

Environmental Law

Our attorneys have successfully litigated some of the most significant environmental law cases in the state. The team includes attorneys with extensive experience in complex environmental litigation, including toxic tort claims and cost recovery actions under federal and state law.

We bring a unique blend of experience and training to the table in a number of environmental fields, including:

- Part 201 and Superfund cost recovery litigation
- Class action and toxic tort litigation
- Contaminated site remediation
- Brownfields redevelopment
- Wetland permitting
- Environmental insurance coverage litigation
- Complex real estate and business transactions

For over a decade, the firm has defended Gelman Sciences and its successor Pall Corporation in the state's most highly publicized environmental enforcement action. We obtained a landmark environmental insurance coverage decision from the Michigan Supreme Court on the "trigger of coverage" issue, and have successfully litigated toxic tort and class action claims in both state and federal trial courts.

Outside the courtroom, the attorneys at Zausmer employ a creative problem solving approach to environmental business transactions. Our team also advises regulated businesses on compliance strategy, regulatory inquiries, and risk management when environmental issues intersect with broader operational and financing decisions. The firm has helped developers and municipalities site electrical generating plants, bulk petroleum distribution facilities, and residential developments on environmentally challenged properties. We employ a variety of methods to minimize environmental risks for our clients. Our attorneys have successfully negotiated with state and federal agencies to obtain prospective purchase agreements and covenants-not-to-sue to protect our clients. We routinely use insurance, indemnification agreements, and Brownfield financing to turn environmental risks into business opportunities for our clients.

The firm's excellence in environmental representation was recognized when it was asked to join the Environmental Law Network (ELN), a network of more than 250 environmental attorneys across the country that share ideas, information, experiences, and contacts to increase the value of legal representation for their respective clients. ELN also has foreign affiliates in Argentina, Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom and Spain. Admission criteria are rigorous and leaders in each of the member firms average more than 20 years of experience in the field.

Whether a Fortune 50 company or an individual, our clients benefit from the expertise, experience, and reputation the firm's attorneys have gained from litigating these high-profile cases.



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