



MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD

Complaint for Violation of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Act

All information on this form is confidential until a decision is issued by the Board.
A photocopy of the entire complaint, however, will be sent to the respondent.

Information about complaint filer

Name of complaint filer	Jeff Brinkman		
Address	PO Box 672	Email address	jbrinkman@superiorcannabiscompany.com
City, state, and zip	Austin, MN 55912	Telephone (Daytime)	507-438-1000

Identify person/entity you are complaining about

Name of person/entity being complained about	Richard W. Ginsberg		
Address	676 Summit Ave #202 (email;therotundagroup@gmail.com)		
City, state, zip	St. Paul, MN 55105		
Title of respondent (If applicable)	lobbyist, fundraiser, Walz appointee to Airports Commission		
Board/Department/Agency/District # (If legislator)	MN Airports Commision Board		

 Signature of person filing complaint

4/22/2024 Date

Send completed form to:

Campaign Finance & Public Disclosure Board
190 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155

If you have questions call 651-539-1189, 800-657-3889, or for TTY/TDD communication contact us via the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529. Board staff may be reached by email at cf.board@state.mn.us.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 651-539-1180, 800-657-3889, or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529.

Give the statutory cite to the section of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, or Minnesota Rules you believe has been violated:

10A Failure to update lobbying registration (medical and recreational cannabis)

You will find links to the complete text of Chapter 10A, Chapter 211B, and Minnesota Rules chapters 4501 - 4525 on the Board's website at cfb.mn.gov.

Nature of complaint

Explain in detail why you believe the respondent has violated the campaign finance and public disclosure laws. Attach extra sheet(s) of paper if necessary. Attach any documents, photographs, or other evidence needed to support your allegations. Electronic files may be provided to the Board by email or via a file transfer service.

Mr. Ginsberg has been actively representing the interests of medical cannabis as noted in the advocates sections of the Office of Cannabis Management, and has been included in private meetings with the OCM. His email is noted in the invitations and he appears on several key lists obtained from OCM data requests and other sources. Mr. Ginsberg is a democratic strategist, lobbyist and fundraiser for the DFL and has many connections inside agencies and within the governors office and appears to have been involved in shaping legislation for medical manufacturers.

I have attached the following. 1. Lobbyist Listing (not designated) 2. Personal Contributions List Ginsberg 3. Jeff Brinkman Testimony regarding lobbying contacts 4. Advocates email invitation including Ginsberg (therotundagroup@gmail.com) 5. Governor's Advocates List Richard Ginsberg (noted medical affiliation, therotundagroup@gmail.com) 6. OMC Consultant Meeting Update for private meeting. 7. Ginsberg Appointment information Dayton and Walz (email richard.ginsberg@mspac.org)

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4525 describe the procedures required for investigating complaints. A full description of the complaint process is available on the Board's website. Briefly, the Board will notify you when it has received your complaint. The Board must send a copy of the complaint to the respondent. Complaints and investigations are confidential. Board members and staff cannot talk about an investigation except as required to carry out the investigation or to take action in the matter. After the Board issues a decision, the record of the investigation is public.

The law requires a complaint to go through two stages before the Board can begin an investigation: a prima facie determination and a probable cause decision. If the complaint does not pass one of the stages, it must be dismissed. The Board chair or their designee has 10 business days after receiving your complaint to determine whether the complaint alleges a prima facie violation. If the complaint alleges a prima facie violation, the Board has 45 days to decide whether probable cause exists to believe a violation that warrants a formal investigation has occurred. Both you and the respondent have the right to be heard on the issue of probable cause before the Board makes this decision. The Board will notify you if the complaint moves to the probable cause stage.

If the Board determines that probable cause does not exist, the Board will dismiss the complaint. If the Board determines that probable cause exists, the Board may start an investigation. In some cases the Board will issue findings, conclusions, and an order as its decision. In other cases the Board will instead enter into a conciliation agreement with the respondent. The Board's final decision will be posted on the Board's website.

