



Jessica Ann Bernardini

Associate

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“I provide a holistic approach to problem-solving by leveraging my technical background. I listen closely to clients to offer thoughtful and practical legal advocacy.”

Jessica Bernardini is a member of the firm’s environmental team. Her practice focuses on providing clients with regulatory advice and representation in energy and environmental law matters.

Jessica works on complex, multi-party, federal and state Superfund sites involving claims under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and its state law equivalents; assists clients with environmental permitting and compliance issues; and handles settlement negotiation or appeals of environmental penalties.

Jessica’s environmental law expertise is bolstered by her more than 10 years of experience as a consulting engineer to private and public entities. In this capacity, she concentrated on environmental permitting and compliance and the design of waste management and renewable energy development projects.

Her experience also includes engineering and legal work related to landfills, composting facilities, and anaerobic digesters. Jessica has designed and permitted new landfill cells, landfill closures, and ancillary systems, including leachate and landfill gas collection, and stormwater management systems. She has also drafted and reviewed permits for landfill siting and operation. Jessica gained this experience in California, Oregon, and Washington, providing these services to major private waste management companies.

Before joining Miller Nash, Jessica practiced at law firms in Oregon where she focused on energy and environmental matters. There, she handled contested cases before the Public Utility Commission of Oregon and the Energy Facility Siting Council. She also completed a secondment at Avangrid Renewables, LLC.

Professional Activities

- Northwest Environmental Business Council, Member, 2024-present
- Oregon Women Lawyers, Member
- Oregon State Bar
 - Environmental and Natural Resources Section, Executive Committee Member, 2023-present

Education

J.D., Lewis & Clark Law School, *cum laude*, 2021

- Certificates in Environmental and Natural Resources Law and Energy, Innovation, and Sustainability Law
- Submissions Editor, *Environmental Law*
- Environmental Law Fellow
- Dean’s Scholarship for Excellence
- Dean’s Scholar List
- Moot Court

M.S., University of California, Berkeley, 2007

B.S.C.E., Rutgers University, Honors, 2006

Bar Admissions

Oregon, 2021
Washington, 2023
Colorado, 2022

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, District of Oregon
U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington

Civic Activities

- Oregon Energy Fund, Board Member, 2026–present
- Victim Rights Law Center, Pro Bono Attorney, 2021-present
- Lewis & Clark Law School, Small Business Legal Clinic, Pro Bono Attorney, 2021-2023

Representative Experience

Environmental

- Regularly represented a variety of manufacturing and commercial operations to come into or maintain compliance with state, municipal, and local stormwater regulations.*
- Assisted manufacturing clients with regulatory compliance of latest PFAS laws regulating food packaging and consumer products.*
- Successfully negotiated or defeated citizen suits brought against clients under the Clean Water Act.*
- Provided environmental due diligence for the financing of renewable energy projects, which involved multiple state and federal environmental regulations, as well as contract drafting and negotiation.*
- Successfully negotiated settlements of environmental enforcement actions.*
- Represented large manufacturing company in the remediation design phase of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.*

*Prior to joining Miller Nash

Publications

- “Under Pressure: Where Landfill Gas Regulation Stands Today,” American Bar Association, Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources, *Trends* (Mar. 2026)
- “The Latest on California’s PFAS Laws Regulating Textile Articles and How to Prepare for Upcoming Deadlines,” Miller Nash, *From the Ground Up* (Oct. 2024)
- “Leveraging Mandatory Licensing Under the Clean Air Act—a Novel Framework to Domestic Reduction of Greenhouse Gases,” Lewis & Clark Law School, *Environmental Law* (Apr. 2021)

Presentations

- “Environmental Barriers to Oregon’s Renewable Energy Transition,” Oregon State Bar Environmental & Natural Resources Section, “2025 Environmental & Natural Resources Law: Year in Review” Annual CLE, moderator (Oct. 2025)
- “Adaptation, Equity,” Texas Symposium on Climate Change and Energy Transition, Moderator (Apr. 2025)

Recognition & Honors

- Selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*[®] (Portland, OR)
 - Energy Law, 2026-present
 - Environmental Law, 2026-present

Personal Activities

Outside of work, Jessica loves spending time outdoors—mountain biking, snowboarding, or exploring the Pacific Northwest on her motorcycle.