

Speaker Biographies

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Nikki Adame-Winningham

Nikki Adame-Winningham is an attorney in Pfizer Legal Division's Environmental Law Group. She provides legal counsel and enforcement defense on complex environmental, health and safety transactional, permitting, and compliance matters to manufacturing, logistics, R&D, and commercial facilities worldwide. She also provides legal and policy support for environmental sustainability disclosures and green claims.

Adame-Winningham was previously an associate in the environmental practice groups at Fulbright & Jaworski and Vinson & Elkins in Texas and Lowenstein Sandler in New York and New Jersey. As outside counsel, she represented a diverse roster of clients - from global corporations and private real estate entities to family-owned businesses - on environmental regulatory, transactional, litigation, and remediation matters.

She is an active member of the Latina Commission of the Hispanic National Bar Association, National Association of Women Lawyers, and Environmental Law Committee of the New York City Bar Association. Adame-Winningham received her JD, cum laude, from Tulane University Law School and her B.S. and M.Eng. in environmental engineering from Cornell University.

Bethany Davis Noll

Bethany Davis Noll is Litigation Director at Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law and serves as an adjunct instructor at NYU. Prior to joining Policy Integrity, she worked as Assistant Solicitor General in the New York State Attorney General's Office and at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP. She clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and on U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Davis Noll received a J.D. with distinction from Stanford Law School and a B.A. from Barnard College.

Jill E. Fisch

Jill E. Fisch is the Saul A. Fox Distinguished Professor of Business Law and co-director of the Institute for Law and Economics at the University of Pennsylvania Law School where she teaches and writes on corporate law, corporate governance and securities regulation. Prior to joining Penn, Professor Fisch was the T.J. Maloney Professor of Business Law at Fordham Law School and Founding Director of the Fordham Corporate Law Center. Professor Fisch has also served as a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, Columbia Law School, U.C. Berkeley Law School and Georgetown University Law Center.

Fisch has lectured on corporate and securities law around the world. Her scholarship focuses on the intersection of business and law, including the role of regulation and litigation in addressing limitations in the disciplinary power of the capital markets. Her work has appeared in top law reviews, including the *Harvard Law Review*, the *Yale Law Journal*, and the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*. Current projects include ongoing research on the role of institutional investors in corporate governance as well as experimental research into retail investor decision-making.

Fisch is the recipient of various awards including the Penn LLM Prize for Excellence in Teaching and the Robert A. Gorman Award for Excellence in Teaching. She is an associate

reporter for the American Law Institute's Restatement of Corporate Governance, a director of the European Corporate Governance Institute and a member of the National Adjudicatory Council of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. Before entering academia, Professor Fisch practiced law as a trial attorney with the United States Department of Justice, Criminal Division, and as an associate at the law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton. She received her B.A. from Cornell University and her J.D. from Yale Law School.

Rick Fleming

Rick Fleming was named the SEC's first Investor Advocate in February 2014. Prior to joining the Commission, Fleming spent fifteen years as a state securities regulator, including more than a decade as General Counsel for the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner. He moved to Washington, D.C. in 2011 to serve as the Deputy General Counsel for the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA), where he advocated for investors and represented the organization of state securities regulators before Congress and federal agencies, including the SEC. Fleming received his bachelor's degree with a dual major in finance and economics from Washburn University and holds a law degree from Wake Forest University.

Julia Hatcher

Julia Hatcher is a partner at Latham & Watkins in Washington, DC. She helps clients navigate laws that control chemicals and products at every life cycle stage, including the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and related state laws, as well as the intersection of these laws with toxic tort liability. Her chemicals knowledge also extends to consumer products-related requirements for labeling, reporting, "green" and "health" claims, and recalls administered by the Consumer Products Safety Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, and state counterpart agencies. Prior to practicing law, Hatcher served as a law clerk intern for Chief Judge Harry T. Edwards of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. She received her JD from Georgetown University Law Center.

Diana Jeschke

Diana Jeschke is a counsel in Crowell & Moring's Washington, D.C. office, where she practices in the firm's Energy Group. She focuses primarily on regulatory matters affecting clients in the electricity industry before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Before joining Crowell & Moring, Jeschke was an attorney-advisor at FERC. She was also an attorney at the California Air Resources Board, assisting with design and implementation of California's greenhouse gas regulations. Jeschke received her B.S. in environmental engineering from University of California, Berkeley, and J.D. from University of California, Davis School of Law.