Search Lobbyists



2024 June Report



Ginsberg, Richard W

Lobbyist information

Lobbyist reports

Subjects of lobbying

Complete client list

Ginsberg, Richard W

Reg num: 9713
676 Summit Ave #202
St Paul, MN 55105

Login to Follow (<https://logon.cfb.mn.gov/sso/login?returnTo=https://cfb.mn.gov/reports-and-data/viewers/lobbying/lobbyists/api>) ➔

View lobbyist contributions
(/reports/#/contributors_lobbyist/97770)

Associations represented

Association	Registered	Terminated	Designated	Disbursements
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians-Corp Comm	12/3/1997	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available 6/18/2024
MN Hospital Assn	3/9/2023	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available 6/18/2024
MN Medical Solutions	2/22/2017	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available 6/18/2024
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	2/27/2007	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available 6/18/2024

Contributor	Contributor	Contributor	Contributor	Contributor zip	Recipient	Recipient r	Recipient s	Recipient t	Contrib	Arr	Contrib Da	Year	In kind?	In kind desc
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Blaha, Julie State Aud Committee	18218		PCC	200	00:00.0		2022	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Blaha, Julie State Aud Committee	18218		PCC	1000	00:00.0		2023	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Blaha, Julie State Aud Committee	18218		PCC	250	00:00.0		2019	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Coleman, Christopher B Gov Committee	18127		PCC	250	00:00.0		2016	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Walz, Tim Gov Committee	18135		PCC	1000	00:00.0		2019	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Walz, Tim Gov Committee	18135		PCC	1000	00:00.0		2023	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Walz, Tim Gov Committee	18135		PCC	1000	00:00.0		2023	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Walz, Tim Gov Committee	18135		PCC	1000	00:00.0		2019	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Winkler, Ryan Atty Gen Committee	18124		PCC	500	00:00.0		2016	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Winkler, Ryan Atty Gen Committee	18124		PCC	500	00:00.0		2016	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Winkler, Ryan Atty Gen Committee	18124		PCC	130.44	00:00.0		2017	1	Food for campaign meeting
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Winkler, Ryan Atty Gen Committee	18124		PCC	1000	00:00.0		2017	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Winkler, Ryan House Committee	18274		PCC	250	00:00.0		2021	0	
97770	Ginsberg, I	9713	Lobbyist	55105	Winkler, Ryan House Committee	18274		PCC	300	00:00.0		2019	0	

I'm Jeff Brinkman, a Cannabis Activist and Hemp Farmer. I'm here to remind you of the promises made regarding cannabis legalization.

Last year, Legislative Authors sold the people on a Minnesota-centric small business, craft, and equity-focused bill, touted as a "model for the nation." Currently, the bills, including this one, notably deviate from that promise. You can't imagine the backlash we faced last year for questioning the legislation and its corporate inclinations. We've learned a lot since then.

We discovered that the first Office of Cannabis Management director was required to make her introductory phone calls to lobbying strategists and select business owners. I know this because I reached out to Ms. Dupree, who confirmed that her first call on a list of 220 people was indeed a lobbying strategist. Following that call, the strategist initiated a campaign to have Ms. Dupree removed, and she resigned within 24 hours. There are serious questions about why our governor-appointed director was required to make her first contact with a lobbying strategist. Ms. Dupree will soon cover this topic in an upcoming documentary produced by Kowala Media, and I have that list.

We also learned that medical and other corporate players are planning massive expansions in anticipation of a race to the bottom in their cost per gram. They mention canopies exceeding 250,000 square feet at a single location in news articles. How does that affect equity stakeholders, small businesses, and farms? How can these companies spend millions, some with state money, on the construction of huge facilities without knowing whether they will obtain a license? It seems they have already solidified their positions with lobbyists and legislators.

Once again, equity stakeholders, small businesses, and farms are being sidelined, while big businesses and corporate interests expect to thrive due to their close relationships with legislators and lobbyists, and are forging ahead with their expansions.

