



John H. Oberle

Partner

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John H. Oberle is a partner in Ice Miller's Government Affairs & Regulatory Law Group and Government Law Group in Ohio. He is chair of the Highly Regulated Industries Group and leads a core group of attorneys on matters related to regulation and working on complex issues at all levels of government. John has more than 30 years of experience as a regulatory attorney, public sector advocate, and lobbyist to ensure clients' interests are well represented regionally before state governmental agencies, city halls, and the Ohio statehouse. He has built a reputation of being a strong and effective advocate for his clients. John has worked on some of the largest economic development projects in the state of Ohio.

John's experience includes work as: a lobbyist and aide to Governor George V. Voinovich; Chief of Legislative Affairs for Ohio's chief regulatory department (Ohio Department of Commerce); trustee for Sharon Township since 2006; principal of Ice Miller Whiteboard LLC; and attorney at Schottenstein Zox & Dunn Co., LPA; and now, at Ice Miller, for nearly 25 years. This experience not only includes an understanding of the law but includes how government and regulatory agencies develop policies that impact business. He zealously pursues clients' objectives in seeking a favorable result.

John has a proven and successful track record. His experience includes extensive work in the field of business regulation, economic development, government procurement, governmental compliance, and legislative drafting.

Education

- Ohio Wesleyan University (B.A., 1993)
- Capital University Law School (J.D., 2000)

Admissions

- Ohio

Professional Affiliations

- Member, International Association of Gaming Advisors
- Former Chair, Gaming and Liquor Law Committees

Services & Industries

- Cannabis
- Distressed Investments
- Economic Development Strategies & Incentives
- Gaming, Sports Betting & Alcohol Law
- Government Affairs & Regulatory Law
- Government
- Ice Miller Strategies - Federal Public Policy & Consulting
- Ohio Lobbying
- Procurement

Awards & Honors

- *The Best Lawyers® In America*, Government Relations Practice, 2024-2027
- *Columbus CEO's Top Lawyers List*, Gaming Law, 2023; Administrative & Regulatory Law, 2024
- *Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Star*, 2007
- Outstanding Central Committee Member Award, 2003

Community Involvement

- Sharon Township, Trustee 2006–present; Chairman 2009–2010, 2013, 2016
- Member, Republican Central Committee, 2002–present
- Walnut Grove & Flint Road Cemetery Board, Chair, 2015–present

Key Matters

Reported and Representative Cases

- *White v. Central Ohio Gaming Ventures, LLC*, 2019 WL 1375784 (Ohio Ct.App. Mar. 26, 2019)
- *State Ex Rel Walgate v. Kasich*, 2017 WL 2774651 (Ohio Ct. App. June 27, 2017)

Thought Leadership

August 12, 2026

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 37

June 23, 2026

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 36

April 24, 2026

Federal Cannabis Reform in Motion: What Businesses Need to Know

April 23, 2026

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 35

March 6, 2026

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 34

January 27, 2026

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 33

November 18, 2025

The Federal Government Reopens – And Tackles Hemp-Derived THC

October 17, 2025

High Stakes in Ohio: DeWine Orders Crackdown on Intoxicating Hemp and What the Emergency Order and a New Lawsuit Means for Retailers and Cannabis Operators

October 7, 2025

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 32

August 27, 2025

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 31

August 19, 2025

***Marijuana Venture* | What Can the United States Learn from Other Countries with Full Legalization**

Marijuana Venture

June 27, 2025

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 30

June 12, 2025

The New Ohio eBingo and RVLGT Gaming Bill Introduced and What It Means

May 1, 2025

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 29

March 20, 2025

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 28

February 6, 2025

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 27

December 2, 2024

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 26

August 29, 2024

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 25

July 18, 2024

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 24

May 10, 2024

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 23

May 1, 2024

DEA Will Move to Reschedule Cannabis

March 4, 2024

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 22

November 14, 2023

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 21

September 6, 2023

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 20

July 21, 2023

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 19

June 7, 2023

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 18

April 27, 2023

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 17

February 27, 2023

Distressed Investments Opportunity Bulletin - Issue 16

May 31, 2022

Law360 | Cannabis Moneyball Has Begun, And The Game Is Heating Up

Law360

January 25, 2022

Ohio to Announce Winners of Medical Marijuana Dispensary Lottery This Week

January 4, 2022

Ohio Lawmakers Approve Bill to Legalize Sports Wagering

September 2, 2021

Ohio Moves Another Step Closer to Adult Use Cannabis Legalization

July 16, 2021

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer Releases Draft Legislation to Legalize Marijuana

February 9, 2021

Virginia Poised To Legalize Adult Use of Cannabis

Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, "Ohio Roundtable: Operator Insights and Regulatory Perspectives," National Cannabis Industry Association (NCIA), Ohio Stakeholder Summit 2024, October 10
- "Ohio's Adult-Use Cannabis Law: Local Government Rights and Program Overview," Ohio Township Association Webinar, May 20, 2024
- "Overview of Issue 2- Ohio Adult Use Law," Ohio Township Association, December 8, 2023
- "Ohio Cannabis Overview and Issue 2 Adult Use Law Overview," MJ Biz Conference, November 16, 2023
- "Policy Plenary: Gaming," Alabama Pro-Growth Policy Conference, October 12, 2023
- "Town Hall: Midwest," Arcview Access, June 23, 2022
- "The Future of Cannabis Revenue and Navigating the Minefields," National Association of State Treasurers (NAST) Treasury Symposium, June 8, 2022
- "Cannabis: National State of Affairs", CLE Presentation, Ohio State Bar Association, October 8, 2020
- "Building a Flagship Economic Development Practice," National Meeting of the Law Firm Alliance, Dallas, Texas, May 2, 2008
- "Business Watch," Columbus Business First and Clary Communications, Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 10, 2008