

## **Legal Insights**

*Practical Legal Solutions*

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### **Recreational Marijuana in Ohio**

by Michael E. Cicero

On December 7, 2023, Ohio became the 24<sup>th</sup> state to enact legalized recreational marijuana, which permits adults aged 21 and above to cultivate, purchase, use, and gift marijuana products. Previously, Ohio limited marijuana use for medicinal purposes only.

#### **How much can I have? How much can I grow?**

Persons aged 21 and above may possess up to 2.5 ounces of cannabis flower and 15 grams of cannabis extracts (i.e. tincture, gummies, vape pens). With limitations, persons aged 21 and above may grow up to 6 plants at their place of residence. Marijuana plants must be out of public view. A residence with two or more persons aged 21 and above will be permitted to have up to a maximum of 12 plants.

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### **A Summary of the 2023 Federal Laws to Protect Pregnant Workers Rights in the Workplace**

2023 was a groundbreaking year for federal protections of pregnant workers rights in the workplace with the implementation of the Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers Act ("PUMP Act") and the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act ("PWFA"). Below, we provide a short summary of what these new laws are and what they mean for the workplace.

## The PUMP Act

On December 29, 2022, the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023 was signed into law which included the Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers Act ("PUMP Act").

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## Changes to the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure

The 2023 changes to the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure include amendments to multiple rules governing discovery. Ohio R. Civ. P. 26(F) was amended in 2020 to require parties, 21 days before the scheduling conference with the court, to confer about issues affecting discovery, to make or to arrange for initial disclosures, and to develop a discovery plan.

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## Attorney Recognitions

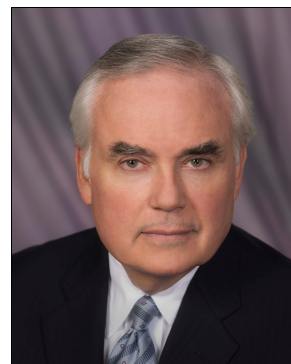
**Michael Cicero** was appointed Director of Law for the Village of Hunting Valley in addition to his duties as the village's Prosecutor. Michael was appointed as Assistant Solicitor for the Village of Newburgh Heights, a community he has represented for the past seven years.



**Ben Cooper** was recognized for his community involvement supporting the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland in its Spring edition of Poetic Justice.



**Matt Fitzsimmons** was selected as an Ohio Super Lawyer in Business Litigation for 2024. He also was elected Vice Chair of the Board of MidTown Cleveland, Inc., a well-regarded Community Development Corporation ( CDC) serving the area between Cleveland State University and University Circle. In addition, Matt taught the full-semester course on mediation at Cleveland State University Law School with Judge Dan Polster.



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If you have questions concerning any of the items discussed above, please contact your attorney at Nicola, Gudbranson & Cooper, 216.621.7227.

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