

# AGRICULTURAL LAWYER

Agriculture is one of the most regulated industries in our society today, so it is fitting that there are lawyers that specialize in laws pertaining to agriculture. These lawyers deal with water, environmental issues, agricultural labor, marketing, land use, pesticide use, and seed issues.

## WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Assist farmers in succession planning in order to help preserve farms for future generations
- Assist in zoning, land use cases and eminent domain issues
- Obtain licenses and permits that agricultural entities may need in order to operate, such as setting up corporations, proprietorships, and partnerships
- Be a source of information to those in the agricultural industry on labor and employment laws
- Provide guidance in regulatory compliance
- Understand environmental legislation vs. landowner rights
- Assist in the implementation of federal farm policies as they apply within the state
- Provide assistance in preventing fraud and deception in packaging and labeling of products
- Give general legal counsel to individuals, companies or organizations
- Identify and carry out opportunities to help protect farms from urban sprawl and activists
- Develop a detailed knowledge of issues affecting agriculture
- Build relationships with local farmers, extension staff and scientists
- Work collaboratively with peers and external organizations



## WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

A bachelor's degree, a Juris Doctor (JD) and passing a bar exam for your state you wish to practice law in

## THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, English, social science courses, public speaking and debate

## TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

A variety of organizations hire agricultural lawyers, but many are also self-employed

## FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



## SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- American Bar Association
- American Land Title Association
- The Food and Drug Law Institute

## AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$160,000