GINA. That is about to change – and municipalities should take note. [READ FULL ARTICLE](#)

Attorney General Says a Municipality May Not Refuse Utility Services to Tax-Foreclosed Property Based on Unpaid Charges

By: [Ronald D. Richards Jr.](#)

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A municipality may not condition providing utility services to tax-foreclosed property by demanding that a buyer of tax-foreclosed property pay delinquent utility-service charges that the former owners of the foreclosed property incurred. *Attorney General Opinion*, No. 7258 (5/6/11). The Attorney General issued that ruling in early May 2011. Here is the Attorney General's reasoning. [READ FULL ARTICLE](#)

Court Update - State Must Disclose Medical Marijuana Records to Feds

By: [Ronald D. Richards Jr.](#)

On June 4, 2011, a federal district court ruled that the Michigan Department of Community Health must give over documents that the federal drug enforcement agency asked for involving 7 persons who applied for medical marijuana caregiver and patient cards. The Department of Community Health had opposed the disclosure, citing the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act's confidentiality rules. [READ FULL ARTICLE](#)

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