

## Author Bio's

### *Andrew Sacks*

Chairman of the Medical Marijuana and Hemp Department - Sacks Weston Diamond



Andrew Sacks is involved with medical marijuana and industrial hemp law formation, regulation, and updates in Pennsylvania, and he is often considered the leading legal professional in the state for these matters. In 2015, he was selected by the American Trade Association for Cannabis and Hemp (ATACH) as the only lawyer to serve on their State Level Coalition. He has since worked extensively with the association to promote fair laws surrounding medical marijuana, cannabis, and hemp, focusing largely on how lawyers can advocate legally for people working within those industries. He has spoken at several seminars, including those for the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP), the Pennsylvania Canna-Business Seminar, and the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Mr. Sacks has personally lobbied state senators in conjunction with ATACH (The American Trade Association for Cannabis and Hemp) to move Pennsylvania's medical marijuana regulations forward. His efforts have helped Pennsylvania create the medical marijuana program currently in formation. He played an integral part in founding the Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Bar Associations' Medical Marijuana and Hemp Law Committees and in helping the Pennsylvania Bar Association gain an understanding of the complexities inherent to medical marijuana law. He is now the co-chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Medical Marijuana and Hemp Law Committee (appointed by Pennsylvania Bar Association President Sara Austin), as well as the Philadelphia Bar Association Business Law Section: Medical Marijuana and Hemp Committee. But perhaps his best contribution was to get the National Lupus Organization to recognize the benefits of medical marijuana and to change its policy to reflect it.

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*Ian Stewart*

Partner - Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP



As co-chair of the firm's Cannabis Law practice, Ian Stewart leverages his 20 years of legal experience to help clients navigate the challenging new risk management, business practices and insurance landscape presented by the rapidly developing area of Cannabis Law. Ian helps traditional and new organizations prepare for regulatory changes and liability trends whether dealing with product liability risks from cannabis products, new product packaging and labeling laws, professional liability risks inherent in operating a dispensary, obstacles to protecting intellectual property, assisting startups with novel risk management methods, or insurance coverage problems created by conflicting state and federal laws. Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP, 555 S. Flower Street, Suite 2900, Los Angeles, CA 90071 [213.330.8830](tel:2133308830) (Direct) [213.443.5100](tel:2134435100) (Main) [213.443.5101](tel:2134435101) (Fax) [ian.stewart@wilsonelser.com](mailto:ian.stewart@wilsonelser.com) (Email) <http://www.wilsonelser.com/services/154-cannabis-law> (Web)

*Otis Felder*

Of Counsel - Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP



Otis Felder is a former Los Angeles Deputy City Attorney who has substantial trial and appellate experience in defending various matters in state and federal courts. Admitted in Alaska, California, Hawai'i, Oregon and Washington, Otis advises clients in a variety of regulatory environments as well as defends them in administrative and litigation matters. As a former assistant to federal and state elected officials, he also understands the legislative process from an unique perspective and has made proposals and assisted various organizations in proposing regulation affecting Cannabis Law. Otis serves on a number of legal educational boards and publications and is a frequent invited speaker on legal developments. Otis also serves as a

Special Master for the Los Angeles Superior Court in protecting privileged information during the execution of search warrants. Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP, 555 S. Flower Street, Suite 2900, Los Angeles, CA 90071 [213.330.8844](tel:213.330.8844) (Direct) [213.443.5100](tel:213.443.5100) (Main) [213.443.5101](tel:213.443.5101) (Fax) [otis.felder@wilsonelser.com](mailto:otis.felder@wilsonelser.com) (Email) <http://www.wilsonelser.com/services/154-cannabis-law> (Web)

*William Roark*

Principal of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin



William G. Roark is a Principal of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin and a member of the firm's Litigation Department. Mr. Roark also represents individuals and businesses in the medical marijuana industry by helping them comply with Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Act. Mr. Roark is co-chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Medical Marijuana and Hemp Law Committee.

