



Crystal Kennedy

Partner

St. Louis
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PRACTICES

- Environmental Law
- Financial Services

INDUSTRIES

- Financial Services
- Real Estate

EDUCATION

- University of Iowa College of Law, J.D., with distinction
- Dordt University, B.A., Business Administration

ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- Missouri

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

- Alter Trading Corporation
- Bunzl USA, Inc.
- CKE Restaurants, Inc.
- CRG Services, LLC
- GATX Capital Corporation
- Guggenheim Partners Investment Management, LLC
- Kansas City Southern Railway Company
- McBride Homes
- McCormack Baron Salazar, Inc.
- Mercy Health
- US Bank National Association
- US Bancorp Community Development Corporation

Crystal has 30+ years of national environmental experience and leads the transactional area of the Firm's environmental practice.

She listens to her clients to understand their needs and objectives and provides practical advice to achieve them, often in the face of complex factual and legal issues. In corporate and real estate transactions, she assists clients with environmental due diligence, risk analysis, contract negotiations, and use of environmental insurance, voluntary cleanup programs, indemnities, escrows and other methods to manage environmental risk. She also advises developers of industrial, commercial and residential properties on environmental matters, including Brownfield redevelopment projects.

In the financial services area, she assists banks and other financing entities with pre-loan due diligence to identify businesses and properties posing significant environmental risk in terms of cleanup liability, ability to repay and impact on collateral value. She also advises lenders on the requirements for and application of environmental liability exemptions under federal and state law in the contexts of loan origination, workout and foreclosure.

Crystal is a leader of legal, business and civic organizations. She is a former President of Commercial Real Estate Women of St. Louis (CREW-St. Louis), a former Co-Chair of the Environmental and Conservation Law Committee of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL) and a former member of the Board of Directors of the Missouri Growth Association (MGA). She served for several years on the Steering Committee of the Firm's Women's Initiative. She also served two terms as Chair of the Board of Directors of Safe Connections, a United Way Agency dedicated to reducing the incidence and impact of sexual assault and relationship violence.

Recognitions

- Named a Top 10 Influential Environmental Lawyer, 2023 (by Business Today)
- Listed in The Best Lawyers in America® for Environmental Law, 2018-2025 (by BL Rankings)
 - Named Lawyer of the Year for Environmental Law by The Best

AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association, Section of Environment, Energy and Resources (SEER), Tort and Insurance Practice Section
- Illinois State Bar Association, Section on Environmental Law
- The Missouri Bar, Environmental & Energy Law Committee
- The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, Environmental and Conservation Law Committee, Co-Chair, 2004-2006
- Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) of St. Louis, Immediate Past President, 2005, President, 2004, President-Elect, 2003, National Delegate, 2002, Director of Community Services, 1999-2001
- Missouri Growth Association (MGA), Board of Directors, 2005

EMPLOYMENT

- Thompson Coburn LLP 1987-Present

COMMUNITY

- American Heart Association of Missouri, Executive Leadership Team, Go Red for Women, 2011-2012, Heart Walk Corporate Team Captain, 2003-2014, 2004 Top Walker, St. Louis Metropolitan Region
- Safe Connections, Chair, Board of Directors, 2012-2014, 2015-2016, Vice Chair, Board of Directors, 2010-2011, Member, Board of Directors, 2009-2016, Golf Outing Volunteer Coordinator, 2002-2009, Chair, CREW/Safe Connections Golf Outing, 1997-2002
- Humane Society of Missouri, Associate Member

Lawyers in America (by BL Rankings), 2023

- Listed in "Chambers USA" for Environment in Missouri; St. Louis & Surrounds, 2018-2024 (by Chambers & Partners)
- Listed in "Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers," 2010-2019 (by Thomson Reuters)
 - Environmental Law, 2010-Present
 - Top 50 Women in Missouri and Kansas, 2011-2012
- Inductee, 2017 Commercial Real Estate Hall of Fame (Midwest Real Estate News)

Presentations

- "Environmental Due Diligence Considerations" presented to American Industrial Hygiene Association - St. Louis Section, May 2018
- "Environmental Due Diligence"; Real Property and Environmental & Conservation Law Committees of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, March 12, 2013
- "Environmental Issues in Real Estate Transactions"; Annual Real Estate Institute, sponsored by the Missouri Bar Association, May 2006

Publications

- "Environmental Issues Impacting the Buying, Selling and Leasing of Real Estate"; *Missouri Real Estate Practice*, MoBar 2000, 2002, 2006
- "Environmental Issues Impacting the Buying, Selling, and Leasing of Real Estate"; *Environmental Issues and Federal Regulations Affecting Real Estate*, MoBar 2011