

Michael Cox

Associate

Denver

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About Michael

Michael Cox is an associate in our Environmental, Safety & Health Practice Group. His practice includes defending and advising clients on matters related to natural resources, environmental, health and safety claims brought by state and federal agencies and administrative law. He also has experience practicing construction law, public policy and working in the non-profit world.

Mike has negotiated government contracts in the transportation and infrastructure sectors including large, complex joint venture agreements, public-private partnerships and design-build jobs. He has experience managing claims litigation in state and municipal courts, as well as in alternative dispute resolution involving work delays, construction defects and various issues stemming from projects nationwide.

Mike's policy experience ranges from tracking state and federal legislation on a variety of issues, including public land use, cannabis and hemp issues as well as environmental policy and helping clients develop public policy strategies to accomplish their goals. He has also guided clients through the administrative rulemaking process by drafting public comments in response to proposed regulations/

Mike came to the law by way of the nonprofit sector where he led multiday wilderness expeditions teaching leadership skills, team building and conflict management for a range of demographics, including middle school, high school, college and the military. In this role, he also built partnerships with government entities, corporations and school systems. He gained intensive experience in managing partnerships with local governments, sponsoring corporations, schools and donors, and possesses in-depth working knowledge of, and experience in, law, politics, public policy and state and federal legislative processes.

Mike graduated from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law where he received an International Law Certificate and was an editor and writer on the Denver Journal of International Law and Policy. During law school, he worked as a fellow with the Office of the United States Trade Representative and the Colorado State Senate.

Experience

- Advocated for workplace safety and health protections at the Colorado State Legislature on behalf of the Colorado Chamber of Commerce regarding HB 1272 on extreme temperature standards.
- Defended clients facing environmental, safety and health citations from the Federal Mine Safety and Health Administration.
- Awarded damages in favor of clients during mediation regarding construction defects and delays during multiple projects.
- Developed public policy strategies that successfully helped client defeat adverse legislation in multiple states.
- Negotiated agreement between the District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation to utilize local parks and construct the only challenge course within the Washington DC city limits.
- Advocated for outdoor education through participation and presentations at local government hearings in the District of Columbia and outdoor education coalitions and conferences.
- Program director in outdoor education; experienced in new partnership development, cultivation, stewardship and program management.
- Safety Director in outdoor education with leadership experience in board relations, strategic thinking, and safety and risk management.
- Outdoor educator with deep experience leading multiday wilderness expeditions focusing on leadership skills, team building and conflict management.

Credentials

Education

- University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, J.D., 2013
- University of Colorado at Boulder, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2008

Admissions

- Colorado, 2013

Expertise

Services

- Public Policy
- Environmental, Safety & Health

Publications and Speaking Engagements

- Presenter, regarding joint venture agreements and the use of – and the legal framework surrounding – drones in construction, National Association of Surety Bond Producers Conference, — Washington DC.

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.