



## Emily M. Melvin

*Attorney*

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A former farm manager and local-food advocate, Emily knows a thing or two about dedication and hard work. As a member of the firm's Commercial Litigation practice group, Emily brings her passion for advocacy and creative problem solving to every matter.

As an attorney, Emily's professional journey has come full circle. During her undergraduate career at George Washington University in Washington, DC, she studied international affairs and development, focused on improving the lives of others. She continued on this path as a congressional intern on Capitol Hill. Somewhere along her journey toward a career in the law, however, Emily found agriculture. The message behind the local-food movement deeply resonated with her and once she dipped her hands in the soil, her fate was sealed.

For years before returning to the law, Emily worked within communities across the country promoting sustainable farming practices and improving local food access. From founding an educational farm at a Virginia school providing food and learning opportunities to both students and the community, to running a major food bank farm in Oregon, Emily understands the value of collaboration and strategic planning. She has aided non-profit and for-profit groups alike to identify their food access goals and turn these goals into reality.

Emily's experience transforming bare depleted land into flourishing food operations informs her legal philosophy: foresight, attention to detail, and meticulous execution. She applies this formula to bring client goals to fruition. As part of her commercial litigation practice, Emily has tackled complex unfair trade practices and breach of contract claims.

In her free time, you can find Emily engaged in her other passion, music. As former vocal student

and amateur musician, Emily has performed at many a wedding.

## Practice Areas

- Tort Trial and Insurance Practice
- Products Liability
- Complex Commercial and Business Litigation
- Trial and Litigation
- Appeals