



Kari L. Vander Stoep

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Kari Vander Stoep is a partner in the Seattle office of K&L Gates, where she is a member of the firm's litigation and energy practice groups. Kari represents a range of clients in state and federal courts and administrative tribunals, including independent power producers, hydropower owners, utilities, resource industries, manufacturers, transportation and shipping companies, and government agencies.

Kari has significant trial court experience, having conducted complex civil bench trials, felony jury trials, administrative hearings, and a wide variety of motion hearings. Kari's appellate practice focuses primarily on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, where she served as a law clerk for the Honorable M. Margaret McKeown. Kari also represents clients in the Washington and Montana state appellate courts. Kari regularly utilizes cutting-edge technologies and resources to manage complex discovery for federal and state court proceedings.

Kari's practice involves litigating and advising clients on Washington state utility laws and regulations, the Federal Power Act, Northwest Power Act, Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Washington State Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, federal and state constitutional law, Native American law, and municipal law, including Washington's Public Records Act. Kari's administrative experience includes extensive proceedings at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Bonneville Power Administration and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, as well as state regulatory bodies. Her FERC experience includes licensing, re-licensing, and compliance for hydropower facilities.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- Clerkship, Hon. M. Margaret McKeown, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2004-2005
- Legislative Assistant, U.S. Senator Slade Gorton, Washington, D.C., 1998-2000 (staffed Senator Gorton's Energy and Natural Resources, Indian Affairs, and Appropriations committee assignments)
- Deputy Eastern Washington Director and Staff Assistant, U.S. Senator Slade Gorton, Spokane and Bellevue, Washington, 1995-1997

ACHIEVEMENTS

- *Chambers and Partners USA - Washington*, Energy & Natural Resources, Band 1 (2021)
- Listed, *Best Lawyers in America*, Energy Law, (2022)
- Listed, *Best Lawyers in America*, Litigation - Environmental, (2020-2021)
- King County Prosecutor's Office Trial Fellowship (2008) (completed six jury trials during six-week fellowship)
- K&L Gates Jim Ellis Award (2006) (for pro bono work on behalf of the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law and King County Court Appointed Special Advocates)

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Volunteer, Arthritis Foundation's Washington Advisory Board (2012 to 2016)
- Leadership Tomorrow, Class of 2013
- Board Member, Washington Medical-Legal Partnership for Children (2009 - 2013)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panel Moderator, "Infrastructure Reforms," K&L Gates D.C. Women in Power Event, Washington, D.C., November 16, 2017
- Panel Moderator, "Coal and Oil Transport by Rail," Law Seminars International's Buying & Selling Electric Power in the West 20th Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, January 26, 2015
- Presenter, "Recent Developments in Public Records and Public Meetings Cases," Law Seminars International's Open Government and Anti-SLAPP Litigation Third Annual Seminar, Seattle, Washington, January 21, 2015
- Panel Moderator, "The Politics of Clean Energy," Northwest Environmental Business Council's Washington Future Energy Conference, Sea-Tac, Washington, November 5, 2014
- Panel Moderator, "Pacific Northwest Energy Planning," Northwest Environmental Business Council's Washington Future Energy Conference, Sea-Tac, Washington, October 30, 2013
- Panel Moderator, "Utility and Transco Plans and Transmission Projects," Infocast's 5th Annual Transmission Summit West, San Diego, California, Sept. 25, 2013
- Presenter, "Environmental Redispatch and the Fight for Comparable, Non-discriminatory and Non-preferential BPA Service," Northwest and Intermountain Power Producers Coalition (NIPPC) Annual Meeting, September 12, 2011
- Panel Moderator, "Shaping the Courts: Presidential Efforts to Mold the Judiciary," Western Washington Federal Bar Association CLE, Seattle, Washington, December 10, 2008

EDUCATION

- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 2004 *magna cum laude*
- B.A., University of Washington, 1995 *magna cum laude*, *Political Science and Communications*, *Phi Beta Kappa*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Montana
- Bar of Washington
- Supreme Court of the United States
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington
- United States District Court for the Western District of Washington

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 15 January 2021, *Litigation Minute: Don't Get Disqualified - Representing Current and Separated Employees in Depositions (Alerts/Updates)*
- 9 June 2020, *No More Delay?: EPA Rulemaking Clarifies Timelines and Scope of State Authority in the Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification Process (Alerts/Updates)*
- 12 March 2020, *COVID-19: Federally Regulated Energy Businesses (Alerts/Updates)*
- 17 February 2020, *Certain Uncertainty at FERC: Areas to Watch in 2020 for Natural Gas Pipelines and LNG and Hydropower Facilities (Alerts/Updates)*
- 28 July 2016, *Puget Sound Energy Reports to the Washington UTC on the Progress of its Efforts to Join the CAISO Energy Imbalance Market; CAISO Releases Study Chronicling Benefits of a Regional Energy Market (BlogPost)*
- 28 August 2015, *Washington Supreme Court Applies Public Records Act to Public Employees' Private Cell Phones (Alerts/Updates)*

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author and editor of the Indian Law Chapter of the King County Bar Association's *Washington Lawyer Practice Manual* (2007 - 2014 editions)

NEWS & EVENTS

- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 21 May 2021, K&L Gates' Energy, Infrastructure, and Resources Practice, Lawyers Named Among Leaders in 2021 Chambers USA Guide (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 20 and 27 April 2021, Fires in the Pacific Northwest: A Two Part Series (*Event*)

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Complex Commercial Litigation and Disputes
- American Indian Law
- Appellate Litigation
- Energy Storage and Distributed Resources
- Environment, Land, and Natural Resources
- Mass Tort
- Power