This is the unfortunate reality in Minnesota, but I'm hopeful for change. Please remember that your constituents are people, not corporations. Thank you

Office of Governor Tim Walz & Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan

Boards & Commissions

Director of the Office of Cannabis Management

Announcement

September 2023

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

- Review and Approve Bio – Erin Dupree
- Draft Quote – Erin Dupree
- Validators for Quote – Erin Dupree
- Develop press plan – GO/MDA
- Develop talking points – GO/MDA

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

- Press Release – GO
- Draft Internal OCM Communication – MDA Comms/GO
- Draft Enterprise Communication – MDA Comms/GO N
- Draft Announcement Tick Tock Filled Out – MDA/GO
- Calls to unsuccessful candidates—Charlene
 - 9:45 AM on Thursday, September 21
- Add press availability to the Thursday tick tock
- Late afternoon – Erik and Charlene call Chris Tholkes to begin to sort out her approach to announcement

Name	Assigned	Message	Contact	Time
Calls to Rep. Stephenson and Sen. Port offering meeting	Erik			4:30 pm
Rep. Stephenson and Sen. Port	Erik, Charlene and new director	Teams meeting to meet new director		7:30 pm

Thursday, September 21 - Tick Tock

Name	Assigned	Message	Contact	Time	Notes
Calls to Legislative Leaders: Hortman Dzedzic Long Champion	GO Staff – Leah	Phone call or text with embargoed message		8:45 am	

Office of Governor Tim Walz & Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan

Tribal Leaders	Patina			~9:40 am	
Bill English Rev. McAfee Anthony Newby Angela Dawson	Dr. Burrage			9:40 am	
Rapid Pre- Outreach to Stakeholders: Leili Fatehi Maren Schroeder Kurtis Hannah Henry Erdman Rep. Hanson Rep. Gomez Rep. Kozlowski Rep. Hollins Sen. Omou- Verbeten	Erik and Charlene divide roughly in this order as time allows			9:40 am	
Rich Ginsberg Tyrel Ventura	Erik	Phone call with embargoed message - Offer call to him and/or Gov Ventura later in day		9:40 AM	
- Don. LM Unsuccessful candidate		Charlene		9:45 AM	
Texts to Minority CoS	GO Staff - Leah			9:55 AM	
PRESS RELEASE	GO	Public Announcement		10: 00 AM	
Leili Fatehi - Blunt Strategies	New Director	Introductory Message	(914) 844- 1974	10:10 AM	
Maren Schroeder (Advocate)	New Director	Introductory Message	(507) 226- 3578	10:15 AM	
Kurtis Hannan (Advocate) LM	New Director	Introductory Message	(612) 483- 8904	10:20 AM	
Jim Gleb - UFCW 1189 President LM			(651) 260- 5362		
Henry Edrman (Advocate)	New Director	Introductory Message	(651) 247- 1701	10:25 AM	
PRESS CALL	GO	Media Q&A		11:30 AM	

From: [Melekin, Merone \(OCM\)](#)
Bcc: [Sam Ndely](#); [Elizer Darris](#); [Pakou Hang](#); [yao@mnhmongchamber.org](#); [bkyle@saintpaulchamber.com](#); [therotundagroup@gmail.com](#); [jbagnoli@winthrop.com](#); [Tock, Rosa \(MCLA\)](#); [Geshick, Shannon \(MIAC\)](#); [Her, Sia \(CAPM\)](#); [Sloan, Linda \(CMAH\)](#)
Subject: OCM Informational panel discussion tomorrow Friday, February 16 | Logistics
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024 5:05:00 PM
Attachments: [Parking.pdf](#)
[image001.jpg](#)

Good afternoon –

This is a reminder of the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) informational panel with OCM leadership, Cannabis Public Policy Consulting (CPPC), and our partners at the Department of Employment and Economic Development.

This event will take place **tomorrow Friday, February 16 from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm** at Freeman Office building in conference room B145. The reception and security desk staff will direct you to the meeting location upon entry into the building.

****Location****

This Freeman Office Building is located at 625 Robert St N, St. Paul, MN 55101. A map of Capitol Complex parking options is attached, and we recommend Lot U or Lot W, which is public metered parking. There are also public transportation options to the Capitol complex available. Additional information about the location including a virtual map and public transportation can be found on the following page. [Freeman Office Building / Minnesota.gov \(mn.gov\)](#)

If you have not sent an RSVP and would like to join, please let me know as soon as possible so I can provide an accurate count and list of names to our front reception desk.

