



Contact:  
Rita Klein  
Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association  
216-539-3713 (direct) 216-696-3525 x5000  
440-263-3056 (mobile)  
[rklein@clemetrobar.org](mailto:rklein@clemetrobar.org)

## Ohio EPA Director to Deliver Opening Address at 2016 Great Lakes Symposium Public Symposium Tackles Critical Great Lakes Concerns

CLEVELAND – May 25, 2016 – The Environmental Law Section of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) is pleased to welcome a slate of renowned national, state and local speakers, including Craig Butler, director of Ohio EPA, to address critical issues facing the Great Lakes for its [2016 Great Lakes Symposium](#) on Friday, June 10 at The City Club of Cleveland.

Director Butler will deliver the opening address at 8:30 a.m., covering the State of Ohio's perspective on the vibrancy of the Great Lakes. The so-called "toxic blob," algal blooms that threaten drinking water, and the ability to maintain shipping through the Great Lakes are other critical concerns facing our region that speakers will address in detail at the Symposium.

Keely O'Bryan, chair of the Symposium and partner at McMahon DeGulis LLP, notes, "this Symposium brings together some of the highest authorities in the Great Lakes region, all of whom are working toward the common goal of environmental stewardship of the Great Lakes and preserving the economic vitality that these resources offer our community."

Following Director Butler's address, Symposium highlights include:

- The economic importance of shipping in the Great Lakes, dredged materials management, and the success of the Cleveland-Europe Express are the morning focus when **former Congresswoman Betty Sutton**, now administrator of the U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corp, joins **Jade Davis**, Cuyahoga County Port Authority, **Mike Piskur**, Conference of Great Lakes Governors and Premiers, and others to kick off this important conversation.
- Green infrastructure and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's \$3 billion Consent Decree will be at the forefront when **Kellie Rotunno**, COO of NEORSD, **Mark Pollins**, Director of Water Enforcement Division Office of Civil Enforcement, U.S. EPA HQ, and others discuss combatting Combined Sewer Overflows.
- Drinking water issues, including the national-headline grabbing so-called "toxic blob" in Lake Erie, will be tackled on a panel including **Karl Gebhardt**, Ohio EPA Deputy Director for Water Resources, while expert scientist **Dr. Chris Winslow** of The Ohio State University Stone Lab will address the complex issues underlying algal blooms in the Great Lakes.
- U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office Director **Chris Korleski** and Alliance for the Great Lakes CEO **Joel Brammeier** will join the Symposium at the end of the day for the Great Lakes Restoration and Recreation Panel where they will discuss the delisting of the Cuyahoga, the US-Canada water quality agreement, and other issues affecting the health of Great Lakes Ecosystems.
- The City of Club of Cleveland will present "Ninth Coast Guard District: Ensuring the Safety, Security and Stewardship of Our National Treasure," the annual State of the Great Lakes forum, a lunchtime conversation with Rear Admiral **June E. Ryan**, Commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Ninth Guard District.

### About the Great Lakes Symposium

The Great Lakes Symposium is a public program focusing on timely legal issues impacting the Great Lakes. The Symposium will take place at The City Club of Cleveland from 8:30-4:30. The program will be followed immediately by a reception and fundraiser to benefit the CMBA's Environmental Law Scholarship, which provides assistance to law school students working in the public or nonprofit sectors in unpaid summer jobs.

More details and registration information on the 2016 Great Lakes Symposium are available online at [www.CleMetroBar.org](http://www.CleMetroBar.org).

### About the CMBA

The nonprofit Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association operates as a center for legal professionalism in the region, promoting the highest ethical and professional standards. Serving the largest legal community in the state, the CMBA has nearly 6,000 members. Learn more at [www.CleMetroBar.org](http://www.CleMetroBar.org).