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*Jeff Hergott*

Partner - Wildeboer Dellelce



Jeff's practice focuses in the areas of corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions and corporate/commercial law. Jeff has experience representing issuers, investment dealers, private equity firms and other investors in a wide variety of capital markets and M&A transactions. He regularly advises clients on both public offerings and private placements of equity and debt securities, across a broad section of industries, including marijuana, mining, oil and gas, renewable energy, biotech and technology sectors.

Jeff's M&A experience includes advising clients in respect of take-over bids, arrangements and joint ventures and also includes advising clients in connection with going-public transactions such as qualifying transactions and reverse take-overs through the facilities of the TSX Venture Exchange. Jeff also regularly advises clients on private M&A transactions. In the course of his practice, Jeff has also advised public companies with respect to continuous disclosure and corporate governance matters.

*Daniel T McKillop*

Counsel - Scarinci Hollenbeck



Dan McKillop has more than fifteen years of experience representing corporate and individual clients in complex environmental litigations and regulatory proceedings before state and federal courts and environmental agencies arising under numerous state and federal statutes, including the New Jersey Industrial Site Recovery Act (ISRA) and Spill Compensation and Control Act (Spill Act), and the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), and Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. Dan's additional areas of expertise include issues pertaining to federal and state Hazard Communication and Right-to-Know requirements, occupational safety and health issues, asbestos requirements, and underground storage tank regulations. Dan is also well versed in issues pertaining to environmental permitting, environmental auditing, environmental insurance, and the environmental aspects of commercial real estate and business transactions.

Among his honors and awards, Dan was selected as a New Jersey Super Lawyer / Rising Star in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Dan is a Director of the New Jersey State Bar Association Environmental Law Section and serves on a variety of committees and boards, including the New Jersey Commerce and Industry Association's Environmental Business Council steering committee and the New Jersey Law Journal Young Lawyers' Advisory Board.

Dan graduated cum laude from Pace University School of Law in 2001, where he earned certificates in both Environmental Law and International Law. During law school, he worked in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate General at the United States Military Academy at West

Point and also practiced law as a student attorney in the Pace Law School Environmental Litigation Clinic. In addition, he was a member of the law school's Environmental Law Review, chaired Pace University's 2001 National Environmental Moot Court Competition, and led the law school's team in the 2001 International Environmental Moot Court Competition. Dan previously earned his Bachelor's degree in Government and International Studies from the University of Notre Dame.

### *Henry (Hank) Levy*

Founder - The Henry Levy Group



Hank is the founder and majority owner of The Henry Levy Group (HLG), which has its main office in the Rockridge section of Oakland, in existence since 1990. HLG now has offices in Sacramento and Soquel, California. Hank also helped to found Bridge West, CPAs a national network of accounting firm dedicated to the cannabis industry in 2013.

HLG firm specializes in income tax planning and tax compliance for individuals, corporations, partnerships, LLCs, trusts, estates and non-profit clients. It also does bookkeeping/training/consulting on QuickBooks and Xero Accounting software products as well as provides back office services and prepares financial disclosure reports for political campaigns. It is also a member of Euro-Audit, an international accounting association.

HLG obtained its first medical cannabis client in 1998, and now has over 200 clients in this industry in California, Arizona, Colorado, Washington, Nevada, D.C. and Michigan. The firm offers all of its services to our cannabis clients, including political campaign services. Hank is a nationally-known speaker on accounting for cannabis clients, speaking on the 280E Reform Team with Steve DeAngelo (Harborside Health Center, Oakland) and Henry Wykowski, Attorney in the Champ and Olive tax court cases). Hank was an expert witness in the Olive Case in 2012. Hank has also been a speaker at other cannabis-based conferences and is often quoted in trade publications.

The firm is affiliated with other CPAs in Colorado, Arizona, Massachusetts, Nevada and Illinois.

