



smk@vnf.com  
202.298.1826

**Practice Areas**

*Environment*

*Government Relations & Public Policy*

*Indian Law*

*Litigation*

*Public Lands & Natural Resources*

**Education**

*J.D., Washington University School of Law, 1984*

*B.A., cum laude, Clark University, 1980*

**Bar and Court Admissions**

*District of Columbia*

*Illinois*

## Sam Kalen

*Of Counsel*

Sam Kalen represents clients before the courts, federal agencies, and Congress in the areas of environmental, natural resources, and energy law. Working in both the private and public sectors, Mr. Kalen has been involved in a variety of cutting-edge matters involving our Nation's environmental, energy and natural resources laws. He has advised clients and appeared before courts on issues ranging from the scope of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the application of and compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as well as the scope of and compliance with the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act. As a former Special Assistant to the Associate Solicitor for Minerals and Resources, Department of the Interior, he also advised the Interior Department on matters involving the ESA and NEPA, as well as issues regarding our Nation's public land laws and western water policy.

In addition his affiliation with Van Ness Feldman, Mr. Kalen is currently a Professor at the University of Wyoming College of Law. He is a nationally recognized expert in the field of environmental and natural resources law, and for the 2007-2008 academic year has been a Visiting Assistant Professor at Florida State University College of Law, ranked nationally for its environmental law program. He currently serves as the Chair of the Book Publications program for the American Bar Association's Section on the Environment, Energy and Resources. He also has been an adjunct professor at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where he taught survey courses in environmental law for five years. He has lectured and published on a wide range of environmental and natural resource law topics, and has been quoted in a Supreme Court opinion. In addition, he teaches survey courses in environmental law for employees of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

### *Government Service*

- Attorney, Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior, 1994-1996
- Law Clerk, The Honorable Warren D. Welliver, Missouri Supreme Court, 1984-1986

### *Professional and Civic Affiliations*

- American Bar Association
- District of Columbia Bar Association
- Illinois Bar Association
- Chair, Book Publications Committee and serves on the Publication Services Group for the Section of the Environment, Energy, and Resources of the American Bar Association (current)

- Vice Chair, American Bar Association Committee on Endangered Species (past)

*Publications*

"An Overview of Section 10," reprinted in *Endangered Species Act: Law Policy and Perspective* (Baur & Irvin, eds. 2002);

"An 1872 Mining Law for the New Millenium," 71 *University of Colorado Law Review* 343 (2000);

"No Relief for Landowners: 7th Circuit Bars Recovery of Cleanup Costs Incurred After Filing RCRA Suit," *Legal Times* (May 24, 1999) at S32 (with J. Simon); and

"Commerce to Conservation: The Call for a National Water Policy and the Evolution of Federal Jurisdiction Over Wetlands," 69 *North Dakota Law Review* 873 (1993).