Van Ness Feldman LLP

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BRIAN L. ZAGON

PARTNER

CONTACT

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PRACTICES

Litigation & Investigations
Waste & Hazardous Substances
Water

EDUCATION

University of California, Hastings College of the Law
University of California at Berkeley

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

California State Bar
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

Professional Background

With over three decades of experience, Brian Zagon assists clients in the environmental counseling, environmental litigation and insurance coverage arenas. Brian's experience consists of representing clients in environmental litigation matters in federal and state court, including defense against contamination claims and affirmative cost-recovery claims. He also has experience resolving multi-party cases brought under CERCLA, RCRA, the California Health and Safety Code, the California Water Code, and other federal and state environmental laws. In addition, Brian has assisted clients with planning site investigation work, and cost-effective cleanup solutions and cost-recovery. In the oil and gas sector, he has helped clients with matters involving business disputes, contractual indemnity obligations and insurance coverage for environmental and contractor disputes.

Representative Experience

- Representing clients in environmental litigation matters in federal and state court. Work includes defense against contamination claims and affirmative cost-recovery claims.
- Resolving multi-party cases brought under CERCLA, RCRA, the California Health and Safety Code, the California Water Code, and other federal and state environmental laws.
- Planning site investigation work, cost-effective cleanup solutions, and cost-recovery.
- Representing clients in environmental regulatory proceedings before USEPA and California agencies.
- Representing oil and gas, developer, and other clients in matters involving business disputes, contractual indemnity obligations and insurance coverage for environmental and contractor disputes.
- Counseling on a variety of environmental, contractual indemnity and insurance coverage issues.

Government Service

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

Extern Law Clerk to the Honorable John P. Vukasin

Awards and Honors

Super Lawyers

Environmental Litigation, Northern California, 2008-2026

"Lawyer of the Year" by *Best Lawyers*

Litigation-Environmental, 2027

"Best Lawyers in America" by *Best Lawyers*

Litigation-Environmental, 2023-2027

Articles and Presentations

- Environmental Law Section Member Roundtable, BASF Environmental Law Section, San Franscisco CA, 07/23/2025
- PFAS Regulation and Litigation in California, Law Seminars International, 02/11/2021
- 2013 International Conference on Groundwater, National Ground Water Association, 01/01/2013

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Alerts

- EPA Proposes Major Exemptions to PFAS Reporting Requirements , 11/13/2025
- Business Interruption Insurance Coverage for COVID-19 Losses - Recent Developments, 04/20/2020
- Business Interruption Insurance Coverage: Four States at the Forefront of Responding to COVID-19 Losses, 04/01/2020
- COVID-19 Insurance Impacts, 03/19/2020