Foster Garvey

Emily Harris Gant

Firm Managing Principal | **Seattle**

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Overview

Emily is the Firm Managing Principal. She also serves as compliance and regulatory counsel to alcoholic beverage and cannabis businesses, ensuring they operate lawfully and responsibly while achieving their business and product objectives.

Emily chairs the firm's Alcoholic Beverages practice. She brings decades of experience and innovative strategies to wineries, breweries, distilleries, restaurants, hotels and retailers on liquor licensing, trade practice compliance, distribution issues, contracts, dispute resolution and other liquor-related matters.

She is also the Chair of the Cannabis practice, where she advises licensed producers, processors and retailers, along with those hoping to join the industry. Like alcohol, cannabis is a highly regulated industry. Emily helps clients structure their business entities, contracts and strategic partnerships to ensure compliance with Washington's complex regulatory scheme.

An Oregon native, Emily graduated with honors in History from Whitman College. She then taught second grade in the Mississippi Delta with the Teach for America program.

Emily lives in Seattle with her husband and two daughters.

Areas of Focus

- Intellectual Property Licensing & Transactions
- Alcoholic Beverages
- Business & Commercial Transactions
- Cannabis
- Consumer Brands & Goods
- Food & Beverage

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- Health, Beauty & Wellness
- High Net Worth & Luxury Law
- Hospitality, Travel & Tourism
- Intellectual Property, Privacy & Technology
- Litigation

Admissions

- Washington, 2004
- Oregon, 2014
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington, 2009
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington, 2005
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, 2010

Education

- J.D., University of Washington School of Law, 2004
- B.A., Whitman College (*cum laude*), History, 1999

Honors & Recognitions

- *Chambers USA* (Nationwide) Leading Individual, Cannabis Law, 2021-present
- *Chambers USA* (Nationwide) Leading Individual, Food & Beverages: Alcohol, 2025-present
- Forbes America's Best-In-State Lawyers list, Cannabis Law, 2025
- Rising Star, Washington Super Lawyers, 2010; 2016-2017
- *The Best Lawyers in America®*
  - Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships), 2024-present
  - Leisure and Hospitality Law, 2024-present
- Washington Super Lawyers list, 2020-present
  - Top 50 Women and Top 100 Attorneys, 2024-present
- Top 200 Cannabis Lawyer, 2025-present

Clerkships

- Hon. Elaine M. Houghton, Washington State Court of Appeals, Division II

Professional Activities

- Future of the Law Institute, Past Board Member
- King County Bar Association, Member
- Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle, President, 2019

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  - Former Vice President
- National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, Associate Member
  - 2022 Annual Conference, Planning Committee Co-Chair
- University of Washington School of Law, Lecturer, “Special Topics: Hospitality Law”
- Washington Cannabusiness Association, Associate Member
- Washington Lawyers Practice Manual, Past Editor
- Washington Wine Institute, Associate Member
- Washington Women Lawyers, Member

Community Activities

- Auction of Washington Wines, Past Member of Chairman's Committee
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Past Wine Committee Member

News & Insights

Blog Posts

Washington's LCB Clarifies Legality of Producing Delta-9 THC from Hemp-based CBD - What Cannabis Companies Need to Know

08.12.21

WSLCB Allows Restaurants to Deliver Pre-Mixed Cocktails During Pandemic

05.07.20

Impact of “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” Order on Washington Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries

03.24.20

USDA Releases Proposed Domestic Hemp Regulations: Six Key Takeaways for Licensees

10.30.19

What to Expect When You’re Entering the Cannabis Business

07.27.18

THIS THURSDAY: Oregon Cannabis Business Seminar in Portland!

05.17.17

The Love/Hate Relationship Between the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Industries

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05.11.17

Oregon Cannabis Business Seminar in Portland on May 18!

05.01.17

GSB to Host Half-Day Program Focused on Helping Cannabis Businesses Transition to Maturity

10.28.16

LCB Updates List of Approved Pesticides

06.08.16

Washington State Bar Association's CLE Seminar – "Marijuana Law: Changes in Regulation and Best Practices"

04.08.16

Join Us Next Week at the 2016 Cannabis Collaborative Conference in Portland!

