# CANNABIS RISK ASSESSMENT SERVICES

# Duane Morris<sup>®</sup>



With cannabis legalized in one form or another in every U.S. state where Duane Morris has an office, our attorneys are uniquely situated to assist clients in achieving their business goals in this rapidly growing industry. Duane Morris attorneys have provided guidance on key considerations and assessed risk for large companies contemplating entry into or seeking to provide products or services to the cannabis industry. In addition to advising participants in connection with medicinal and adult-use matters, the firm has extensive experience representing clients in other sectors whose businesses intersect with the expanding legal cannabis sector.

# RANGE OF SERVICES

- Providing regulatory compliance advice
- Counseling on banking and finance issues
- Assessing current litigation in the industry and full-scale representation of clients
- Advising on labor, employment and immigration issues impacted by industry involvement
- Drafting and negotiating partnership and operating agreements, as well as contracts for services
- Corporate structuring to mitigate risk

# **INDUSTRIES SERVED**

- Advertising
- Banking
- E-commerce platforms
- Education
- National retailers Educational research Natural gas
- Family offices
- Food and beverage
- Higher education
- Insurance

# 2018 Farm Bill

The 2018 Farm Bill removed hemp from the Controlled Substances Act and contained other key updates, including:

Media and marketing firms

Multinational government

Pharmaceutical and tobacco

Technology and software

contractors

Securities

- Providing green light for banking, investing and insuring hemp-derived cannabidiol (CBD) products; and
- Barring the creation of laws prohibiting the interstate transportation of hemp or CBD derived from hemp.

## LEADERS IN THE FIELD

#### Chambers USA

National Leader in Cannabis Law National Leading Attorneys: Tracy Gallegos, Paul Josephson & Michael Schwamm

#### The Legal 500

Leading Law Firm in Cannabis Leading Lawyers: Michael Schwamm

# Law360

2022 Cannabis Group of the Year

#### National Law Journal

Cannabis Trailblazers: Christiane Campbell, Tracy Gallegos, Paul Josephson & Michael Schwamm

#### Cannabis Law Report

Global Top 200 Lawyers: Tracy Gallegos, Paul Josephson & Michael Schwamm

#### Insider NJ

Cannalnfluencers - People Shaping Cannabis Industry in New Jersey: Paul Josephson

The Insider 100: Cannabis Power List: Paul Josephson

# New Jersey Law Journal

New Jersey Trailblazers (Cannabis): Paul Josephson

### **REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS**

- Provide cannabis-related regulatory advice to a Fortune 500 natural gas company in connection with its evaluation of supplying natural gas and related products and equipment to cannabis cultivators and processors.
- Surveyed the federal and state regulatory framework pertaining to the distributing, marketing and selling of hemp and hempderived CBD-containing products in more than 20 states.



Chambers AND PARTNERS



- Represented Jane Technologies, which operates a tech platform to connect consumers and dispensaries to analyze the risk/state regulatory issues in integrating in a thirdparty payment platform.
- Advising several FINRA-registered broker-dealers with respect to their acting as a placement agent as part of a public offering syndicate or secondary trading activity for cannabis companies.
- Ongoing counsel to several family offices relating to the risk of investing in the cannabis space.
- Provide cannabis-related regulatory advice to a worldrenowned neurosurgeon in connection with a clinical research program involving THC and CBD.
- Advised a registered broker-dealer on the risk associated with entering the cannabis space and to determine the collateral impact to its license in a noncannabis state due to activity in a cannabis state.
- Regularly advising clients on the potential risks and costs associated with becoming a regulated/licensed company as a result of their investment.
- Advised a client regarding the potential risks under federal law for insuring the design and building of a medical marijuana facility in Colorado.
- Advising educational research facilities about the conflict between state and federal law in connection with cannabisrelated research (clinical and otherwise), including scope of research, funding streams and certain issues unique to organizations that receive substantial federal funding, DEA compliance and to develop and analyze institutional guidance and applicable policies.
- Advising universities about the conflict between obligations under federal law and potential obligations to/rights of students and employees under state medical marijuana laws.
- Advising a company in the tobacco industry in connection with its expansion into the hemp-derived CBD vaping category.
- Provided advice to large, multinational software company regarding risks and opportunities associated with selling software and software consulting services to cannabis business in the United States and Canada.
- Advised a large, multinational insurance company regarding risks and opportunities associated with offering insurance to cannabis business in jurisdictions in North America and Europe.





#### **OFFICE LOCATIONS & REACH**



#### UNITED STATES

Atlanta	Miami
Austin	New Jersey North
Baltimore	New Jersey South
Boca Raton	New York
Boston	Philadelphia
Chicago	Pittsburgh
Dallas	San Diego
Fort Worth	San Francisco
Houston	Silicon Valley
Las Vegas	Washington, D.C.
Los Angeles	Wilmington

#### INTERNATIONAL

Hanoi Ho Chi Minh City London Myanmar

- Shanghai Singapore Sydney
- > Also satellite offices, including Bangor and Portland, Maine; Berwyn, Pennsylvania; and Seattle, Washington
- > Alliances in Mexico and throughout Latin America
- > Leadership position with international network of independent law firms

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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