If you have any additional questions, please let me know. I look forward to meeting you all tomorrow!

Merone

Merone Melekin

Outreach & External Relations | Office of Cannabis Management
merone.melekin@state.mn.us



From: [Melekin, Merone \(OCM\)](#)
To: [Melekin, Merone \(OCM\)](#)
Bcc: [Anthony Newby](#); [Angela Dawson](#); [Bryant Jones](#); [Jason Tarasek](#); [lelli@apparatusgbc.com](#); [laura@apparatusgbc.com](#); [Ryan Winkler -](#); [Fatima Moore](#); [shawn@criver.cc](#); [apomroy@fredlaw.com](#); [tanner@mncannabiscollege.org](#); [marcus@marcusharcus.com](#); [john@mncannabiscollege.org](#); [Sumaya Mohamed](#); [Hollies Winston](#); [kvrstin@apparatusgbc.com](#); [Tomme Beevas](#); [Skye Rossi](#); [michael@minnmarijuana.com](#); [Josh@legacyglassworks.com](#); [kyle.marinkovich@northerndiversified.com](#); [Bill Lofy](#); [andrea@changemn.org](#); [Josh Maslowski](#); [Sam Ndely](#); [Elizer Darris](#); [Blauvelt, Will M.](#); [Kurtis Hanna](#); [Pakou Hang](#); [vao@mnhmongchamber.org](#); [clevens@mplschamber.com](#); [bkvle@saintpaulchamber.com](#); [darian@igniteafterschool.org](#); [Saydee Whitebird](#); [Cassidy Paul](#); [Jack Mitchell](#); [therotundagroup@gmail.com](#); [jbagnoli@winthrop.com](#); [Tock, Rosa \(MCLA\)](#); [Geshick, Shannon \(MIAC\)](#); [Her, Sia \(CAPM\)](#); [Sloan, Linda \(CMAH\)](#)
Subject: Save the date: OCM Informational panel discussion on Friday, February 16 (Please RSVP)
Date: Friday, February 9, 2024 2:45:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Good afternoon –

On behalf of the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), I would like to invite you to an informational session next Friday, February 16 from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm at the Freeman Office building located at 625 Robert St N, St Paul, MN 55155.

The session will feature a facilitated panel discussion with OCM leadership, our consulting partners from Cannabis Public Policy Consulting (CPPC), and a representative from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

We look forward to hosting an informative discussion to share about the multiple considerations involved in standing up OCM, preparing for licensing and industry launch, rulemaking and to have a national perspective from representatives from CPPC.

We will be collecting questions for the moderated panel in advance of the event. **Please submit your questions to Merone.Melekin@state.mn.us by 12:00 pm on February 15, 2024.**

Please rsvp to: Merone.Melekin@state.mn.us by February 15, 2024, to confirm your attendance.

Confirmation email with logistics will be provided following registration.