Hank has held faculty positions at various colleges and universities in the San Francisco Bay Area; he is regularly appointed by the Superior Courts of California as a forensic expert,

business appraiser and referee in family law, civil litigation and tax matters, and he holds credentials in business valuation and fraud examination. Hank has been continually involved in professional and community service, including past President of the East Bay Chapter of California Society of CPAs, past Chair of the Local Advisory Board of the local Pacifica radio station, past member of the City of Oakland Business Budget Advisory Committee, current member of the Alameda County Assessment Appeals Board and current director on numerous various non-profit boards. He is trained as a professional mediator and he is a baseball umpire at the youth, high school, college and adult men's levels.

### *Gregory J. Ryan*

Managing Partner - Tesser, Ryan, & Rochman



Gregory J. Ryan Esq. is the managing partner of Tesser, Ryan, & Rochman, LLP.

Mr. Ryan's practice is concentrated in the representation of closely held, entrepreneurial businesses. He also represents clients in commercial litigation and criminal cases, including clients charged with white collar offenses and serious felonies, in both Federal and State courts.

Mr. Ryan often acts as outside counsel to closely held businesses, providing a full range of legal advice and counsel in the daily operation and growth of the businesses. He represents clients in corporate, financial, real estate, and business transactions in the tens of millions of dollars range as well as assisting and counseling in the formation, structuring, and organization of new businesses.

Mr. Ryan also serves as personal counsel and advisor to business owners, persons in the entertainment and sports field, professional, and entrepreneurs, assisting them in their personal and professional matters.

Mr. Ryan served a judicial internship with the Hon. Frederic B. Lacey, United States District Judge in New Jersey. Mr. Ryan served as a member of the Board of Advisors, Fordham University at Lincoln Center. He has lectured for the New York State Bar Association and to various professional associations. He also served as chair of the Business Law program for the National Law Day Program sponsored by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York,

lectured on foreign entities conducting business in the United States for the New York City Chamber of Commerce, and hosted workshops on starting a business for the U.S. Department of Energy and the New York City Partnership, and has co-authored numerous articles on a wide range of topics.

Mr. Ryan is admitted to practice in state and Federal courts in NY and NJ, the US Court of Appeals for Second Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

He is AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell; has been recognized as a top rated lawyer in Business & Commercial Litigation in the Top Rated Lawyers Annual Guide to Business Litigation; and has been selected Top 100 Trial Lawyers by The National Trial Lawyers.

Mr. Ryan is a member of the New York Bar Association and the Committees on Business Law, Commercial and Federal Litigation, and Criminal Justice; the National Trial Lawyers; and the New York Criminal Bar Association.

#### *Education*

Fordham University School of Law, New York, NY *with honors*  
Fordham University, New York, NY

#### *Timothy Nolen - Tesser, Ryan & Rochman*

Associate



Timothy Nolen is an Associate at Tesser, Ryan & Rochman, LLP. Mr. Nolen has a broad range of experience representing clients in New York State and Federal court litigation, administrative and regulatory disputes, and professional liability proceedings.

At Tesser, Ryan & Rochman, Mr. Nolen has represented large and small businesses in a variety of litigation matters ranging from commercial contract disputes to alleged breaches of fiduciary and professional obligations. He has researched and prepared court briefings on complex commercial litigations matters such as the enforceability of certain oral business agreements, the pleading requirements for the Federal Racketeering Influence and Corrupt Organizations

Act, the enforceability of arbitration clauses, and the scope of attorneys' and financial professionals' obligations to clients and third parties.

In the administrative and professional liability practices, Mr. Nolen has represented a variety of different types of professionals in disciplinary and licensing proceedings and has handled a number of administrative appeals before the State Supreme Court and administrative bodies. Mr. Nolen's representation of clients in disciplinary matters has included representation of attorneys, doctors, nurses, and many other licensed professionals. He has successfully appealed a number of adverse administrative determinations to the State Supreme Court and the Appellate Division. Mr. Nolen has also been published multiple times concerning the complexities of New York State administrative appeals procedure.

