



HUSCH BLACKWELL

Animal Health & Production

Headquartered in the heart of the Animal Health Corridor—home to 56 percent of total worldwide animal health, diagnostics and pet food sales—Husch Blackwell was the first law firm of its size to create an animal health law team dedicated to livestock and companion animal health. We have the deep experience to advise clients on any business or legal matter, such as mergers and acquisitions, workplace safety, product and technology licensing, and federal and state regulatory requirements, including vital FDA experience with former agency personnel on our team.



Animal Health

As some of the most heavily regulated product classes on the market, animal food and drugs require deep legal and industry knowledge. At Husch Blackwell we have developed a team of lawyers with the necessary background and experience to provide clients with a turnkey solution to the research, manufacture and marketing of animal health products.



FDA Regulatory

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration is the chief regulator of the pet food and animal drug industries. Our team features former FDA personnel and can effectively guide clients through all phases of product development, including approvals for new drugs/products, advice on marketing and manufacturing, and responding to agency inquiries.



Meat & Poultry

Our firm represents producers of meat and poultry products across the country on a variety of business and legal issues, ranging from regulatory reviews, inspections and investigations to resolving disputes in connection with commercial, environmental, employment-related and marketing/labeling causes of action. We have deep experience in assisting clients with regulatory compliance programs concerning both the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as well as state-level regulators.



Dairy

Husch Blackwell has worked with leading producers of milk and dairy products for decades to provide corporate and business law advice, craft regulatory compliance programs and to advocate for them in a variety of disputes, including regulatory investigations, product liability lawsuits, and patent and trademark enforcement actions. Our clients include one of the largest dairy cooperatives in the United States.

We're well-versed in issues specific to Animal Health, including:

- Agricultural biotechnologies
- Gene-edited animals
- Co-op legal and operational issues
- DNA analysis
- FDA concerns

Representative Experience

- Counseled startup venture involved in bovine DNA analysis and testing technology through all stages of development: structuring the business, securing intellectual property, raising capital, taking product to market and ultimately selling the company.
- Represented petitioner in a post-grant review matter before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Patent Trial and Appeal Board involving a method of using genetic merit to determine relative value of livestock.
- Counseled a foreign animal health manufacturer on the acquisition of a U.S. animal health manufacturing facility.
- Prosecuted numerous life sciences patents and managed international trademark portfolios for several animal health companies.
- Worked with multiple animal health drug manufacturers/distributors regarding the negotiation of commercial agreements, including sales and distribution agreements.
- Represented a large beef producer cooperative in a services and licensing deal with the world's largest animal health company.
- Assisted cattle breed associations and genetics companies in developing DNA marker-assisted expected progeny differences.
- Advised business on development of animal age and source verification systems.
- Assisted animal feed and pet food companies with nationwide recall of products. Handled dispute with supplier and claims/dispute with insurer.
- Develop FDA, AFFCO, state and Canadian compliant labels for international animal feed and pet food companies.
- Counseled animal health companies on advertising and marketing of animal drug, grooming products and other pet accessories as "organic," "cruelty free," "sustainable," "natural," etc.
- Advised poultry processing facility on FSIS food safety, sanitation and packaging requirements.
- Advise FDA and FSIS regulated client in preventing or responding to inspection citations and enforcement actions such as 483s, warning letters, import detention and agency investigation, as well as provide real-time advice during facility inspections and recall situation.

Cost-Effective Resolution of Business Disputes & Litigation

Business disputes and other litigation are sometimes unavoidable and, sometimes, even in a company's best interests. Because our team understands the animal health industry, we are already ahead of the game. Our attorneys have real courtroom experience representing animal health companies in a wide variety of disputes, including trademark and patent infringement, antitrust, product liability, trade secret and confidential information misappropriation, covenant not to compete and breach of contract matters. We win cases and negotiate favorable settlements, so clients can get back to business.



Visit our blog at www.foodandaglawinsights.com/category/animal-health/

Get periodic updates on key topics of interest shaping the animal health industry by subscribing to our Food & Ag Law Insights blog.

Business is no longer usual. Neither are our solutions.

At Husch Blackwell, we have built our law firm around one idea: to guide our clients from where they are to where they want to be. Our industry-centric approach gives us a deep understanding of what our clients face every day. But more than that, it creates a shared vision that moves our clients forward.