Merone Melekin

Outreach & External Relations | Office of Cannabis Management

merone.melekin@state.mn.us



Name	Org	Affiliations	Email	Notes	RSVP Feb 16
Anthony Newby	Cultivated CBD	Mpls	anthony@cultivatedcbd.com		
Angela Dawson	Fourty Acre Co-op/Advisory Council	Advisory Council, Mpls	angela@fortvacre.coop		Yes
Bryant Jones	Horticulture/Cultivation/Mpls College/Advisory Council	Advisory Council, Mpls	bryant@charcco.com		Yes
Jason Tarasek	Vicenete	MMA Board	j.tarasek@vicentellp.com		Yes
Leili Fatehi	Blunt Strategies/Apparatus	MCGCIC	leili@apparatusgbc.com		Yes
Laura Mohn Gisburg	Blunt Strategies	MCGCIC	laura@apparatusgbc.com		Yes
Ryan Winkler			rwinkler@gmail.com		No Response
Fatima Moore	FireFly Advocacy		fatima@fireflyadvocacy.com		Tentative
Shawn Weber	Crested River Cannabis Company	MCGCIC, Hemp	shawn@criver.cc		Yes
Andy Pomroy	Fred Law	Stinson Meeting	apomroy@fredlaw.com		Yes + Jeff Hayden
Tanner Berris	MN Cannabis College	Cannabis College, Uniflora	tanner@mncannabiscollege.org		Yes
Marcus Harcus	MN Cannabis College	Cannabis College, Uniflora	marcus@marcusharcus.com		
John Barte	CRMA, MN Cannabis College	Cannabis College, Uniflora, CRMA	john@mncannabiscollege.org		Yes
Sumaya Mohamed	Firefly Advocacy	Firefly Advocacy	sumaya@fireflyadvocacy.com		Yes
Hollies Winston	Business Owner		hollieswinston@guaranteed-america.com		Tentative
Kyrstin Schuette	Apparatus		kvrstin@apparatusgbc.com		
Tomme Beevas	Business Owner		tomme@pimentokitchen.com		Tentative
Skye Rossi	Advocate, Rhymesayers Business Owner		skye@rhymesayers.com		Yes
Michael Ford	Minnesota Marijuana, MN Norml	MN Norml	michael@minnmarijuana.com		Yes
Legacy Glassworks Duluth	Legacy Glassworks Duluth	Council, Hemp	josh@legacyglassworks.com		Yes
Kyle Marinkovich	Northern Diversified Solutions MN, Advisory Council	MCGCIC, Hemp	kyle.marinkovich@northerndiversified.com		Yes
Bill Lofy	Kria Botanicals		Bill Lofy <bill@kriabotanicals.com>		
Andrea Devore	Sensible Change MN	Sensible Change	andrea@changemn.org		
Josh Maslowski	Stigma Cannabis THC	Hemp	josh@stigmahemp.com		
Sam Ndely	Black Chamber	Biz Community Voice	samuel.ndely@gmail.com		
Elizer Darris	Black Chamber	Biz Community Voice	eli.darris@darrisgroup.com		
Will Blauvelt	Stinson	Stinson	will.blauvelt@stinson.com	suzanna.kennedy@stinson.com	No - Lauren Reller will attend
Kurtis Hanna	Blunt Strategies	MCGCIC	kurtis@bluntstrategies.com or Kurtis@riseup.net		Yes
PaKou Hang	Hmong Farmers Association	Hmong Farmers Association	hang.pakou@gmail.com		
Yao Yaj	Hmong Chamber	Biz Community Voice	yao@mnhmongchamber.org		
Christine Levens	Minneapolis Chamber	Minneapolis Chamber	clevens@mplschamber.com	Hanna Zinn (hzinn@mplschamber.com)	Add - Hanna Zinn
Hanna Zinn	Minneapolis Chamber	Minneapolis Chamber	hzinn@mplschamber.com		
B Kyle	St. Paul Chamber	St. Paul Chamber	bkyle@saintpaulchamber.com		
Ignite/CAEC	Ignite/CAEC	Ignite - Youth	darian@igniteafterschool.org		
Saydee Whitebird	Whitebird Logistics	Stinson Meeting	saydeewhitebird@gmail.com		yes
Paul Cassidy	Stinson	Stinson	paul.cassidy@stinson.com		Yes
Jack Mitchell	MMA	MMA Board	jmitchell@bbsmidwest.com		
Rich Ginsburg	Medical	Medical	therichginsburg@gmail.com		
Joe Bagnoli	Medical	Medical	jbagnoli@winthrop.com		
Rosa Tock	Council on Latino Affairs	Ethnic Council	rosa.tock@state.mn.us		
Shannon Geshick	MN Indian Affairs Council	Ethnic Council	shannon.geshick@state.mn.us		
Sia Her	Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans	Ethnic Council	sia.her@state.mn.us		
Linda Sloan	Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage	Ethnic Council	Linda.sloan1@state.mn.us		
Maren Schroeder	Mjoy LLC, Advisory Council	Advisory Council	maren@marenjoyce.com		Tentative
John					

