

ROBERT D. PINSON

Partner



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Rob Pinson concentrates his legal practice on alcoholic beverage law with an emphasis on the manufacturing tier. He assists numerous distilleries, wineries and breweries across the United States with federal and state rules and regulations regarding advertising, marketing and commerce. He works extensively with distilleries and breweries on licensing matters. Rob also provides counsel to alcoholic beverage manufacturers and distributors in transactional matters in which licensing issues play a critical role. Rob formed the Tennessee Distillers' Guild and assisted in the formation of the new Tennessee Whiskey Trail, which comprises approximately 30 distilleries across the state ranging from small, boutique-style operations to well-known distilleries that have been operating for generations.

Additionally, Rob represents clients across a wide range of industries with corporate matters and general business issues. Rob holds an LL.M. in tax law, and he has extensive experience assisting companies and individuals with complex federal and state tax issues. He also advises clients in electioneering and campaign law. He has spoken extensively on legal topics covering alcoholic beverage law, tax law and election law.

Education

- J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 2003
 - Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
 - Student Materials Editor, *Tennessee Law Review*
 - James R. & Nell W. Cunningham Excellence in Legal Writing Award
 - *Tennessee Law Review* Second Year Prize
- LL.M (Taxation), University of Florida Levin College of Law, 2005
- B.A., Oberlin College, 1998

Bar Admissions

- Tennessee
- Kentucky

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Tennessee
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Kentucky

Experience

- Represented distillery with international distribution in its acquisition by a private equity fund and coordinated the national licensing filings that resulted from the acquisition
- Assisted with obtaining licenses for more than two-thirds of the distilleries in Tennessee
- Licensed numerous distilleries, breweries and wineries in New York, California, Arkansas and Louisiana
- Assisted with obtaining wine licenses for more than 250 national and local grocery stores in Tennessee
- Assisted several national restaurant chains with Tennessee licensing due to changes of ownership

Professional

- Member, Nashville, Tennessee and Kentucky Bar Associations

Prior Affiliations

- Partner, Bone McAllester Norton PLLC, Nashville, Tenn.
- Associate, Wyatt Tarrant & Combs, Louisville, Ky.

Community

- YMCA Center for Civic Engagement
- Graceworks

Up Close

Rob was born and raised in Nashville and now lives in Franklin with his wife, Megan, and sons, Clay and Henry. Rob spends most of his spare time with his children and helping around the house. He enjoys exercising so he finds a little time for boxing. He also likes to attend concerts with his wife. After a hard day of obtaining liquor licenses and beer permits for clients, Rob goes home to serve as a punching bag for his two boys.

Articles

- "The Lincoln County Process and the Law," Authored by Robert D. Pinson, Beerbon
- "Space-Aged Whisky Could Soon Become a Reality," authored by Robert Pinson, Beerbon
- "What to Expect During Alcoholic Beverage Recalls," authored by Robert Pinson, Beerbon
- "How Whisky Distillers use Peat Bogs to Create Unforgettable Flavors," Authored by Robert Pinson, Beerbon

Media Mentions

- "Waller recruits Cheek, other alcohol attorneys," Nashville Post
- "Waller snags leading booze team from rival," Nashville Business Journal

Events

- Third Annual Retail Law Symposium