

Kathryn M. McMahon

Partner

✉ kcmcmahon@connmaciel.com

☎ [202.909.2733](tel:202.909.2733)

📍 [Washington, DC](#)



"Kathryn is a leader in the industry."

Kathryn McMahon

Kathryn M. McMahon is a Partner in Conn Maciel Carey's Washington, DC office. She focuses her practice in the areas of occupational safety and health (OSHA) law and environmental law.

Kate is an experienced OSHA attorney, both in the regulatory and enforcement contexts. For more than two decades, she has provided compliance counseling under all major environmental statutes as well as representing clients in numerous Superfund contribution actions and PRP allocations, Department of Justice enforcement matters, and myriad other federal and state administrative actions.

Before joining CMC, Kate was an OSHA and Environmental Partner in the Washington, DC, offices of two large U.S.-based law firms. Before attending law school, Kate worked in the political arena, serving as a political assistant to Congressman Richard Gephardt, Senator Gary Hart, and Alabama Attorney General Charlie Graddick. She also served as Field Director of a political consulting firm.

Key Services

- Helps clients manage incident and fatality inspections and a wide array of enforcement-related matters.
- Represents industry stakeholders in all aspects of OSHA rulemaking, including proposed rules regarding silica, injury and illness recordkeeping, hexavalent chromium, and beryllium, among others.
- Counsels manufacturers on a broad range of OSHA regulatory compliance issues:
 - GHS Hazard Communication
 - Ergonomics

- Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER)
- Process safety management
- Lock-out/tag-out
- Machine guarding
- Personal protective equipment
- Hearing conservation
- Injury and illness recordkeeping issues
- Assists clients in developing risk management and hazard assessment tools to identify and address workplace risks.
- Defends her clients in state and federal administrative litigation related to alleged violations.

Recognition & Awards

- "Band 1" Ranked Attorney in Occupational Safety and Health, Chambers USA – Nationwide (2022 – Present)

Speaking Engagements

Kate regularly speaks to audiences about a broad range of workplace safety issues. Recent invitations have included the following organizations and events:

- Battery Council International's (BCI) Environmental Health & Safety Conference

Education

- J.D., Cornell University Law School, 1992
 - Co founder, The Cornell Journal of Law & Public Policy
- B.A., Syracuse University, 1988

Admissions

- District of Columbia
- New York

Experience

- Represented the major producer of beryllium in the United States in a negotiated rulemaking with OSHA.
- Defended a steel industry client in a major multistate, nationally driven OSHA enforcement action.
- Represented numerous clients in the metals production and hydraulic fracking industries in handling OSHA and EPA workplace fatality incident investigations.
- Assisted the industrial laundry association in developing an interactive hazard assessment tool to identify and address risk in industrial laundry operations.
- Represented a coalition of U.S. manufacturing interests, including chromium producers, in OSHA's hexavalent chromium administrative rulemaking process.
- Represented a coalition of the leather, steel, convenience store, and soft drink industries in rulemaking proceedings on OSHA's ergonomics standard.

- Assisted a chemical manufacturer in a process safety management applicability determination.
- Defended a private manufacturing interest in a heat stress citation before a state occupational safety and health authority.
- Represented a soft drink company in numerous administrative citations, including alleged general duty clause violations relating to ergonomics.
- Defended the State of Nebraska in a lawsuit brought by regional utility companies over a licensing decision for a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility.
- Represented a group of leather tannery potentially responsible parties (PRPs) in negotiating with other PRPs and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over CERCLA responsibility and allocation issues for multiple Superfund Sites in New York.
- Represented a traumatic brain injury plaintiff in a Rehabilitation Act claim against the U.S. Department of Defense.