



CANNABIS INDUSTRY

LICENSING, COMPLIANCE AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



FIRM OVERVIEW

Larkin Hoffman provides counsel to organizations in a wide variety of areas including corporate and governance matters, litigation, government relations, intellectual property, information technology, taxation, labor and employment, real estate and franchising. We nurture client relationships through exceptional service, teamwork and creativity, and we foster a friendly and professional atmosphere where our attorneys collaborate openly.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

We help cannabis businesses establish their presence in Minnesota. Becoming familiar with the intricacies of the legal system as it relates to a cannabis business can be challenging given the current uncertainties in regulatory frameworks and legal requirements. We have established a brief overview of some key areas you will need to consider:

Real Estate

If your company plans to purchase or lease property, our team is able to help navigate local real estate laws and developing regulations for running a cannabis business. It is essential to have an attorney review your commercial lease or real estate purchase to ensure you will be able to run your business as intended.

Land Use

Navigating the land use process often involves handling zoning, plan changes, preliminary plat approvals, planned unit developments, conditional use permits, interim use permits, and variances. Seek legal assistance to streamline the process and negotiate necessary approvals.

Entity Selection and Formation

It can be difficult to determine the most suitable business entity type (e.g., corporation, limited liability company, partnership) to meet your company's goals and needs. Each entity type has its own advantages, disadvantages, tax implications, and legally required structure.

Regulatory Compliance

Understanding the specific requirements of the city in which your business plans to operate. This includes obtaining the necessary licenses and permits, as well as understanding local tax obligations.

Taxation

Understanding the tax obligations for cannabis suppliers, manufacturers and retailers operating in Minnesota. This includes federal taxes, state taxes, sales taxes, and potentially other local taxes.

Intellectual Property Protection

If your business has trademarks, patents, copyrights, or trade secrets, you will need to ensure these are protected under U.S. law.

Contracts and Agreements

Ensure that any contracts or agreements the company enters satisfy Minnesota and Federal law and protect your company's interests.

Employment Laws

Become familiar with federal and state employment laws. This encompasses areas such as wages, workplace safety, employee rights and visa/work permits for employees.



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Liquor and Cannabis
Licensing and Compliance

CANNABIS LICENSING AND COMPLIANCE

Larkin Hoffman has been assisting clients in resolving their licensing matters for decades. Our team is able to assist in obtaining and transferring licenses, resolving licensing disputes and violations, and training. Several of our professionals have worked for or with cities and municipal authorities on the issuance of liquor licenses. Going forward, we will also be the source of advice for cannabis licenses in retail, hospitality, and other venues.

For all licensing matters, large or small, we begin with a tried-and-true due diligence phase and provide guidance throughout the application and license issuance phases. Once obtained, liquor and cannabis licenses provide valuable market access for businesses. We advise and assist in transferring or renewing the licenses when needed and address compliance issues associated with the license and operation of the business.

Larkin Hoffman frequently represents licensed business owners and operators in negotiating resolutions of license violations with law enforcement and licensing officials and in obtaining renewal of licenses.

We provide broad licensing counsel and legal assistance to the hospitality industry and have represented several local, national, and international restaurant and hotel operators in obtaining new liquor licenses, license renewals, and interim management agreements, as well as other local permits and licenses.

Even though cannabis licensing is new to Minnesota. We are positioned to work on the application process as it is developed by the state and at the local levels. Additionally, Larkin Hoffman is part of the SCG Legal network and can call upon member firms in states with existing cannabis licensing experience when needed.

Scan to Listen to Doug Junker's
Recent Podcast Discussing
Cannabis Licensing



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Larkin Hoffman Public Affairs ("LHPA"), an ancillary business of Larkin Hoffman, provides high quality and cost-effective non-legal public affairs and government relations services to clients at all levels of government. Representing clients before city councils, county boards, and the state legislature, LHPA's bipartisan team of government relations professionals leverage decades of relationships with government officials, policymakers, community organizations and other groups to bring attention to important issues, help define regulations and influence policies that matter to our clients.

When seeking to influence state or local governments, vigilance in issue monitoring and astute policy analysis are paramount. During the legislative session, our team works inside the Capitol to closely monitor legislation and understands the critical role of discerning how specific legislative measures, regulations, and policies could impact our client's interests. We also engage with lawmakers to identify nuanced issues and legislative language potentially impacting our clients to ensure that, when the final language is signed into law, our client's voices have been included in the process.

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