



Mackenzie S. Schoonmaker

Principal

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Mackenzie's practice includes both litigation and regulatory matters arising under FIFRA, the Clean Water Act, and related environmental laws.

She is passionate about conserving air, water, wildlife, and land for future generations, and enjoys helping clients navigate and enforce the detailed framework of environmental law because she believes compliance is key to preventing adverse impacts to the environment.

Mackenzie is a co-chair of Beveridge & Diamond's Industrial Hemp & Cannabis industry team. She advises clients, and regularly writes and presents, on federal and state environmental regulations impacting this thriving industry.

Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), Mackenzie represents pesticide companies in data compensation arbitrations, focusing on defending the rights of data owners against follow-on registrants of pesticides. She has also worked extensively with task forces comprised of national and multinational companies of all sizes that operate as joint ventures or limited liability companies to generate data and other information to meet government requirements under FIFRA.

Among the wide range of issues under the Clean Water Act that Mackenzie has handled are assisting companies with responses to Clean Water Act Section 308 information requests and Clean Water Act Section 404 compensatory mitigation requirements.

Mackenzie also defends public utilities against toxic tort claims. She was part of the team that obtained a defense judgment after a three-week trial regarding claims alleging that the client supplied corrosive water to apartment buildings. The case, *Cormier v. D.C. WASA*, 2011 D.C. Super. Lexis 7, 84 A.3d 492 (2013), was successfully upheld on appeal.

Education

- State University of New York - Purchase (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2003)
 - Environmental Science
- Yale University (M.E.M., 2007)
- Pace University (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2007)
 - Environmental Law Review

Bar Admissions

- New York
- District of Columbia

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court – Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court – Eastern District of New York

Community Involvement

Mackenzie maintains an active pro bono practice. For several years, she worked to facilitate a private, bipartisan panel's publication of a report on conservation and outdoor recreation issues, which lobbied Congress to fund the Land and Wildlife Conservation Fund. Her litigation pro bono matters include representing civil rights organizations and individuals pursuing claims under the Fair Housing Act and representing a client in a partition action in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

Mackenzie is a founding member of the National Association of Women Lawyers Energy & Environmental Affinity Group. She is currently the co-chair of the firm's Women's Initiative, for which she coordinates efforts to advance and retain women attorneys.

From 2011 to 2012, Mackenzie worked as a staff attorney with Riverkeeper, Inc., where she focused on New York City watershed protection issues, including investigating and developing citizen suits and interfacing with state agencies to address water quality-related matters.

Honors & Awards

- *Super Lawyers, part of Thomson Reuters, New York Rising Star (2013-2021)*