Additional RSVPs:					
Melanie Goggins	Blunt Strategies				Yes
Elise C. Busse	Messerli Kramer		ebusse@MesserliKramer.com		Yes
Amber Shimpa	Vireo Health of Minnesota	Vireo, Medical	ambershimpa@vireohealth.com		No
Diana Tastad-Damer	UFCW	UFCW - Labor	dtastad@ufcw1189.org		Yes
Mackenzie Ferris	Revenue	Revenue	mackenzie.ferris@state.mn.us		Yes
Jim Jordan	Revenue	Revenue	Jim.Jordan@state.mn.us		Yes
Laurisa Clay	DPS	DPS	Laurisa.Clay@state.mn.us		yes
Qodah Elmi	DPS	DPS	Qodah.Elmi@state.mn.us		yes
Juventino Meza			juve.mezar@gmail.com		

APPT. POSITION/SEAT	APPOINTEE NAME	APPOINTEE EMAIL	RSVP 2/16/2024
Expert in Adult Medicine	Dr. Dylan Zylla	dylan.zylla@parknicollet.com	No
Expert in Cannabis Cultivation	Bryant Jones	bryant@charcco.com	yes
Expert in Cannabis Product Manufacturing	Kyle Marinkovich	kyle_marinkovich@northerndiversified.com	yes
Expert in Cannabis Retailing	Josh Wilken-Simon	legacyglassworks@gmail.com	yes
Expert in Criminal Justice Reform to Mitigate the Disproportionate Impact of Drug Prosecutions on Communities of Color	Rachel Moran	rmoran@stthomas.edu	
Expert in Economic Development Strategies for Under-Resourced Communities			
Expert in Farming or Representing the Interests of Farmer	Angela Dawson	myfarmkitchen@icloud.com	yes
Expert in Laboratory Sciences and Toxicology	Samantha Lee	samantha.lee@hcmed.org	yes
Expert in Municipal Law Enforcement with Advanced Training in Impairment Detection and Evaluation	Jaren Zech	jzech@edinamn.gov	No
Expert in Pediatric Medicine	Dr. Melanie Johnson	melanie.johnson@thegreenclinic.com	No
Expert in Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Related to Substance Use Disorders	Dr. Sara Polley	sarapolleymd@gmail.com	
Expert in Providing Legal Services to Cannabis Businesses	Michael Sly	sly.michael@dorsey.com	
Expert in Social Welfare or Social Justice	Dr. Denise Johnson	dstewart651@gmail.com	
Expert Representing the Interests of Employers	Nic Puechner	npuechner@larkinhoffman.com	tentative
Licensed Mental Health Professional #1	Donna Ennis	donna.l.ennis@state.mn.us	no
Licensed Mental Health Professional #2	Kate Makinen	kmakinen@hopehousetreatment.org	yes - cancellation
Patient Advocate who is a Parent or Caregiver of a Patient in the Medical Cannabis Program	Pia Prenevost	pia.prenvost@gmail.com	
Patient Advocate who is a Patient Enrolled in the Medical Cannabis Program	Maren Schroeder	maren@marenjoyce.com	tentative
Patient Advocate with Experience in the Mental Health System or Substance Use Disorder Treatment System			
Veteran Member	Stefan Egan	segan@bellablami.com	yes + Nicholas Lane
Colonel of the State Patrol, or designee	Gabe Cornish	gabe.cornish@state.mn.us	yes
Commissioner of Agriculture, or designee	Peder Kjeseth	peder.kjeseth@state.mn.us	
Commissioner of DEED, or designee	Nathan Ratner	nathan_ratner@state.mn.us	yes
Commissioner of Health, or designee	Kari Gloppen	kari.gloppen@state.mn.us	yes
Commissioner of Human Rights, or designee	Michelle Manivel	michelle.manivel@state.mn.us	yes
Commissioner of Human Services, or designee	Jen Sather	jen.m.sather@state.mn.us	
Commissioner of Labor and Industry, or designee	Dan Solomon	dan.solomon@state.mn.us	yes
Commissioner of Public Safety, or designee	Nicole Archbold	nicole.archbold@state.mn.us	
Commissioner of Revenue, or designee	Martha Burton	martha.burton@state.mn.us	yes + forwarded to others
Commissioner of the MPCA, or designee	Anna Hotz	anna.hotz@state.mn.us	yes
Director of the Office of Cannabis Management, or designee	Charlene Briner	charlene.briner@state.mn.us	yes
Director of the Office of Traffic Safety in DPS, or designee	Michael J. Hanson	michael.hanson@state.mn.us	
Member Representing the Fond du Lac Band	Roger Smith, Sr.	rogermsmithsr@fdrez.com	
Member Representing the Lower Sioux Community	Tyler Prescott	tyler.prescott@lowersioux.com	no
Member Representing the Mille Lacs Band	Melanie Benjamin	melanie.benjamin@millelacsband.com	yes
Member Representing the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	John Cook Brewer King	john.king@shakopeedakota.org	
Representative from the Association of MN Counties	Laurel Podulke-Smith	laurel.podulke-smith@olmstedcounty.gov	
Representative from the League of Minnesota Cities	Jill Wolf	jwolf@cityofluverne.org	yes
Superintendent of the BCA, or designee	Catherine Knutson	catherine.knutson@state.mn.us	yes + BCA Assistant Laboratory Director Allison Hursh

