

Lisa L. Pittman

Partner - Austin

Lisa Pittman focuses on litigation and regulatory compliance. Throughout Ms. Pittman's 20-year career, she has litigated and tried disputes relating to labor & employment, breach of contract, commercial banking, fraud, fiduciary duty, construction defect and injury, deceptive trade practices, premises liability, professional liability, and products liability. She also possesses extensive expertise in complex commercial insurance coverage matters, having both defended insurance companies and advocated for policy holders in commercial property, residential property, and life insurance matters.

Ms. Pittman is a pioneering figure in the emerging legalized hemp/cannabis industry in Texas. Ms. Pittman is an appointee to the Texas Department of Agriculture's Industrial Hemp Advisory Council. She is also a non-resident fellow of the Drug Policy Program at Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy. Ms. Pittman presented the American Bar Association's first marijuana law CLE at its annual meeting in New York City in 2017, resulting in the creation of the American Bar Association's Task Force on Cannabis Law and Policy, and she is the Chair of the American Bar Association's Cannabis Law & Policy Committee for 2021-2022.

From her participation in the nascent cannabis industry, Ms. Pittman has represented a broad range of clients from investors to ancillary service and product providers to "plant touching" companies — farmers, processors, manufacturers, laboratories, distributors, and retailers. Some of these clients have now expanded into other countries. In pursuit of becoming an authority in this area, she understands the many challenges facing marijuana and hemp businesses, such as tax, banking, insurance, and regulatory compliance issues, and she has grown a vast network of experts to assist in these areas. Ms. Pittman keeps abreast of the constantly evolving laws, news, and deals occurring in the cannabis industry internationally on a daily basis.

From her extensive experience in breach of contract in litigation, Ms. Pittman is adept at negotiation and contract drafting, and her broad base of knowledge in many legal areas gained from her litigation experience allows her to give comprehensive business and legal advice to clients in the cannabis industries, including investment and growth strategies, and risk management and mitigation to avoid civil litigation, criminal prosecution, or regulatory violations. She has assisted marijuana and hemp license applicants in multiple states across the country, including guiding Louisiana State University through its rollout of Louisiana's medical marijuana program.

Ms. Pittman is also a certified mediator and arbitrator.



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Languages: Spanish

Education

University of Houston Law Center

J.D., Graduated Top 1/3 of Class
Honors: Dean's Merit List, Moot Court Finalist

University of Texas at Austin

B.A.
Major: English
Minor: Psychology and Spanish

Bar Admissions

Colorado

Texas

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court – Colorado

U.S. District Court – E. District of Texas

U.S. District Court – N. District of Texas

U.S. District Court – S. District of Texas

U.S. District Court – W. District of Texas

9th Circuit Court of Appeals

Honors & Achievements

- **Awardee**, Texas Lawyer Trailblazer Award, 2020
- **Awardee**, National Law Journal Trailblazer Award – Cannabis Law, 2020

Professional Affiliations

- **Non-resident Fellow**, Rice University Baker Institute for Public Policy, Drug Policy Program
- **Chair**, American Bar Association’s Cannabis Law & Policy Committee, 2021 –2022
- **Appointee**, Texas Department of Agriculture Industrial Hemp Advisory Council, 2020 – Present
- **Vice-Chair of Publications**, Cannabis Law & Policy Committee, 2019 –Present
- **Member**, The Colorado Bar Association, 2018 –Present
- Leadership Austin, Class of 2017
- American Bar Association Leadership Academy Class of 2016
- Austin Bar Association Leadership Academy Class of 2016
- **Vice-Chair**, Product Liability Committees, 2015 –Present
- **Vice-Chair**, Corporate Counsel Committee, 2015 –Present
- **Vice-Chair of Publications**, Business Litigation Committee, 2012 –Present
- **Member**, College of the State Bar of Texas, 2009—Present
- **Author**, Editorial Board, Managing Editor, 2006 – Present: Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Law Journal.
- The American Bar Association – Tort, Trial & Insurance Practice Section, 2002 – Present
- **Member**, The Texas Bar Association, 2001 –Present

Speaking Engagements

- **Panelist**, *Insuring Cannabis In Texas*, Insurance Law Section, July 2021
- **Panelist**, *Cannabis: 20th Century Highs to 21st Century Wellness*, American Bar Association Senior Lawyer Division, June 2021
- **Panelist**, *Cannabis: 20th Century Highs to 21st Century Wellness*, American Bar Association Senior Lawyer Division, June 2021
- **Moderator**, *The End of the Mexican Cartel: How Cannabis Legalization Will Impact the Global Landscape*, Benzinga Cannabis Capital Conference, June 2021
- **Panelist**, *Differentiation in Cannabis Law*, CannaLawSummit, May 2021
- **Panelist**, *What’s Next for Cannabis & Psychedelics?*, CannaLawSummit, May 2021
- **Panelist**, *What’s Next for Cannabis & Psychedelics?*, CannaLawSummit, May 2021
- **Panelist**, *The State of Texas Hemp: How we got there and where we are headed*, Lucky Leaf Expo, May 2021
- **Panelist**, *Texas Legislative Panel*, ATX Hemp & Wellness Convention, May 2021
- **Panelist**, *The Experience of Minority-Owned Business Owners in the Cannabis Space*, Willie Nelson’s Luck Reunion, April 2021
- **Panelist**, *In Conversation: Sid Miller & Lisa Pittman*, Willie Nelson’s Luck Reunion, April 2021
- **Panelist**, *Texas & The Economic Impacts of Legalization - The Competitive Spirit of Texas Entrepreneurship*, Willie Nelson’s Luck Reunion, April 2021
- **Panelist**, *Industrial Hemp Supply Chain*, Willie Nelson’s Luck Reunion, April 2021
- **Panelist**, *Hemp & Marijuana Banking*, NWCUA Legal Symposium, December 2020

- **Panelist**, *Texas Marijuana Policy Conference*, November 2020

Publications

- "Hemp CBD: What Seniors Should Know", American Bar Association, June 2021
- "Hemp CBD Lawsuits Stayed Pending FDA Regulation", American Bar Association, June 2021
- "Texas Law Enforcement Keeps Confiscating Legal Hemp Products", Dallas Observer, May 2021
- "NOCO Recap", Texas Hemp Reporter, May 2021
- "Delay in FDA Regulations Pauses Lawsuits Against CBD Companies", Texas Hemp Reporter, March 2021
- "Legal Cannabis in Review 2020", American Bar Association, March 2021
- "This Drug Gets You High And Is Legal (Maybe) Across the Country", New York Times, February 2021
- "Texas smoke shop owner accused of selling MJ says products were legal hemp", Hemp Industry Daily, February 2021
- "Port Lavaca Smoke Shop Owner Turns Self In", Retains Austin Cannabis Law Attorney, Victoria Advocate, February 2021
- "Staying CBD Lawsuits Pending FDA Regulation", Cannabis Law Journal, February 2021
- "Hemp in the Biden Administration: Optimism and Uncertainty", Hemp Industry Daily, February 2021
- "Biden Moves on Climate Change Have Hemp Industry Seeing Opportunity", Hemp Industry Daily January 2021
- "Coats Rose: Staying CBD Lawsuits Pending FDA Regulation," Cannabis Law Journal, February 2021
- "Biden moves on climate change have hemp industry seeing opportunity," Hemp Industry Daily, January 27, 2021
- "The Rise of Hemp Litigation and the Primary Jurisdiction Doctrine," The Judges' Journal, American Bar Association, Winter 2021