



AT THE BAR WITH BOWDITCH

A Legal Blog for the Craft Brewing Community

The Law as Inspiration for Beer?

BY ROBERT G. YOUNG • MARCH 21, 2019

Typically, brewers prefer to keep the law out of their beer. But sometimes, beer and the law can intersect for the good.

For an upcoming release, Boston's Samuel Adams drew inspiration from Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The brewery is naming a new Belgian Brut IPA "When There Are Nine," in homage to Justice Ginsburg's iconic answer to the question "When will there be enough women on the Supreme Court?" The release marks Samuel Adams' participation in the Pink Boots Society's annual celebration of women in the brewing industry, in which the Society and hop maker Yakima Chief design a special blend of hops in honor of International Women's Day that female brewers around the country then use to create outstanding brews.

According to [media reports](#), the brewery wanted to name the beer "Brut Bader Ginsburg," but was dissuaded by their legal team. I guess beer and the law don't always mix after all...