Prior to his association with Tesser, Ryan & Rochman, Mr. Nolen worked for the Kings County District Attorney's Office and the New York County District Attorney's Office in the Appeals Bureau. Before attending law school, Mr. Nolen was an All-American springboard diver at Williams College. He graduated with honors from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in 2010, where he served on the Journal of Law and Gender and the Bet Tzedek Legal Services Clinic.

Mr. Nolen has been published in the Cardozo Journal of Law and Gender and is a member of the New York State Bar Association and the New York County Lawyers Association.

Mr. Nolen is from Ware, Massachusetts and is licensed to practice law in the states of New York and Massachusetts and before the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

### *Education*

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, NY *with honors*  
Williams College, Williamstown, MA

### *Lance Rogers*

Partner - Greenspoon Marder



Lance Rogers is a partner with Greenspoon Marder and manages the

Cannabis Law practice in California. Admitted to the California State Bar in 2008, Mr. Rogers has

become one of the country's leading authorities on cannabis law. As a litigator, he has handled a wide array of matters related to cannabis including criminal defense, civil rights, asset forfeiture, land use, business disputes, unlawful detainer, and municipal zoning challenges. As a part of his corporate practice, he currently represents many of the leading cannabis companies in the U.S., including retailers, manufacturers, and agriculture ventures. In 2011, Mr. Rogers attained the first dispensary license in Southern California through the County of San Diego. From 2014-2015, his team assisted clients in obtaining commercial cannabis licenses in the Cities of San Diego, Santa Ana, Desert Hot Springs, and Adelanto. He currently works with numerous cannabis farmers in Northern California on corporate compliance and licensing projects. Mr. Rogers has written extensively about the cannabis industry and is a frequent speaker at legal conferences across the United States, including San Diego Americans for Safe Access (2009); Legal Cannabis Institute (2010); San Diego Public Defender (2011); San Diego County Bar Association (2012); NORML Legal Conference, Colorado (2013); Thomas Jefferson School of Law (2014, 2016); Professional Fiduciary Association of California (2014); North County Bar Association (2014, 2015), Cannabis Grand Cru, Colorado (2014), California Bar Association, Intellectual Property Section (2015), Students for Sensible Drug Policy (2015), UC Irvine Drug Symposium (2015), Orange County Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section (2015, 2016), Ganjier Seed Festival (2016), and the Cannabis World Congress & Business Exposition (2016). From 2013-2014, Mr. Rogers served as General Counsel for the California Cannabis Industry Association, a state industry group he helped to form. Phone: (619) 595-4884  
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### *Matthew Ginder*

Senior Counsel - Greenspoon Marder



Matthew Ginder is senior counsel in the Cannabis Law practice group at Greenspoon Marder. Mr. Ginder plays an integral role in the firm's development and expansion of its practice, which provides counsel to clients on the complex legal and business issues impacting cannabis-related companies. Prior to joining Greenspoon Marder, Mr. Ginder worked for a national law firm where he focused his practice on defending broker-dealers and registered representatives in securities related cases filed in federal and state courts, as well as FINRA arbitration proceedings. Additionally, Mr. Ginder represented individuals and entities in commercial disputes involving real estate, investments, and construction. While in law school, Mr. Ginder clerked for two global law firms where he assisted in the practice of estate planning and commercial litigation. Phone: (561) 939-2211 Direct Fax: (561) 807-7526

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*Neal Gidvani*

Senior Counsel - Greenspoon Marder



Neal Gidvani is senior counsel in the Banking & Finance Litigation and Cannabis Law practices of Greenspoon Marder. Mr. Gidvani has several years of experience representing financial institutions and investment groups with all matters related to foreclosure including; mediation, regulatory compliance and general litigation. Additionally, he assists the firm in developing its regulated substances practice on the west coast as he has spent the last few years working with state and local officials representing clients who develop businesses related to the cannabis industry. Prior to joining Greenspoon Marder, Mr. Gidvani maintained his own practice, Silvestri Gidvani, P.C. He worked with large financial institutions, technology star-ups, constructions managers and private equity firms advising on issues of federal and state compliance, contract disputes and foreclosure actions. While earning his degree at the University of Iowa College of Law, he served as a writer for the Iowa Journal of Transnational Law and Contemporary Problems and was awarded the Sandy Boyd University of Iowa College of Law Non-Profit Service Award. Phone: (702) 978-4250 Fax: (954) 333-4257 [neal.gidvani@gmlaw.com](mailto:neal.gidvani@gmlaw.com) 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 400, Las Vegas, NV 89169

