



Stewart J. Weiss

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Overview

About Stew Weiss

Stew Weiss counsels municipalities on land use, government regulations, and contract matters.

Stew focuses on minimizing risk and establishing internal best practices, while providing clients with the flexibility to respond to external opportunities and challenges. He has assisted his local government clients in the negotiation, drafting, and implementation of redevelopment and subdivision agreements, tax incentive and sales tax rebate agreements, and annexation agreements. Mr. Weiss has guided cities and villages through the rewrites of their business licensing, zoning, and subdivision regulations. He has extensive experience in both public contracting and development incentives, and serves as counsel to village boards of trustees, city councils, zoning boards, plan commissions, and electoral boards.

With deep knowledge of the Illinois Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act and the Illinois Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act, he has advised communities and businesses across the state on the regulation and licensing of the cannabis industry.

Stew dedicates his pro bono practice to organizations that link the well-being of communities to open space and urban agriculture. He serves as pro bono counsel to NeighborSpace, a not-for-profit landbank that maintains over 115 community gardens in the City of Chicago. Stew is also a member of the Board of Directors for Growing Home, a jobs training program in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood dedicated to providing essential life skills to persons

with barriers to the job market through urban farming.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, J.D.
Cum Laude
- Claremont McKenna College, Cum Laude

BAR ADMISSIONS/LICENSES

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

MEMBERSHIPS

- Chicago Bar Association - Local Government Committee
Chair (2014-2015), Vice Chair (2014-2013), Legislative
Liaison (2012-2013)

Publications

- Best Practices for Public Participation in Virtual Public
Meetings and Public Hearings | *Elrod Friedman Client
Alert* | April 2020
- An Analysis of Governor Pritzker's "Stay at Home"
Executive Order from a Local Government Perspective |
Elrod Friedman Client Alert | March 2020
- Illinois Legislature Legalizes Recreational Marijuana |
*An Overview of the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act,
Holland & Knight Client Alert* | May 2019

- *Missouri v Seibert - Two-Stepping Towards the Apocalypse* | Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology (2005)

Speaking Engagements

- Cannabis Enforcement Basics for Law Enforcement, Client Roundtable - January 2020
- Standing on the Precipice of Legalization - The State of Local Authority under the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act - Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education 7th Annual Local Government Law Institute - December 2019
- Local Zoning and Regulation of Cannabis Business Establishments - Illinois Municipal League Annual Conference - September 2019
- Recreational Cannabis Legalization, Northwest Municipal Conference - January 2019, DuPage Mayors and Managers Association - February 2019, Illinois Municipal League - April, 2019

Community Service

- Growing Home - Board of Directors
- Domestic Violence Legal Clinic - Volunteer Attorney
- Bowmanville Community Organization - Zoning Committee