SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS

Kendra S. Sherman



Partner

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About Kendra

Kendra Sherman is the global chair of our Environmental, Safety & Health (ESH) Practice Group. With more than 25 years of experience, she advises public and private companies on high-stakes environmental litigation, enforcement, compliance, permitting, corporate transaction and supply chain matters – for clients across multiple industries including chemicals, healthcare, manufacturing, mining, energy, steel, waste management, infrastructure, transportation and data centers. As the firm's global ESH Practice Group Leader, Kendra drives the practice's strategic growth and cross-border integration across North America, Europe and Asia.

A nationally recognized environmental lawyer and litigator, Kendra defends clients in complex federal and state enforcement actions, environmental tort litigation, citizen suits in federal and state courts and administrative tribunals in Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Washington DC. Her practice covers the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and related state programs.

Kendra partners with executive teams to manage risk, respond to government investigations, negotiate with regulators and build compliance strategies that support her clients' business goals. On the transactional side, she advises sellers, lenders, investors and developers on environmental due diligence, brownfield redevelopment, including under Ohio's Voluntary Action Program and other states' cleanup programs, and siting and permitting before the Ohio Power Siting Board and US Army Corps of Engineers.

Kendra also counsels multinational companies in the US, UK and Asia on California Proposition 65 product warnings and labeling, supply chain compliance, extended producer responsibility, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), product stewardship and environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters.

In addition to her role as Global ESH Practice Group Leader, Kendra serves as the firm's US National Hiring Chair, overseeing associate and law school recruitment firmwide. She also previously served on the firm's Legal Personnel Committee. Kendra also represents many clients in *pro bono* matters. She received the Volunteer Lawyer of the Year Award from the National Center for Adoption Law & Policy at Capital University Law School for her community service efforts in the field of adoption law.

Kendra is consistently recognized by *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Legal 500 US* as a leading environmental lawyer and is ranked among Ohio's top practitioners in environmental litigation and environmental law. Most recently, she was recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* as the 2027 Lawyer of the Year in Environmental Litigation in Columbus and the 2026 Lawyer of the Year in Environmental Law in Columbus.

Experience

- Representing iron and steel, chemicals and landfill clients in a wide range of environmental, litigation, compliance, permitting, and state and federal enforcement matters and appeals for facilities located in Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York, Minnesota, South Carolina and Texas.
- Successfully defending steel facilities and landfill clients in class action suits and other litigation filed in federal and state courts involving nuisance and trespass claims associated with alleged odors and emissions.
- Successfully defending clients in numerous appeals before the Environmental Review Appeals Commission, including obtaining summary judgment and rulings for a landfill client following a *de novo* hearing in 2025.
- Advising clients in numerous Title V air permit and NPDES permit appeals in administrative tribunals in Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania and successfully resolving the appeals following complex permitting negotiations with environmental regulators in those states.
- Counseling real estate developers throughout the US on environmental issues and due diligence for commercial and residential property development, including drafting contract provisions, reps and warranties, indemnities and negotiating with lawyers, sellers and lenders on transactional issues.
- Counseling one of the country's leading developers of large, complex, mixed-use projects on property redevelopment matters related to environmental covenants and Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program.
- Advising data centers on real estate and other matters related to their development and operations.
- Advising clients throughout the US, the UK and Asia in matters regarding California Proposition 65, including defending clients in Proposition 65 notice of violation claims and in litigation filed in California courts; negotiating successful settlements with private parties in Proposition 65 matters; developing and implementing compliance programs and facilitating investigations and testing of products.
- Representing an independent power producer in connection with obtaining a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need from the Ohio Power Siting Board for construction of an 850 MW combined cycle natural gas fired electric generating facility in Ohio and related environmental permits.
- Representing several solid waste landfills and other environmental services companies in Ohio in permitting and enforcement matters, including counseling on disclosures and approvals from the Ohio attorney general's Environmental Background Investigations Unit.
- Representing real estate developers and other clients in jurisdictional waters and wetlands permitting matters, including successfully obtaining a remand of a jurisdictional waters determination by the Corps of Engineers and defending clients in jurisdictional waters enforcement matters.

Credentials

Education

- The Ohio State University, J.D., managing editor, *Ohio State Law Journal*, 1997
- Stanford University, B.A., 1992

Admissions

- Ohio, 1997

Courts

- U.S. Dist. Ct., N. Dist. of Ohio
- U.S. Dist. Ct., S. Dist. of Ohio

Memberships & Affiliations

- Member of the Ohio State Bar Association, Environmental Law Committee
- Member of the Columbus Bar Association, Environmental Law Committee
- Member of the Ohio Women's Bar Association, Energy and Environment Subcommittee

Recognitions

- Ranked for Environmental Law in Ohio by *Chambers USA* 2024-2026
- Recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* as the 2027 Lawyer of the Year in Environmental Litigation in Columbus, and by *The Best Lawyers in America* as the 2026, 2023, and 2020 Lawyer of the Year in Environmental Law in Columbus. She also was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* each year since 2018, an honor based on an extensive peer-review process.
- Named a key lawyer for Environment: Litigation by *Legal 500 US* 2023 and 2024
- Recognized in *Chambers USA* 2022 and 2023 for Natural Resources & Environment in Ohio
- Selected to serve on *Law360's* 2021 Environmental Editorial Advisory Board
- Recognized in *Columbus CEO* magazine's Top Lawyers list for Environmental Law (2024), Environmental Health & Safety law (2016) and Environmental/Natural Resources law (2015)
- Recognized for five years as a Rising Star in *Ohio Super Lawyers*

Expertise

Services

- Environmental, Safety & Health

Industries

- Chemicals
- Energy & Natural Resources

About our firm

One of the world's strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.