Timothy J. Bernasek, Partner

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Focus

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Personal & Professional Litigation Employment Government Relations

Profile

Tim Bernasek focuses on agriculture and natural resources law, as well as administrative, real estate, employment, and business law. He leads Dunn Carney's Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Team, sponsor of the firm's popular annual Ag Summit, and is a frequent speaker on agricultural business, real estate and employment issues.

> **Each business has a different goal. I try to give clients the flexibility to choose the option that gives them the best outcome for their business.**

For over 20 years, Tim has honed his legal skills while immersed in the agriculture industry in the northwest. Prior to joining Dunn Carney, he served as general counsel for the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation, where he developed a legislative strategy with the Governmental Affairs Department and served as the administrator for the Oregon Agricultural Legal Foundation. He is one of the first lawyers in Portland to develop a team approach for addressing the unique legal needs of those within the ag industry.

Tim is adept at getting to the heart of clients' legal issues, whether they involve employment, land use, real estate or contract matters, or dealing with state or federal agencies.

He provides clients with alternatives they can understand and evaluate themselves, enabling them to make the most effective decisions for their businesses.

Within Dunn Carney, Tim is a member of the Employment and Real Estate/Land Use Teams. He is ranked by Best Lawyers in America and Super Lawyers.

Tim and his wife Poppy live in Portland with their children. In his spare time, Tim enjoys fly fishing,

golfing and hiking throughout the Northwest and particularly in Montana.

Admissions

Oregon, 1999

Washington, 2011

U.S. District Court Eastern District of Washington

U.S. District Court Western District of Washington

U.S. District Court District of Oregon

Education

Willamette University School of Law, J.D., 1998; Atkinson School of Management, M.B.A., 1998

Willamette University, B.S., Business Economics, 1993

Results & Expertise

Presentations

Solar Easements/Leases on Agricultural Land – The Seminar Group (June 2026)

Legal Issues for Growers Using the H-2A Program – Dunn Carney Ag Summit (February 2023)

Non-Profit Board Governance – Washington Farm Bureau Federation (November 15, 2022)

Changes in Employment Laws for Ag Industry Employers, Seminar Group Agricultural Law Conference (July 14, 2022)

Prior Planning Lessens the Chance of Litigation – wafla H-2A Summit (January 20, 2022)

Agricultural Overtime Issues After the DeRuyter Decision – Ag Law CLE (April 8, 2021)

Employment Law Hypothetical – Eastern Oregon Agricultural Summit (October 15, 2019)

Advising Farms and Ranches on Employment Law Issues: Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation, panel presentation, AALA Annual Conference, Portland (October 25, 2018)

What do we do, and might such a career be a good fit for you? Oregon Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers Conference, Ag Lawyers (November 18, 2018)

Responding to Sexual Harassment Claims on the Farm, Dunn Carney Ag Summit, January 2018

Preparing for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Oregon Farm Bureau (February 2017 and July 2017)

Lawsuit — Now What?, wafla Labor Conference (February 2017)

Practical Advice from Attorneys Who Have Gone Through the Process: How to Prepare Your Client for Litigation, AALA Annual Educational Symposium (October 2016)

How to Avoid a Hot Goods Mess During a DOL Investigation; and Top 10 tips for Being Prepared for DOL Investigation, Washington Farm Bureau Hot Goods Seminars (April 20, 2016)

Hot Goods – Down the Rabbit Hole with the US Department of Labor, Oregon Blueberry Conference (January 2015)

Presentation Topics

Real Estate

Farm Stands

Employment

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Litigation

Industries

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Practice Areas

Personal & Professional Litigation

Employment

Government Relations

Honors & Affiliations

Professional Affiliations

Western Resources Legal Center Board

Farm Employers Education and Legal Defense Service (FEELDS), founder 2000; legal service provider for farm labor cases

Oregon State Bar, Real Estate and Land Use, Business Law, Labor and Employment, and Agricultural Law Sections, Member

Community Organizations

Willamette University Alumni Board, 2009-2015

Dorchester Board, President, 2012-2013

Oregon State University, adjunct instructor, undergraduate agricultural law, 2006

Honors

Recognized by Best Lawyers in America for Employment Law – Management, 2024-present

Recognized by Super Lawyers, 2025