



Cassandra LaRae-Perez, Special Counsel

claraeperez@gravelshea.com

Cassandra LaRae-Perez joined the Gravel & Shea corporate team in 2018 as Special Counsel after practicing with another prominent Vermont law firm for nearly 14 years. At Gravel & Shea, Cassandra's practice is dedicated to Food & Beverage and Intellectual Property laws. In collaboration with the firm's full-service team, she provides guidance on a complete suite of legal needs tailored for New England's food and beverage producers, ranging from general business issues such as labor and employment questions, litigation and real estate to topics specific to the food industry, including FDA or USDA and Vermont state licensing and regulatory compliance, product recalls, certifications, labeling, distribution, co-packing, nondisclosure and other agreements, and manufacturing practice requirements. Cassandra also manages an extensive international trademark portfolio for companies inside and outside the food and beverage industry, helping her clients protect their intellectual property in the United States and around the globe.

EDUCATION

Boston University School of Law, J.D. 2002, *cum laude*

University of California, San Diego, B.A. 1991, *magna cum laude*

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance, FSMA PCQI

Wine & Spirit Education Trust, Diploma Candidate

Wine Scholars Guild, French Wine Scholar

University of Burgundy, Center of International French Studies, France

Leiden University, Law School, Netherlands

Birmingham University, England

HONORS

Victor J. Garo Public Service Award, awarded as alumna by Boston University School of Law (2010)

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Board Member, Vermont Specialty Food Association

Member, Consumer Brands Association

Member, Food and Drug Law Institute

President, American Inns of Court, Central Vermont Chapter

Committee Secretary, Vermont State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (2012-2019)

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Program Chair and Counselor, American Inns of Court, Central Vermont Chapter (2013-2015)
Committee Member, Program Awards Committee, American Inns of Court (2013-2015)
Board Member, Vermont Asylum and Immigration Advocates/Vermont Refugee Assistance (2004-2014)
Member, Chittenden County, Washington County, Vermont, New Hampshire and American Bar Associations

PRESENTATIONS

Cannabis in the Specialty Food Industry, Panel Discussion, Vermont Specialty Food Association, Spring Annual Meeting (June 2019)
Food and Beverage Law, Vermont Bar Association Mid-Year Meeting (March 2019)
CBD in Food and Beverages - FDA, TTB and USPTO Regulatory Status, Vermont Cannabis Solutions Industry Meeting (May 2019)
Impact of Blockchain Enabling Regulation in Vermont on Food Safety, Webinar, University of Vermont Extension (November 2018)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Massachusetts (2002)
Vermont (2003)
New Hampshire (2009)
U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont (2010)
U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire (2010)

PRACTICE AREAS:

- Food & Beverage Law
- Intellectual Property