From: [Melekin, Merone \(OCM\)](#)
To: [Knutson, Katie \(OCM\)](#); [Briner, Charlene \(OCM\)](#)
Subject: RE: CPPC Advocates Meeting
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 4:13:00 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Updates below.

From: Melekin, Merone (OCM)
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 4:12 PM
To: Knutson, Katie (OCM) <katie.m.knutson@state.mn.us>; Briner, Charlene (OCM) <Charlene.Briner@state.mn.us>
Subject: CPPC Advocates Meeting

Hi, all –

I wanted to provide you with an update on the OCM informational session and panel with Advocates. Linked below you will find an event plan for **Friday, February 16, 2024**.

A few updates:

- Nikki was able to reserve two rooms in Freeman that can accommodate up to 120 people in Freeman. We will position the tables in a classroom style setting with speakers and panelists at the front. (If you think we should host at an outside venue, I have a quote for the History Center. They are also available on Friday)

[CPPC and Advocates \(Event Plan\)](#)

- This link includes logistics, a draft agenda, and invite language.
- **Please review the meeting invitation language and offer any feedback to the framing of the event.** I'm also thinking about whether we should explicitly state that you must RSVP to attend or something like that.

[Advocates_Draft 2.xlsx](#)

- The link above is the invitation list. We are at 74 guests. This number includes advocates, prospective operators, business community leaders, Cannabis Advisory Council direct appointments and Governor council member appointees.
 - We requested contact information from the SOS for the Advisory Council Members
- **If you have a contact for B Kyle at the St. Paul Chamber, Ignite, and MN Youth Council, can you please share it with me?**

Feel free to edit anything you see on the working document or offer suggestions. Once details are finalized, I can plan to send invitations out.

Merone

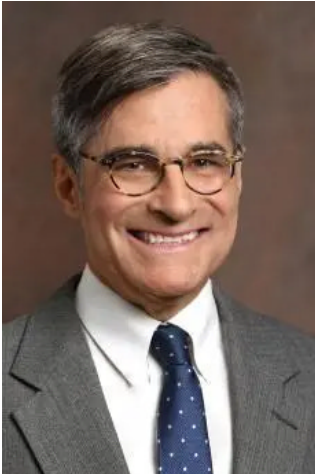
Merone Melekin

Outreach & External Relations | Office of Cannabis Management

merone.melekin@state.mn.us



Richard Ginsberg



Richard Ginsberg was appointed to the MAC by Gov. Mark Dayton in January 2017 and reappointed by Gov. Tim Walz in February 2021 to District G, which includes the communities of Grey Cloud Island Township, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, Newport, St. Paul, West St. Paul, South St. Paul, St. Paul Park, Sunfish Lake, and part of Grey Cloud Island Township.

