

Brian Russell

Brian Russell is an associate at Abbott & Kindermann, LLP, providing the full complement of legal services for our wine law and development practice groups. His practice areas include land use, real estate, municipal law, natural resources, business, alcohol beverage licensing and trademark law. Mr. Russell joined Abbott and Kindermann, LLP in 2013.

Mr. Russell delivers forward thinking legal advice to the wine industry. As part of Abbott & Kindermann's wine law group, Brian advises clients in a wide range of legal matters affecting the industry including business formation, state and federal beverage licensing and permitting, land acquisitions, construction and design and environmental and natural resource issues. On real estate and land use issues, Mr. Russell aids with property due diligence, researching and resolving zoning matters, negotiating and drafting land purchase agreements, and successfully leading projects through the conditional use permit process. On business affairs, Mr. Russell assists with entity formation, as well as closing of complex mergers and acquisitions. He drafts smart grape purchase contracts and winemaker consulting agreements. Mr. Russell also guides clients through trademarking and licensing of their wine brands. Mr. Russell is a one stop shop for Abbott & Kindermann's wine industry clients.

Prior to joining Abbott and Kindermann, LLP, Mr. Russell practiced law with the Russell Law Group founded by Mr. Russell in 2010. Russell Law Group was a business and real estate law firm based in Napa Valley, providing legal and strategic counsel to California's wine industry. Mr. Russell also served as General Counsel to Grassi and Associates, Inc., a general contracting and development company specializing in building high end residences, resorts and wineries in Napa and Sonoma Counties. Mr. Russell also advised the global wine, food and resort company, Francis Ford Coppola Presents, LLC, as Staff Attorney.

Brian Russell attended the University of California, Santa Barbara and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History. After working in the entertainment business in Los Angeles, Mr. Russell attended California Western School of Law and the Tulane Center for European Union and Intellectual Property Law at the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands, and graduated with a Juris Doctor.

Mr. Russell lives in St. Helena with his wife and two children and is the Vice Chairperson of the City of St. Helena Planning Commission.

Mr. Russell is admitted to practice law before the state courts of California and is a member of the State Bar of California.