



Kevin M. Bernstein

Member

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Profile

Kevin has over 20 years of experience in both environmental and energy matters, concentrates his practice in state and local permitting (including rezoning, site plan approvals, special use permits, and variances) and compliance with SEQRA on behalf of both municipalities and developers on a variety of projects, including continuing care retirement communities, distribution warehouses, subdivisions, mining operations, landfills, power facilities, paper recycling facilities, and manufacturing facility expansions.

In connection with these projects, Kevin has been involved in a number of Article 78 proceedings. He has represented municipalities in connection with SEQRA compliance and in defense of Article 78 proceedings challenging certain actions of these municipalities (involving, for example, the expansion of municipal offices).

Honors & Affiliations

- Listed in:
 - *Chambers USA* 2025, Environmental – Upstate New York and Environmental – New York
 - *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Energy Law; Environmental Law; Litigation - Environmental, 2009-2026 (listed for more than 16 years)
 - Lawyer of the Year (Syracuse), Environmental Law, 2014; 2018; 2020; 2023; 2025
 - Lawyer of the Year (Syracuse), Litigation - Environmental, 2015
 - *New York Super Lawyers*®, Environmental, 2025 (listed for more than 10 years)
 - *Chambers USA* 2024, Environmental – Upstate New York and Environmental – New York
 - *Martindale-Hubbell*®, AV Preeminent Rated
- New York State Bar Association, Former Chair, Environmental and Energy Law Section
- Maine Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- District of Columbia Bar Association
- Onondaga County Bar Association, Environmental Law Committee

Education

- Vermont Law School (J.D., *cum laude*, 1985)
- State University of New York at Brockport (B.S. 1982)

Bar/Court Admissions

- New York
- Maine
- Pennsylvania
- District of Columbia

Practices

- Municipalities
- Toxic Tort and Environmental Litigation
- Tax Assessment, Condemnation & Property Valuation
- Property
- OSHA
- Environmental and Energy

- Air and Waste Management Association, Central New York Chapter
- American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)
- Independent Power Producers of New York (IPPNY)
- Independent Oil and Gas Association (IOGA) of New York
- New York Association for Solid Waste Management
- New York Construction Materials Association (NYCMA), Board Member
- New York State Wetlands Forum, Past Co-Chair
- New York Water Environment Federation Association

Representative Presentations

- A Special Episode with Kevin Bernstein, Bond's 125th Anniversary, Legally Bond Podcast, December 21, 2022
- A Special Episode with Kevin Bernstein, Legally Bond Podcast, September 12, 2022
- A Special Episode with Kevin M. Bernstein and Ralph Rosella, Legally Bond Podcast, June 6, 2022
- An Interview with Kevin Bernstein, Environmental and Energy, Legally Bond Podcast, July 12, 2021
- Panel Member, Energy from Waste: Where are We, and Where Are We Going To?, NYSASWM, May 21-24, 2017

Representative Publications

- "Court Rules that Red Wing Has a Vested Right to Mine its Property," *Materials Matter*, Fall 2020

Other Activities

- Board Member, Baldwinsville Community Scholarship Foundation
- Board Member, CenterState CEO
- Board Member and Vice President, Paige's Butterfly Run, Inc.
- Board Member, United Way of Central New York
- Board Member, YMCA of Central New York
- Board Member, NYS Blues Festival
- Board of Education, Baldwinsville Central School District, 2000-2009