*Phillip Silvestri*

Senior Counsel - Greenspoon Marder



Phillip (Phil) Silvestri focuses on representation of clients in highly regulated industries. His practice includes representing creditors in complex default-regulated litigation, bankruptcy, and foreclosure matters, as well as representing business in the cannabis industry. Mr. Silvestri is also an experienced mediator. Mr. Silvestri is one of the most experienced foreclosure mediation advocates in the State of Nevada, having participated in over 2,500 mediations. This experience allows him to be a frequent lecturer and author in the area of creditor rights with an emphasis on foreclosure mediation. It is this mediation experience that led to the Nevada Supreme Court appointing him to the State of Nevada Foreclosure Mediation Program Advisory Committee in 2010, where he has served since that time. In this role, the Court has tasked him with evaluating the effectiveness, operation, policies and practices of the Nevada Foreclosure Mediation Program. Additionally, Mr. Silvestri has been responsible for studying the program rules and making recommendations to the Court regarding improvements to the program. Prior to joining Greenspoon Marder, Mr. Silvestri managed his own practice, Silvestri Gidvani, P.C. representing creditors and cannabis businesses. He also previously worked in the areas of construction defect defense and mass tort litigation. Phone: (702) 978-4249 Fax: (954) 333-4256 Phillip.Silvestri@gmlaw.com 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 400, Las Vegas, NV 89169

### *Valerio Romano*

Attorney - VGR Law Firm



Valerio Romano is an attorney with VGR Law Firm located in Boston, Massachusetts. He is recognized as an expert in the regulatory environment surrounding medical marijuana dispensaries in Massachusetts. He is frequently quoted in the media about the dispensary licensing process, including local zoning, permitting, housing, leasing, and other issues facing applicants and program participants. Valerio is known for his superior knowledge surrounding the complex relationship between federal and state laws as well as the risks associated with each. Currently, he represents many dispensary applicants and registration holders in the Commonwealth and has worked with applicants in other states. He also represents medical marijuana caregivers and patients in both criminal and civil matters. VGR Law Firm, PC 109 State St., #404 Boston, MA 02109

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### *William Stewart*

Med Scientist - Half Baked Labs



Bill Stewart, Med Scientist for Half Baked Labs, believes that cannabis edibles are food first, and that all of our clients are patients. He has been cooking & baking for fifty years, and has a degree in Chemical Engineering from Clemson University. He feels very lucky to have found a business where his areas of nerdiness connect. Bill began creating edibles for a friend with ovarian cancer, and his daughter Camille (who has cerebral palsy) is beginning cannabis treatment. With his roots on the medical side, Bill is dismayed by new legislative rules that are creating difficulty for patients, and is an activist to fight these rules (some legislators might prefer the term “pain in the ass”).

### *Adam Detsky*

Associate - KnightNicastro



Adam Detsky is an attorney practicing in Colorado and New York. He handles a broad range of matters in both state and federal courts from the outset of litigation through trial and appeal. His experience includes product liability actions, premises security, landowner/property owner liability, professional liability and matters involving general allegations of negligence. Adam handles a wide-variety of cannabis risk related issues including marijuana regulation and legal risks and chairs the firm’s committee on cannabis laws, which advises on various topics pertinent to the industry, including banking, insurance, licensure, partnerships and compliance. The firm has offices nationwide and practices in all areas pertinent to the cannabis industry and business. In addition to the practice of law, Adam has served since 2010 as a director of the academic non-profit organization that governs college-level mock trial. Adam has taught trial advocacy to undergraduate students since 2003.

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*James Greenland*

New Zealand Lawyer



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