

Snell & Wilmer



Matt Derstine

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Main Bio

Matt Derstine is a seasoned attorney with over 30 years of experience in the electric power industry.

Matt offers extensive experience in siting and permitting natural gas generation, solar, energy storage, and transmission projects. He also represents clients in complex litigation and contested cases arising from the generation and sale of electricity. Matt regularly provides advice and representation to energy clients with interests at risk in bankruptcy. Previous clients of Matt's include public utilities, independent power producers, renewable energy developers, and independent transmission developers.

A committed individual within the legal profession, Matt is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He also holds memberships with the Energy Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, and the American Bankruptcy Institute. Matt is also recognized for his work by leading legal publications including The Best Lawyers in America, Southwest Super Lawyers. For over 14 years, he has maintained an AV Preeminent Peer Rating from Martindale-Hubble.

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
- Energy Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- State Bar of Arizona

Representative Presentations & Publications

- State Bar of Arizona Course on Professionalism, Regular Presenter
- "[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

- The Best Lawyers in America®, Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Bankruptcy Litigation (2011-2024); Energy Law (2024)
- Southwest Super Lawyers®, Energy & Resources (2012-2020), Business Litigation (2016)
- AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell (2010-2024)

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