Ginsberg is the sole proprietor of The Rotunda Group, a government relations firm that focuses on state and local government issues. Previously, he worked in the administration of Gov. Rudy Perpich, Hennepin County's Office of Governmental Affairs and the law firm Lockridge Grindal Nauen.

Additionally, Ginsberg served as a member of the Visit Saint Paul Board's Executive Committee and also chaired the board's Building and Finance committees.

Ginsberg was born and raised in Hibbing, Minn., earned his BA in criminal justice and public administration from St. Cloud State University, and completed course work at Mitchell Hamline School of Law.

Ginsberg serves on the Operations, Finance and Administration committee.

Richard.Ginsberg@mspmact.org



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Teamsters Joint Council 32 @IBTJC32 · Jan 17, 2022

Thank you for your solid support for Teamster members!

Ryan Winkler @_RyanWinkler · Jan 16, 2022

I'm glad to see that the MAC and the skilled union work force that keeps our airport open rain, snow or shine reached a fair agreement to avoid a strike. Workers deserve to be paid enough to support themselves and their families. Period. twitter.com/IBT_320/status...



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Bill Kristol @BillKristol · Jan 16, 2022

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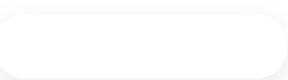
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Richard Ginsberg @RichardGinsber8 · Jan 17, 2022

Go team Drobnick 🇺🇸🇺🇸

Phill Drobnick @CoachPhill · Jan 16, 2022

🇺🇸 Attention 🇺🇸 Curling 🇺🇸 Fans 🇺🇸

In 1 week our MXD Team & Coaches depart for LA ➡ Beijing for the #Olympics.

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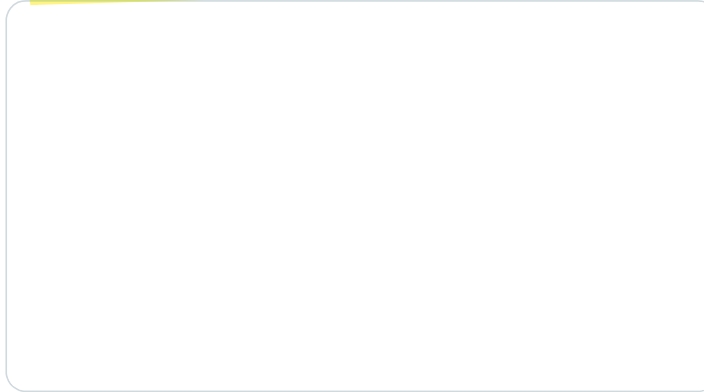


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Richard Ginsberg
@RichardGinsber8

Mn House passes bipartisan HHS omnibus bill which includes adding flower to medicinal cannabis program. Big win for patients and their pocket books. Doesn't happen without the leadership of @TinaLiebling @heather_edelson and @RepAishaGomez



1:49 AM · May 18, 2021

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Richard Ginsberg
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Appreciate your leadership @RyanWinkler in passing the state minimum wage and for your advice and strong support for raising the minimum wage at MSP to \$15 . Workers win today on a unanimous MAC vote.

Ryan Winkler @RyanWinkler · Oct 19, 2020

As many of us have said for too long, we need to raise the minimum wage.

Today the MSP Airport Commission voted to do just that for MSP airport workers. Thank you to the unions like @seiumn, @SEIU26, & @UNITEHERE17 who made this happen. #FightFor15

5:16 PM · Oct 19, 2020

2 6 15

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Engelhardt, Megan (CFB)

From: jbrinkman@superiorcannabiscompany.com
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 12:56 PM
To: CFBEmail
Subject: Complaint for Violation of Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure - Richard Ginsberg 4-22-24
Attachments: Complaint for Violation of Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure - Richard Ginsberg 4-22-24.pdf

You don't often get email from jbrinkman@superiorcannabiscompany.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

We believe this gentlemen continues his work as an unregistered lobbyist for medical cannabis manufacturers and possibly the UFCW 1189 cannabis union, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe , Hwy 35 Cannabis or the Minnesota Marijuana Association. Please see attached. If more information is required, please advise.

Jeff Brinkman – Hemp Farmer