Deron Lovaas

Deron Lovaas is Director of EEFA, Resilient Communities, and Healthy People & Thriving Communities Program at the Natural Resources Defense Council. He has spent the past 20 years monitoring public policy pertaining to the built environment. He oversees advocacy for efforts related to energy efficiency, housing, smart growth, and transportation. Previously he

served as the NRDC director of federal transportation policy, and was chief strategist for advancing bipartisan oil-savings legislation. Before joining the NRDC, he worked for groups such as the National Wildlife Federation, Zero Population Growth, and the Sierra Club. He served as an environmental specialist with Maryland's Department of the Environment from 1993-1995. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia.

Max Minzner

Max Minzner is General Counsel at Arcadia Power. Prior to his role at Arcadia, Minzner was a partner at Jenner & Block, General Counsel at FERC, Professor of Law and Associate Dean at the University of Mexico School of Law, and a Professor of Law at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Minzner taught and wrote in the areas of criminal law, criminal and civil procedure, and administrative agency enforcement. His scholarship has appeared in many journals, including the Harvard Law Review, the Texas Law Review, and the William & Mary Law Review. He received his J.D. from Yale Law School and his B.S. from Brown University.

Carl Pechman

Dr. Carl Pechman is Director of National Regulatory Research Institute and National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. Before joining NRRI, Dr. Pechman served as an economist and supervisory energy industry analyst for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and was assigned as a senior electricity advisor to the United States Department of Energy. He co-authors the DOE's Quadrennial Energy Review, and is also the author of *Regulating Power: The Economics of Electricity in the Information Age*. He also spent 18 years as an economic supervisor on the staff of the New York Public Service Commission while also serving as economic adviser to the California State Assembly. Dr. Pechman earned a BS, a Masters Degree, and a Doctor of Philosophy from Cornell University.

Veena Ramani

Veena Ramani is Senior Program Director, Capital Market Systems at Ceres and leads the group's work on critical market levers that will help scale the transition to sustainable capital markets, including governance systems that companies should put in place at the corporate board level to allow for effective board sustainability oversight. She also oversees Ceres work on sustainability disclosure. From 2006 to 2015, Ramani managed the relationships with a wide portfolio of Ceres Company Network members, including the financial services sector and the electric power sector. Veena worked with boards and senior company management on opportunities to integrate sustainability into their business structures and decision making, including policy and program development, disclosures and stakeholder engagement processes. Ramani received a Masters in Law degree from Washington University in St. Louis and a B.A. LL.B (Honors) degree from National Law School from India University, Bangalore.

Tom Riesenberg

Tom Riesenberg is the Director of Legal and Regulatory Policy at SASB. He is the former Deputy General Counsel of Ernst & Young LLP responsible for regulatory matters, primarily involving the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. Mr. Riesenberg worked at EY from 1993 to 2013 where he was extensively involved in the major legislative and regulatory developments affecting the accounting profession. Previously he served for seven years as an Assistant General Counsel at the SEC, where he handled courts of appeals and Supreme Court litigation and international legal matters. He was the recipient of the Manuel F. Cohen Outstanding SEC Younger Attorney Award in recognition of his handling of several significant SEC enforcement cases. He also worked as a law clerk for a federal district court judge in Washington, D.C., as a litigator at the U.S. Department of Justice Lands and Natural Resources Division, and as an associate at the law firm of Arnold & Porter in Washington, D.C.

Riesenberg graduated from the New York University School of Law, where he was a member of the Law Review, a Root-Tilden Scholar, and recipient of the George P. Foulk Memorial Award. He received a bachelor's degree from Oberlin College, where he graduated with honors and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He is a former chair of the Law and Accounting Committee of the American Bar Association, former president of the Association of SEC Alumni, former treasurer of the SEC Historical Society, and a current member of the Advisory Board of the BNA Securities Regulation and Law Report. For seven years he was an adjunct professor of securities law at the Georgetown University Law Center. He serves on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, including the D.C. Jewish Community Relations Council and the Washington Tennis & Education Foundation.

