

Stanford D. Baird

Partner

Raleigh
+1.919.743.7334

stanford.baird@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Stanford Baird is a partner in the Raleigh office with over 20 years' experience solving environmental problems. His practice focuses on a broad spectrum of environmental matters, including litigation, regulatory matters, enforcement defense, and environmental aspects of real estate development and business transactions. Stanford regularly represents manufacturing clients on environmental permitting, regulatory, and compliance matters, and he routinely negotiates with state and federal environmental agencies and other environmental stakeholders. Additionally, Stanford handles administrative appeals and oversees environmental due diligence and clean up activities.

Stanford is a LEED Accredited Professional (LEED-AP), a distinction he earned through the Green Building Certification Institute.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Stanford has been with the firm since 1996, and he served as law clerk to the Honorable Samuel G. Wilson, US District Court for the Western District of Virginia, 1995-1996.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Environment in North Carolina, 2008-2026
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for Environment: Regulatory, 2025-2026
- Recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Raleigh, NC
  - Environmental Law, 2027
  - Litigation - Environmental, 2011-2027
- Recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® as "Lawyer of the Year" for Environmental Law in Raleigh, NC, 2007-2026

- *Legal Elite, Business North Carolina Magazine*, Environmental Law 2005, 2006, 2008, 2010-2015
- "40 Under 40," award from *Triangle Business Journal* for outstanding achievements in both business and community involvement, May 2008
- Legal Elite Young Guns, *Business North Carolina Magazine*, 2008
- Named to the North Carolina Super Lawyers Rising Stars list, 2010

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- North Carolina Bar Association, Environmental Law Section Council
- North Carolina Oil & Gas Commission, Member
- North Carolina Chamber, Environmental Committee
- North Carolina Aggregates Association, Environmental Committee
- North Carolina Manufacturers Alliance, Environmental Committee
- Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, Assistant Scout Master

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "President Donald Trump: Environmental Changes We Can Expect in 2017," presentation to National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association Annual Legal Symposium, March 2017
- "eDisclosure: EPA's New Electronic Self-Disclosure System," presentation to National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association Annual Legal Symposium, March 2016
- "Defending Against Government Document Requests, Investigations, and Searches," presentation to National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association Annual Legal Symposium, March 2015
- "To Disclose or Not Disclose? EPA and NCDENR Self-Disclosure Policies and Protecting Compliance Audits," presentation to North Carolina Chamber, Environmental Compliance Conference, January 2015
- "Shale Gas in North Carolina: The Long and Winding Legal Path," presentation to Charlotte Area Environmental Breakfast Club, 25 September 2014
- "Hydraulic Fracturing: Legal Issues and the Extraction Process," presentation for National Business Institute, March 2013
- "Developing North Carolina Shale Gas: Lessons Learned from the Marcellus and Utica Shale Plays," presentation to Raleigh Chamber of Commerce Inter-City Visit to Pittsburgh, PA, 29 March 2012
- "NEPA, CAMA, and Coastal Development Issues," presentation to North Carolina Bar Association, 14 October 2011

- "Legal Issues Associated with Green Design and Construction Projects," presentation to the Wilmington-Cape Fear Homebuilders Association, 21 September 2011
- "North Carolina Regulatory Issues for Wind Energy," presentation to North Carolina Beach, Inlet and Waterway Association, 15 November 2010
- "Which Way Is Coastal Wind Policy Blowing?" presentation to North Carolina Beach, Inlet and Waterway Association, 16 November 2009
- "Senate Bill 3 and Wind Power - Issues for the Coast," North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association (NCBIWAY), April 2008

EDUCATION

- J.D., Wake Forest University School of Law, 1995 *(cum laude; Wake Forest Law Review, Senior Articles Editor; A.J. Fletcher Scholar)*
- A.B., Duke University, 1992 *(cum laude)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of North Carolina
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina
- United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 30 March 2022, BOEM Issues Final Sale Notice for Offshore Wind Lease Areas in Carolina Long Bay
- 22 May 2019, K&L Gates Carolinas Environmental Update
- 24 March 2017, Avangrid Wins Latest BOEM Auction for Offshore North Carolina Lease and Moves Towards Full Commercial Lease
- 23 March 2017, Avangrid Wins Latest BOEM Auction for Offshore North Carolina Lease and Moves Towards Full Commercial Lease
- 16 March 2017, Developers Submit Unsolicited Requests for Wind Leases Offshore Massachusetts and New York
- 16 March 2017, Developers Submit Unsolicited Requests for Wind Leases Offshore Massachusetts and New York
- 17 August 2016, Another Step Toward North Carolina Offshore Wind: Proposed Offshore Wind Farm Lease Announced

- 28 July 2016, The “Most Contentious Issue” — Federal Preemption in the Amended Toxic Substances Control Act
- 18 November 2015, Another Season of Change in North Carolina Environmental Law - Part II
- 12 November 2015, Another Season of Change in North Carolina Environmental Law – Part I

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives Nearly 235 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2026 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 7 November 2025, K&L Gates Advises Carousel Capital on Recapitalization of CraneWorks
- 21 August 2025, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Recognized Among 2026 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 24 July 2025, K&L Gates Assists Carousel Capital on Sale of Majority Interest in Landscape Workshop to Ares Management Corporation
- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 17 August 2023, Nearly 400 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2024 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 10 January 2022, K&L Gates Advises Blue Point Capital Partners on Platform Investment in National OnDemand
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 21 May 2021, K&L Gates Policy and Regulatory Practice, Lawyers Ranked Among Leaders in 2021 Chambers USA Guide
- 23 April 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Chambers USA Guide
- 26 April 2019, Chambers USA 2019 Guide Ranks K&L Gates, Lawyers Among Leaders
- 23 June 2016, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized as Leaders in Chambers USA 2016 Guide
- 20 May 2015, Chambers USA 2015 Guide Recognizes K&L Gates, Lawyers as Industry Leaders

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted, "Top North Carolina Cases Of 2023," *Law360*, 21 December 2023

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Environment and Energy
- Land Use, Planning, and Zoning

INDUSTRIES

- Corporate Sustainability
- Energy
- Oil and Gas
- Power
- Renewables

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Counseled global biotechnology firm on complex and contentious industrial wastewater permitting (NPDES) issues and potential impacts on endangered species and nutrient sensitive streams.
- Counseled global pesticide manufacturer regarding enforcement issues related to potential noncompliance with federal pesticide laws.
- Evaluated compliance issues related to use of microorganisms in second generation ethanol production.
- Defended manufacturer in water pollution enforcement action by federal, state, and local authorities.
- Defended international wood products company against hazardous waste enforcement action by US EPA.
- Defended and counseled national building products manufacturer in enforcement actions in two jurisdictions regarding allegations of waste management regulatory violations.
- Defended scrap metals recycling and scrap battery processing company against hazardous waste enforcement action by US EPA.
- Advised national warehouse developer regarding development of a $200 million regional distribution facility on contaminated property, negotiations with state and local agencies, negotiations with prior owners and responsible parties, and obtained $20 million environmental insurance policies as risk mitigation measure.
- Defended legal challenge to air permit issued to cement manufacturer for the construction of new cement plant.

- Defended global manufacturer in water pollution enforcement action by federal, state, and local authorities.
- Negotiated Brownfields agreements with government agencies for redevelopment of contaminated property.