01.28.16

Tacoma Passes Moratorium on New Retail Stores, Medical Cooperatives

01.20.16

Shrinking Buffer Zones? Municipalities Now Have Discretion to Decrease the 1,000 Foot Requirement

01.20.16

Swag: What Can Your Hotel Restaurant Accept for Free?

09.17.15

News

71 Foster Garvey Attorneys Selected to the 2027 Best Lawyers® Lists; Six Named 'Lawyer of the Year'

08.20.26

19 Attorneys Earn Recognition in 2026 Washington Super Lawyers; Emily Gant Named a Top Attorney

08.03.26

Foster Garvey Announces Leadership Team Moves, Positioning Firm for Future Growth

07.01.26

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Foster Garvey Recognized Among Nation's Top Firms in 2026 Chambers USA Guide: 34 Attorneys and 15 Practices Ranked

06.04.26

Emily Harris Gant Recognized Among Global Top 200 Cannabis Lawyers

09.03.25

71 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among the 2026 Best Lawyers in America; Paul Trinchero Named 'Lawyer of the Year'

08.21.25

Emily Harris Gant Featured in Washington Super Lawyers for Cannabis Industry Work

08.07.25

19 Foster Garvey Attorneys Named to the 2025 Washington Super Lawyers Lists; Emily Harris Gant Earns Special Recognition

08.01.25

Tom Ahearne and Emily Gant: Two of Only 13 Washington Attorneys Named to Forbes 2025 America's Best-In-State Lawyers List

07.10.25

Foster Garvey Recognized Among Nation's Top Firms in 2025 Chambers USA Guide; 26 Attorneys and 13 Practices Ranked

06.05.25

65 Foster Garvey Attorneys Selected to The Best Lawyers in America® 2025, Three Named 'Lawyer of the Year'

08.15.24

14 Attorneys Named to 2024 Washington Super Lawyers Lists; Emily Gant Featured Among Top Attorneys

07.31.24

Foster Garvey Recognized Among Nation's Top Firms in 2024 Chambers USA Guide; 20 Attorneys and 10 Practices Ranked

06.06.24

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57 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among the 2024 Best Lawyers in America; Two Portland Attorneys Named 'Lawyer of the Year'

08.17.23

13 Attorneys Recognized on 2023 Washington Super Lawyers Lists

07.31.23

Foster Garvey Receives Honors in 2023 Chambers USA Guide; 21 Attorneys and 10 Practices Featured

06.01.23

Emily Gant Quoted in Seattle Times Article on Cannabis-Infused Alcohol

01.11.23

Ganjapreneur Features Emily Gant on the Evolution of Cannabis Industry Regulations

09.07.22

12 Attorneys Recognized in Washington Super Lawyers for 2022

07.14.22

Foster Garvey Recognized Among Nation’s Leading Law Firms in 2022 Chambers USA Guide; 21 Attorneys and 10 Practices Featured

06.01.22

Emily Harris Gant Named to National Law Journal's 2022 Cannabis Law Trailblazers List

04.01.22

11 Attorneys Recognized in Washington Super Lawyers for 2021

07.15.21

Foster Garvey Named Among Leading Law Firms in Chambers USA; Three Attorneys Added to Rankings

05.20.21

11 Attorneys Named Washington Super Lawyers and Five Named Rising Stars

07.16.20

Fleeing a Life of Political Upheaval and Violence in Haiti

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03.01.19

Emily Harris Gant, Principal at Garvey Schubert Barer, Elected President of the Board of Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle

01.01.19

Emily Gant Quoted in Travel Weekly on the Risk of Carrying Pot within U.S. airports

01.15.18

Emily Gant Quoted in Travel Weekly Regarding Growth of Pot Tourism

01.07.18

Events

"Industry Slowdown," 2026 National Conference of State Liquor Administrators Northern/Southern Regional Conference

09.14.26

"Female Voices in Hemp," Sip Forward Roundtable, Sipland & Wims!

