

JEFF B. KRAY PARTNER



CONTACT

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AREAS OF FOCUS

Cleanup and Insurance Recovery Natural Resources and Endangered Species

Permitting and Environmental Review Project and Property Development Water Rights/Water Resources Clean Water and Water Quality PFAS & Emerging Contaminants

EDUCATION & CLERKSHIP

J.D., cum laude, Seattle University School of Law (1992) B.A., University of Colorado at Boulder (1987)

ADMISSIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

State Bars of Washington and Oregon U.S. Supreme Court
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. District Courts, Eastern and
Western Districts of Washington
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of
Michigan

RECOGNITION & ACTIVITIES Listed

in Chambers USA
"Super Lawyer," Washington Law &
Politics magazine
Martindale Hubbell AV
The Best Lawyers in America
"Pro Bono Publico" Service
Commendations, Washington State
Bar Association

Accomplished, first-chair environment litigator with over 26 years of experience in water quality, water resources, and complex environmental litigation, with particular expertise in Clean Water Act permitting and regulatory compliance, CERCLA (Superfund) site remediation, and emerging contaminants.

Jeff regularly advises businesses and local government in water quality permit compliance and defense matters, responding to emerging contaminants (including PFAS) in water supplies, stormwater pollution prevention, hazardous waste spill prevention and cleanup, and cost recovery litigation. He also frequently consults with water right owners and purchasers on preserving, acquiring, and transferring water rights. He has assisted a broad range of clients, including water suppliers, irrigation districts, municipalities, developers, manufacturers, commercial and timber land owners, interstate transporters, lumber mills, and ports.

Jeff is a frequent speaker and writer on water law and policy, particularly on the intersection between water rights and water quality. He has lectured extensively on the Clean Water Act, state water quality laws, and state and federal water rights. He has held leadership positions in the Water Resources and Water Quality and Wetlands Committees of the American Bar Association's Section on Environment, Energy, and Resources.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- ➤ Lead counsel in advising multiple municipal water suppliers on responding to PFAS contamination to groundwater and providing representation on cost recovery for response costs, water quality treatment, and Safe Drinking Water Act compliance. Provide testimony on clients' behalf to Washington State Legislative Committee and participate in consultations with the Washington Department of Ecology on proposed PFAS regulations.
- Lead counsel in multiple cases successfully prosecuting and defending claims to recover environmental cleanup costs under the federal Comprehensive Environmental, Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Washington's Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) or similar state laws in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and California. Representative cases have involved industrial dry cleaners, former landfills, gas stations, salvage and recycling facilities, manufacturing facilities, and lumber mills.
- ➤ Lead defense counsel before the U.S. District Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit on behalf of the owner of an agricultural chemical company in consolidated actions by EPA and private parties and involving cleanup cost recovery claims and contribution. This complex case involved five separate lawsuits, including several environmental and cost recovery claims, insurance coverage litigation, and probate.
- ➤ Lead defense counsel in over thirty Clean Water Act citizen actions, including five inter-related federal lawsuits involving regulatory compliance with industrial stormwater permits. All five suits were successfully settled via a consent decree approved by the Department of Justice and U.S. District Court.