

## Joslin E. Monahan

MEMBER

Grand Rapids

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Joslin Monahan is a trial and appellate litigation attorney experienced in municipal, real estate, business, receiverships, adversarial bankruptcy, and land use and zoning litigation. Ms. Monahan has a robust, full-service cannabis law practice serving individuals and companies that grow, produce, distribute and sell a wide variety of goods and amenities.

### Cannabis Law

Ms. Monahan is a recognized authority in emerging cannabis law matters, including entity formation, applicant requirements and background checks, and licensing with Michigan's Cannabis Regulatory Agency as well as municipal licenses, permits and ordinances. She counsels business interests in the cannabis industry, which encompasses marijuana, industrial hemp and CBD. Ms. Monahan has helped with financing structures, real property use, insurance coverage, dispute resolution, and regulatory compliance.

Beginning in 2012, Ms. Monahan served as Cooperating Attorney with the ACLU of Michigan in the critical decision making process supporting the decriminalization of the possession and use of

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### Practice Areas

- [Litigation](#)
- [Cannabis](#)
- [Criminal](#)
- [White Collar](#)
- [Business and Corporate](#)
- [Government Affairs](#)
- [Hospitality Industry](#)

### Education

- J.D., University of Maryland Francis King Carey Law School, 2007
- M.A., University of Montana, 2003
- B.A., *summa cum laude*, Hope College, 2000

### Admissions

- Michigan
- Montana

### Professional Affiliations and Honors

- International Cannabis Bar Association (INCBA)
- Chosen as a Global Top 200 Cannabis Lawyer by the Cannabis Law Report.
- State Bar of Michigan's Marijuana Law Section
- Western Branch of the ACLU of Michigan, Chair (2015-present) and Member, Lawyers Committee



marijuana in Grand Rapids. Ms. Monahan continues to be a vocal advocate for social justice issues, with particular emphasis on ensuring participants within the cannabis space create opportunities for persons of color wherever possible. The Michigan Supreme Court denied further review of the signature case in 2015, affirming the Michigan Court of Appeals 2013 dismissal of the prosecutor's lawsuit. This case helped pave the way for the eventual vote legalizing cannabis for recreational use in a statewide ballot in 2018.

Ms. Monahan is a member of the International Cannabis Bar Association (INCBA) and the State Bar of Michigan's Marijuana Law Section.

### **Articles and Presentations**

Ms. Monahan is a frequent speaker on various cannabis and litigation related topics, including presentations on licensing, professional ethics, hemp regulations, and FDA compliance.

### **Professional Affiliations, Activities, and Honors**

Ms. Monahan is Chair of the Western Branch of the ACLU of Michigan (6/2015 - Present) as well as a member of the Western Branch of the ACLU of Michigan (6/2014 - Present). She is also a member of the Lawyers Committee for the Western Branch of the ACLU of Michigan (10/2013 - Present).

In 2024, Ms. Monahan was chosen as a Global Top 200 Cannabis Lawyer by the Cannabis Law Report.

### **Education**

Ms. Monahan was awarded her law degree from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey Law School in 2007. While in law school, Ms. Monahan was a



member of the *Journal of Health Care Law and Policy* and a member of Phi Delta Phi. Ms. Monahan also received her Masters of Arts degree in Philosophy from the University of Montana in 2003, where she was the recipient of the University of Montana Philosophy Department full scholarship teaching assistantship. She obtained her B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Hope College in 2000 where she was awarded the Hope College Presidential Scholarship and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Ms. Monahan is admitted to practice in the State of Michigan, the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, the State of Montana, the United States District Court for the District of Montana, United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Montana, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