Jim Rossi

Jim Rossi is the Judge D.L. Lansden Professor at Vanderbilt University Law School. He is nationally recognized for his research on energy and administrative law topics. His recent articles focus on the role of public utility doctrines and principles in modern energy markets, as well as federalism and other shared jurisdictional issues affecting agency regulation. His books include *Energy, Economics and the Environment* (5th edition, Foundation Press, 2020, with Joel Eisen, Emily Hammond, David Spence & Hannah Wiseman); *Regulatory Bargaining and Public Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2005); and an edited collection of essays, *Dual Enforcement of Constitutional Norms: The New Frontier of State Constitutionalism* (Oxford University Press, 2010, with James Gardner). Professor Rossi served as a consultant to the Administrative Conference of the United States' Committee on Collaborative Governance project on Improving Coordination of Related Agency Responsibilities, which resulted in a set of recommendations adopted by the conference on how agencies should coordinate. Before joining Vanderbilt's law faculty, he was the Harry M. Walborsky Professor and associate dean for research at Florida State University College of Law. Professor Rossi has also taught as a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, the University of Texas School of Law and the University of North Carolina School of Law. Before entering the legal academy, he practiced energy law in Washington, D.C.

Christopher Serkin

Christopher Serkin is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Elisabeth H. and Granville S. Ridley Jr. Chair in Law at Vanderbilt University Law School. Serkin's scholarship focuses on local governments, property theory, the Takings Clause, land use regulation and eminent domain. His articles have appeared in the Chicago, Columbia, Michigan, New York University, Notre Dame and Northwestern University law reviews, among others. He authored *The Law of Property*, a concept and insight book for property law, and a co-editor of *Land Use Controls*, a leading casebook on the subject. Prior to joining Vanderbilt Law's faculty, Serkin taught at Brooklyn Law. Dean Serkin earned a B.A. from Yale University, and his JD from the University of Michigan. He clerked for Judge John M. Walker Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and for Judge J. Garvan Murtha of the U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont following law school. Before joining the legal academy, he practiced law as an associate with Davis Polk & Wardwell.

Kim Smaczniak

Kim Smaczniak is the Managing Attorney of the Clean Energy Program based in Washington, D.C. She leads a team of attorneys in developing legal and policy strategies to accelerate the transition to 100% clean energy and ensure everyone benefits from a thriving clean energy economy. Under the Obama Administration, Smaczniak served as lead mitigation negotiator for the U.S. Department of State climate negotiations team, shaping strategies to ensure rapid implementation of the Paris Agreement and deepen U.S. engagement in support of climate mitigation. Prior to joining the State Department, she served as counsel at the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, providing legal advice and supporting federal oversight relating to a variety of environmental laws, and as a Trial Attorney with the United States Department of Justice Environmental and Natural Resource Division. Outside of her work at Earthjustice, Smaczniak teaches as an adjunct professor at University of Maryland School of Law and Carnegie Mellon University's D.C. semester program.

Burcin Unel

Dr. Burcin Unel is the Energy Policy Director at the Institute for Policy Integrity. Her current work focuses on socially efficient policy design in the areas of energy, environment, and health, building on her expertise in microeconomic theory, regulation, and industrial organization. At Policy Integrity, she has authored academic scholarship, policy briefs, public comments, testimonies, and guidance documents, with the aim of helping policymakers and utility regulators improve the quality of federal and state energy policy decision making. She also leads Policy Integrity's stakeholder involvement in New York State's Reforming the Energy Vision initiative and related state energy policy programs. Dr. Unel received a B.A. in Economics from Bogaziçi University, and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Florida.

Benjamin Wechsler

Benjamin Wechsler is a partner in the Annapolis office of Yumkas, Vidmar, Sweeney & Mulrenin. He has over 20 years of experience on land use, environmental, natural resources and real estate matters. He represents landowners, real estate developers and institutional clients on a wide variety of both traditional and “green” development projects. His particular areas of expertise include Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts, land use and zoning (including adequacy of public facilities ordinances), corporate sustainability, tidal and non-tidal wetlands, state and Federal endangered species regulation, renewable energy permitting, piers and dredging, water quality trading, mitigation banking, land protection and preservation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Wechsler regularly appears before various Courts and administrative tribunals, including state and Federal Courts, the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings, and various county Boards of Appeals, hearing examiners, and planning commissions.

Wechsler previously was a partner at Linowes and Blocher LLP. He received his J.D., graduating cum laude, from George Washington University Law School, with a concentration in environmental law. He received a B.A., cum laude, from Princeton University, with a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Wechsler is active in various community and professional organizations. Mr. Wechsler serves as the Vice Chair and immediate past Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Chesapeake Bay Trust, having been originally appointed by Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley and then reappointed by Governor Larry Hogan.