10.22.25

"Key Legal Considerations for Hemp-Derived CBD and THC Beverage Producers," Sovos ShipCompliant

06.05.25

"Cannabis and Hemp in Flux: Federal Scheduling, State Laws and Market Realities," 28th Annual Wine, Beer & Spirits Law National SuperConference

09.24.26

National Conference of State Liquor Administrators (NCSLA) 2024 Annual Conference

6.16.24-6.19.24

"High on Taxes: A Global Ganja Gala," American Bar Association

04.05.24

"Pouring Over the Law: Wine, Spirits and Beer," Washington State Bar Association

03.29.24

California Bottle Bill Webinar: WA Wine Institute

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02.01.24

“Ryan McNeice Law & Entrepreneurship CLE: Starting a Winery,” Gonzaga University School of Law

10.13.23

“Private Labels in a Three-Tier System,” National Conference of State Liquor Administrators (NCSLA) 2023 Northern/Southern Regional Conference

09.18.23

“Follow the Money: Is ‘this’ a Three Tier Problem?” 2023 Annual Conference, National Conference of State Liquor Administrators

06.13.23

"Intersection of Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis," National Conference of State Liquor Administrators – 2022 Annual Conference

06.21.22

“The ‘Ins and Outs’ of Private Label Products,” National Conference of State Liquor Administrators’ 2021 Annual Conference

08.29.21

“Cannabis and Hemp: Up in Smoke? How the Hospitality Industry Can Avoid Traps for the Unwary,” Hospitality Lawyer’s Virtual Hospitality Law Conference

06.30.20

“Wine in Times of COVID-19: How to Survive and Thrive,” Wine Industry COVID-19 Requirements, Relief & Recommendations Webinar

04.10.20

“Who’s Getting Into the Cannabis Industry? The Latest Legalization Efforts; Impact on the Alcohol Beverage Industry,” 24th Annual Wine, Beer & Spirits Law

09.17.19

“Unusual Licensed Premises,” NCSLA 2019 Central/Western Regional Conference

09.08.19

“CBD - New Gold Rush or Regulatory Minefield,” The Hospitality Law Conference 2.0 Series – Houston

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04.10.19

“CBD and Hemp: How the 2018 Farm Bill May Impact Alcohol's 3-Tier System,” ABA Business Law Section Spring Meeting

03.29.19

“Mary Janes: The Women of Weed,” Eden Labs, Inc.

05.15.18

"Weed Tourism: What to Know Before Holding Cannabis Functions at Your Premises," HLC Series 2.0 - Houston (The Hospitality Law Conference)

04.12.18

“Hot Topics in Cannabis Law: What You Need to Know About the Federal Government and Washington State,” Cannabis Investment Network

03.28.18

Growing Up Green: Learning How to Blossom in Oregon's Budding Marketplace

05.18.17

“Marijuana: The Legalized ‘Green Rush’ Impacting Insurers and Professionals,” Professional Liability Underwriting Society

10.20.16

“Cannabis Business 101,” NORML Legal Seminar

06.04.16

“Liquor Licensing + Food and Beverage Law,” University of Washington School of Law Hospitality and Travel Law Symposium 2016

04.15.16

“Marijuana Law: Changes in Regulation and Best Practices,” WSBA CLE

04.12.16

“R9 Town Hall on Hotels,” Pacific Hospitality Development LLC

03.08.16

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Legal Alerts

DOJ Final Order Loosens Rules For Medical Marijuana

04.24.26

Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board Seeks Feedback on Proposed Rules for Expanded Alcohol Service Areas

08.08.25

Comply Before You Try: Washington's Revamped Cannabis Sampling Rules

04.08.25

Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board Announces New Online Licensing Portal

03.28.25

Washington Proposes New Rules to Address Alcohol Merchandising Practices

03.11.25

New Direct-to-Consumer Law Permits Shipments of Distilled Spirits, Cider and Mead to New Yorkers

09.05.24

Publications

Five Things to Do If You're Thinking of Selling Your Cannabis Business

08.19.21

Protecting the Future of Cannabis Biotechnology

05.06.20

What to Expect When You’re Entering the Cannabis Business

07.27.18

Connect with Emily

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