



→ Christopher Van Gundy

Partner

Four Embarcadero Center
Seventeenth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111

T: +1.415.774.2924

F: +1.415.403.6003

cvangundy@sheppardmullin.com

Christopher Van Gundy is a partner in the Business Trial Practice Group in the firm's San Francisco office.

Areas of Practice

Chris counsels and represents food companies in litigation matters involving Lanham Act and consumer false advertising claims, class actions and brand protection, as well as in regulatory matters involving supply chain liability, product labeling reviews, California's Proposition 65, food borne pathogens, and "organic," "natural," "healthy," and nutrient content claims, to name a few. Chris also counsel companies regarding federal, state, and local regulatory compliance, labeling issues, and supply chain liability in the CBD/cannabis space. Prior to joining Sheppard Mullin, Chris' in-house experience included representation of an affiliated group of food companies involving marquee brands of juice, bottled water, tree nuts and citrus.

Chris has extensive jury trial experience and success in prosecuting and defending false advertising litigation, distribution and trademark disputes, bodily injury, class actions, insurance coverage work, and general commercial arbitration and litigation matters. In his 25+ years of experience as both in-house and outside counsel, he has enjoyed extensive first chair case and trial responsibility in a wide variety of food and general commercial matters, in U.S. and foreign court and arbitral tribunals.

He is one of the founders of the California State Bar's Food Law Committee, promoting education, awareness and practice development of an emerging body of food law and regulation. Chris co-hosts an annual food law conference, and is a frequent speaker on a wide variety of food law issues.

Articles

- What We Learned From FDA's Public Hearing On Cannabis
Law360, 06.04.2019

Speaking Engagements

Speaker, "What's the Deal with CBD?" American Bar Association Business Law Basics Webinar, January 9, 2020

Speaker, "What is FDA's Role in the Regulation of CBD?" Food and Drug Law Institute Legal and Practical Issues in the Evolving World of Cannabis Regulation, November 18, 2019

Co-Chair, "CLE International's 4th Annual Food Law Seminar," UCLA Law Faculty Center, Los Angeles, CA, June 6-7, 2019

Panelist, "How Cannabis & Hemp Might Disrupt the Industry," Tobacco Manufacturers' Association 104th Annual Meeting & Conference, Falls Church, VA, April 8-10, 2019

Co-Chair, "CLE International's Food Law Seminar," Denver, CO, April 19-20, 2018

Co-Chair, "CLE International's Food Law Seminar," Austin, TX, May 11-12, 2017

Co-Chair, "CLE International's Food Law Seminar," Washington, D.C., March 17-18, 2016

Speaker at CLE International's Annual Food Law Conference since 2014

Events

Food For Thought: Functional Foods, Dietary Supplements, and Personalized Nutrition
FDLI Webinar
01.13.2021

Product Labeling & Advertising Claims Check-Up
Webinar, 10.14.2020

FDLI Annual Conference: Exploring Advanced Topics in Food and Drug Law
05.07.2020

CLE International's 5th Annual Food Law Conference
03.02.2020 and 03.03.2020

Webinar: Doing Business in China for Food Companies: An Insider's Update
via GlobalMeet
02.26.2020

Cannabis Webinar Wednesday: Getting Your CBD/Hemp Product To Market- Current Issues in Risk Management
02.19.2020

Business Law Basics webinar - What's the Deal with CBD?
American Bar Association
01.09.2020

CLE International's 3rd Annual Food Law Conference
Innovative Foods & Other Hot Topics
April 19-20, 2018

CLE International's 2nd Annual Food Law Conference
A Comprehensive Review of the Evolving Legal Landscape
May 11-12, 2017

Memberships

Member, Food, Drug & Law Institute, Cannabis Committee

Member, Food & Drug Law Institute 2021 Food Advertising, Labeling, and Litigation Conference Planning Committee

Podcasts & Webinars

Product Labeling & Advertising Claims Check-Up Webinar
10.14.2020

Cannabis Webinar Wednesday: Getting Your CBD/Hemp Product To Market- Current Issues in Risk Management
02.19.2020

Practices

Litigation

Class Action Defense

Industries

Cannabis

Food and Beverage

Wine

Education

J.D., University of California at Berkeley, 1988

A.B., Brown University, 1985, *magna cum laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*

Clerkships

Law Clerk to the Honorable Spencer Williams, U.S. District Court, San Jose.

Admissions

California