

Michael Stagg

PARTNER



(615) 850-8876
michael.stagg@wallerlaw.com

Assistant: Michelle C Wilson
(615) 850-6158
michelle.wilson@wallerlaw.com

511 Union Street, Suite 2700
Nashville, TN 37219
615.244.6380
615.244.6804

Manufacturers, utilities, and local governments seeking legal representation with regard to environmental, health, and safety matters rely on Michael Stagg to provide competent, thoughtful, and robust advice.

Reliable, friendly, and engaging, Michael enjoys the variety of substantive issues that arise in environmental challenges. Clients have depended on Waller's deep roster of environmental talent for many years and expect Michael to deliver consistent, valuable results when faced with seemingly impossible permitting, expansion, compliance, or other environmental challenges.

With a specific emphasis on issues related to air, water, greenfield site development, and landfills, Michael defends entities against judicial and administrative actions brought by a variety of entities, including:

- Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Citizen and environmental groups
- Federal, state, and local governmental agencies

Companies also turn to Michael for counsel regarding compliance with federal, state, and local environmental statutes such as the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act. He helps develop and implement corporate environmental policies and practices.

Michael assists manufacturing companies with the location, development, and expansion of facilities, including identification and acquisition of land; obtaining local land use and zoning approvals; acquiring federal, state, and local environmental and other permits and approvals; hiring contractors and consultants and defending lawsuits and permit appeals arising from the development of the facility.

EXPERIENCE

- **Chemical production company rectifies environmental compliance violations**

Advised a chemical production company in a critical self-auditing program to evaluate waste management status and risk management procedures.

- **Kinder Morgan and Tennessee Gas Pipeline pursue regulatory approval for compressor station**

Provide Kinder Morgan and Tennessee Gas Pipeline with support in the siting, land acquisition, zoning, government relations, public relations, environmental and other approvals.

- **Quarry operator seeks advice regarding compliance, recently developed sinkholes**

Advised a quarry operator with regard to compliance and has taken a lead role in addressing the complex legal, hydrologic and geologic issues arising from the sinkholes.

EDUCATION

- LL.M., with highest honors, The George Washington University Law School, Environmental Law, 1998
 - Randolph C. Shaw Graduate Fellowship
 - Advisory Editor - *The Environmental Lawyer*
- J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1994
 - Editor-in-Chief - *Tennessee Law Review*
 - Dean's Citation for Extraordinary Contributions to the College of Law
 - Moot Court Board, American Inns of Court, Phi Delta Phi
- B.S., Colorado State University, Natural Resources Management, 1982
 - President of the Associated Students of Colorado State University
 - Honors Senior Award - College of Natural Resources
 - Xi Sigma Pi - Natural Resources Honor Society

COURT ADMISSIONS

- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, All Districts of Tennessee
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Tennessee

RECOGNITIONS

Chambers USA

- Environment (Tennessee), 2013-2021

The Best Lawyers in America© (BL Rankings)

- Environmental Law, 2015-2022

The Best Lawyers in America© (BL Rankings), 2021

- Lawyer of the Year - Environmental (Nashville)

Mid-South Super Lawyers (Thomson Reuters)

- Environmental, 2006, 2009-2021

Martindale-Hubbell

- Rated "AV-Preeminent"

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- General Counsel and Member, Executive Committee and Board of Directors of Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Member, Board of Directors of The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee
- Eagle Advisor and Member of Troop Committee, Boy Scouts of America Troop 31
- Former Member, Board of Directors of Japan-America Society of Tennessee, Inc.
- Former Member and President, Board of Directors of Historic Nashville, Inc.
- Former Member and Secretary, Board of Directors of Historic Rugby, Inc.
- Former Member and Chairman, Metropolitan Nashville's Board of Property Standards and Appeals
- Former Member, State of Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology
- Former Member and Vice President, Board of Directors of First Steps, Inc.
- Former Member, Steering Committee of the American Institute of Architects' Nashville Regional/Urban Design Assistance Team