



Paul E. Hagen

Principal

phagen@bdlaw.com

+1.202.789.6022

1900 N Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC, 20036

Paul helps clients navigate increasingly complex environmental requirements governing products across their life-cycle.

He works with leading companies to anticipate and comply with product-related environmental requirements in the U.S. and in key markets worldwide. He has represented U.S. business interests in the negotiation and implementation of regional and global environmental agreements that drive national legislation and the circular economy.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Paul advises companies on compliance with expanding EPR laws governing the management of used and end-of-life electronic equipment, batteries, medical devices, unwanted pharmaceuticals, and plastic packaging in the U.S. and in other countries. He has advised clients on the successful launch of regional and global product take-back programs.

Basel Convention and Circular Economy

Paul serves as a strategic advisor to companies on new circular economy initiatives with a focus on reuse of products and materials recovery. He regularly advises on requirements governing transboundary shipments of electrical and electronic products for reuse, repair, and recycling. For more than two decades, he has represented clients on the negotiation and implementation of international waste shipment controls and trade bans arising under the Basel Convention, OECD Council Decision, and U.S. bilateral agreements.

Market Access Legislation

Paul provides compliance advice on a wide range of market access legislation for products subject to RoHS measures and material restrictions, energy efficiency mandates, product design requirements, and labeling.

Responsible Supply Chains

Paul also advises a diverse group of companies on due diligence, supply chain communication, and disclosure requirements related to the responsible supply chains and sourcing of timber, conflict minerals, and other raw materials.

Conservation Leadership

Paul is active with many of the country's leading conservation organizations. He serves on the board of the Conservation Fund which since its founding has protected over 8 million acres of natural lands and working landscapes. He is a former board chair of the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) and Chesapeake Conservancy. He has also served on the boards of the American Bird Conservancy and World Environment Center. Paul has advised non-profit clients on protecting whales, establishing nature reserves, global protections for albatrosses, and sustainable fisheries management. He also serves on the NatureServe strategic advisory council.

Education

- Providence College (B.A., 1986)
- American University (J.D., 1990)

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Maryland

Professional Affiliations

- U.S. Council for International Business (USCIB) Environmental Committee, Co-Chair
- The Environmental Forum (ELI) Advisory Board
- American College of Environmental Lawyers (ACOEL)
- American Society of International Law (ASIL)
- NatureServe, Advisor
- Washington College of Law at American University (Washington, DC; Geneva, Switzerland), former adjunct professor

Honors & Awards

- *Chambers and Partners - USA*, ranked Band 3 in Environmental Law (2016-2021)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, a Best Lawyers® publication, Environmental "Lawyer of the Year" in Washington, DC (2019)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, a Best Lawyers® publication, recognition in Environmental Law (2013-2022)
- *Who's Who Legal, part of Law Business Research Ltd.*, recognition in Environmental Law (2016-2019)
- *Super Lawyers, part of Thomson Reuters*, Washington, DC, Super Lawyer (2009-2020)
- *The Legal 500*, recognition in Environmental Regulatory Law (2013; 2020; 2021)

Representative Matters

Paul's experience includes:

- Serving as a strategic advisor on responsible sourcing, circular economy and sustainability initiatives for a leading information technology company.
- Representing the U.S. electronics industry in negotiations at the global level under the Basel Convention on the classification and management of used equipment shipped across borders for repair and reuse and recycling, including participation in various expert working groups preparing technical guidance and negotiating changes to the scope of wastes covered by the Convention.
- Advising leading pharmaceutical companies on the operation of extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes governing the management of unused medicines, sharps and medical devices in the U.S. and other countries.
- Advising a Fortune 100 company on ambitious circular economy initiatives and related plastics regulation.
- Representing the U.S. chemical industry in the negotiation and implementation of the global Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and related regional agreements targeting persistent, bioaccumulative toxic chemicals.
- Representing U.S. grocery manufacturers in the negotiation and implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- Advising a leading semiconductor manufacturer on operational and product compliance issues in the U.S. and in Asia.
- Representing the U.S. electronics industry in negotiations to revise the OECD Decision governing the transboundary movement of e-waste for recycling among OECD member countries.
- Advising a U.S. contractor on requirements governing the cleanup of hazardous and other wastes generated in Antarctica.
- Counseling a leading non-profit on legal strategies for preserving the global moratorium on commercial whaling under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW).