

**Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
Certificate Program, Spring 2026**

- 8:15 – 9:00 *Registration and buffet breakfast*
- 9:00 – 10:00 **Legal Authority of Boards of Health, Cheryl Sbarra**
- Welcome and Housekeeping
 - Authority to Enact Public Health Laws
 - Authority to Regulate Specific Activities
 - Nuisance
 - Noisome trades
 - Inspections
- 10:00 – 11:00 **Public Records, Open Meeting, and Conflict of Interest Laws and how they can affect controversial issues, Mike Hugo**
- 11:00 – 11:10 *Break – coffee/tea/water*
- 11:10 – 11:50 **SAPHE 2.0: Changes in the delivery of public health services, including workforce standards, data collection and analysis, MA Dept. of Public Health – Office of Local and Regional Health (OLRH)**
- 11:50 – 12:10 **Lobbying v. Advocacy/Education - Refresher, M. Hugo and C. Sbarra**
- 12:10 – 12:45 *Buffet lunch and dessert*
- 12:45 – 1:30 **Conducting Quasi-Administrative and Quasi-Judicial Hearings: Suggested Best Practices, C. Sbarra**
- 1:30 – 2:30 **Public Health and Environmental Protection: Examining Site Assignment Authority – a Case Study of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) siting, M. Hugo**
- 2:30 – 2:40 *Break – snacks and beverages*
- 2:40 – 3:10 **Liability Protection for Boards of Health and staff, C. Sbarra**
- 3:10 – 4:00 **What’s Coming Down the Pike? C. Sbarra**
Including - Recent judicial decisions; Housing Court protocol; Cannabis social consumption regulations; Kratom and intoxicating synthetic substances; opioid abatement strategies.