



## West Coast Air Law Roundtable

Panel Biographies | Fuels, Fleets, Indirect Source Regulation, and Perspectives from the Regulated Community



### Laura LaValle

Principal (Austin, TX), *Beveridge & Diamond*

Laura's air quality experience includes advising and representing entities on a broad range of permitting, compliance, and policy issues. She has represented chemical manufacturing operations, electric utilities, petroleum refineries, oil and gas pipelines and terminal facilities, alternative/renewable energy operations including solar energy projects, landfills and waste combustors, steel manufacturing facilities, mining operations, and other facility types regarding federal and state permitting and compliance issues.

Her comprehensive NSR and Title V permitting practice includes counseling on the varied and often complex issues associated with federal NSR (prevention of significant deterioration/PSD and nonattainment) and Title V permitting, including single source/aggregation analyses to determine the applicability of those programs. Laura assists clients with Title V permitting, including counsel regarding required reasonable inquiry, deviation reporting, and compliance certification. She also assists with MACT/NESHAP and NSPS standard compliance and responding to Section 114 requests.

Laura advises clients regarding compliance audits and disclosing violations pursuant to Environmental Protection Agency and state audit programs, including the Texas Environmental, Health & Safety Audit Privilege Act. She also provides counsel and representation on enforcement matters and represents regulated entities in administrative hearings. She has represented individual entities and trade associations on federal and state policy issues and provides counsel regarding fire prevention requirements and equivalency determinations. She is a past Chair of the firm's Air Practice Group.

Before entering private practice, Laura served as an assistant attorney general in the Natural Resources Division of the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. She also worked for the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (now the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality or TCEQ), where she rose from the position of a staff attorney in the Air Quality Section to senior attorney.

Upon graduation from law school, Laura served as a judge advocate in the United States Air Force. As a judge advocate, she acquired extensive litigation experience prosecuting military criminal trials by court-martial and representing the Air Force in administrative hearings and also provided counsel on environmental issues and assistance with environmental compliance audits at various Air Force bases.

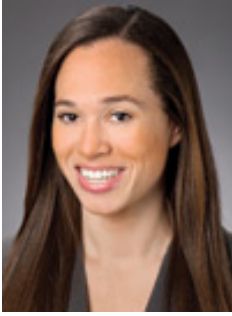
Read More: <https://www.bdlaw.com/laura-l-lavalle>



### Trevor Black

Senior Counsel, Environmental & Safety Law, *Chevron*

Trevor is a Senior Counsel at Chevron's Environmental & Safety Law Group. His areas of responsibility include counseling on federal, state and local air regulations (including fuels), contaminated site remediation, and safety compliance. Prior to joining Chevron, he was an associate regional counsel for U.S. EPA Region 4 and Region 6, and a civilian environmental attorney for the U.S. Air Force. He is a graduate from the University of Miami School of Law and has a LLM in Environmental Law from George Washington Law School.



## Marisa Blackshire

Senior General Attorney, *BNSF*

Marisa Blackshire is a Senior General Attorney at BNSF Railway. Based in California, Marisa leads BNSF's environmental legal, air and climate programs. She also works on various environmental permitting, regulatory compliance and litigation matters that arise across the BNSF system, which includes 28 states and 3 Canadian provinces.

Prior to joining BNSF, Marisa was in private practice where she worked on similar issues for clients including, but not limited to: petroleum companies; mines; energy providers; residential developers; the world's largest retailer; and local agencies developing large scale infrastructure. Marisa's community involvement includes Co-Chairing the Inspired Stars Council for the After-School All-Stars of Los Angeles, an organization that provides high quality free programming to at-risk youth. Marisa received her B.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara and her J.D. from Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles.



## Steve Hill

*Environmental Health Specialist, Tesla Motors, Inc.*

Steve Hill has been working on Tesla's air quality permitting and compliance programs since November 2018.

Steve holds a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering from UC Berkeley and a law degree from Hastings College of the Law. He worked at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for 25 years. He was appointed the Manager of the District's Toxics Evaluation Section when it was created in the late 1980s, and played a key role in the development of California's approach to regulating Toxic Air Contaminants. At the time he retired from the District in 2005, he was the manager of the group that evaluates permit applications from major stationary sources. At that time, the number of permit applications that were overdue had been reduced to zero.



## Josh Van Eaton

Principal (Washington, DC), *Beveridge & Diamond*

Josh helps clients resolve high-stakes compliance, enforcement, and litigation matters. He brings the perspective gained from a distinguished U.S. government service career to provide clients with strategic counsel and advice on proactive environmental compliance strategies on air, water, and waste issues with a focus on mobile source emissions. He has successfully litigated cases under every major environmental statute in federal courts around the country.

Prior to joining Beveridge & Diamond, Josh served as Senior Trial Attorney in the Environmental Enforcement Section of the Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). During his DOJ career, he received the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal and was named Federal Employee of the Year in 2017 in recognition of his work as Lead Counsel in the *United States v. Volkswagen AG, et al. ("Clean Diesel")* civil Clean Air Act (CAA) enforcement litigation. He also has received the Assistant Attorney General's Award for Excellence, the EPA Administrator's Award for Excellence, and numerous other DOJ commendations and awards. Clients benefit from the experience he gained advising senior officials across agencies and at corporations.

Josh's public service includes a distinguished and ongoing military career. Josh currently serves in the Army Reserve as Associate General Counsel in the Office of General Counsel of the Defense Logistics Agency, where he also serves as Co-Chair of the Installation and Environmental Law Practice Group.

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