

Snell & Wilmer



Matt Derstine

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Main Bio

Matt Derstine counsels and represents clients in the electric power industry on a wide range of matters, including project development, litigation, asset sales and bankruptcy matters. He has extensive experience in siting and permitting generation and transmission projects under state and federal regulatory requirements. Matt also represents clients in complex litigation and disputes arising from the generation, purchase and sale of electricity, including power plant operations and outages, coal supply, plant and product warranties, and power purchase agreements. He advises clients in connection with asset sales involving fossil and renewable generation assets and also regularly provides advice and representation to energy clients with interests at risk in bankruptcy.

Education

- University of California, College of the Law, San Francisco (J.D.)
 - Note and Comment Editor, Law Review: Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly
- University of Arizona (B.A., with distinction)

Professional Memberships & Activities

- Member, The Fellows of the American Bar Foundation
- American Bar Association
 - Environment, Energy & Resources Section
 - Litigation Section
 - Business Law Section
- Energy Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- State Bar of Arizona

Representative Presentations & Publications

Representative Presentations

- "New E-Discovery Sources, Tips and Tactics," Presenter, NBI Seminar (September 2013)
- "New Ethical Pitfalls You Need to be Aware of," Presenter, NBI Seminar (September 2013)

- State Bar of Arizona Course on Professionalism, Regular Presenter
- "The Coming Commercial Real Estate Storm," Program Chair (2010)

Representative Publications

- "[DOE Seeks Input on How to Spend \\$2.5 billion on Transmission Projects](#)," Author, S&W Natural Resources, Oil & Gas Law Blog (May 13, 2022)
- "[Impact of COVID-19 on Energy and Infrastructure Projects in Arizona and the West: Disruption, Slowdowns, Uncertainty and Virtual Open Houses](#)," Author, S&W Environmental, Natural Resources, Oil and Gas Law Blog (May 22, 2020)
- "[What's Old is New Again: Expedited Review of Energy Infrastructure Projects Under Trump's Executive Order](#)," Author, S&W Environmental, Natural Resources, Oil and Gas Law Blog (February 4, 2017)
- "[Is Coal Down for the Count](#)," Author, S&W Environmental, Natural Resources, Oil and Gas Law Blog (April 22, 2016)
- "[Clean Power Plan Impacts More than Coal: Transmission Solutions No Easy Feat](#)," Author, S&W Environmental, Natural Resources, Oil and Gas Law Blog (August 22, 2015)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- Southwest Super Lawyers®, Energy & Resources (2017-2020), Business Litigation (2016), Commercial Litigation (2012-2014)
- The Best Lawyers in America®, Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Bankruptcy Litigation (2011-2023); Energy Law (2023)
- AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell (2010-2018)
- Arizona's Finest Lawyers (2013-2018)

Previous Professional Experience

- Roshka DeWulf & Patten, Partner (2008-2014)

Bar Admissions

- Arizona

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Arizona
- United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court, District of Arizona