



Kevin M. Bernstein

Member

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Profile

Kevin has experience in property tax assessment challenges and litigation representing private individuals, private corporations and public corporations in connection with their real property tax assessment issues.

Kevin has addressed exemption valuation issues associated with all types of property including mining operations and a wide variety of industrial and utility properties and PILOT negotiation language.

Kevin also represents industrial, commercial, institutional and municipal clients with regard to environmental and energy compliance, permitting and litigation matters. He has broad experience in counseling clients, including project sponsors and municipalities, regarding site development (particularly for mining operations, energy facilities, and landfills), environmental quality review matters under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), petroleum bulk storage issues, environmental aspects of real property and business transactions, and federal (including Superfund matters) and state environmental litigation matters. Kevin also addresses matters involving state and federal regulatory environmental compliance issues, particularly in the areas of solid and hazardous waste, wetlands, environmental remediation, MSHA, and OSHA (including Hazard Communication standards and OSHA training requirements).

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

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

- 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
- 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