

Professional Summary

Environmental and administrative law attorney with over 10 years of experience advancing federal and state climate resilience policies. Skilled in legal research and analysis, regulatory advocacy, and coalition building, with a track record of securing policy reforms, drafting federal rulemaking petitions, and leading successful campaigns on flood risk disclosure and resilience standards.

Experience

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Chicago, IL

Senior Attorney (Jul. 2020-Present); *Staff Attorney* (Dec. 2014 – Jul. 2020)

- Led multi-state campaigns resulting in passage of flood risk disclosure laws in New York, New Jersey, and North Carolina, expanding protections for homebuyers and renters.
- Designed and filed a petition for rulemaking with FEMA that prompted reform of federal flood-protection standards.
- Advise on federal statutes including the Administrative Procedure Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Flood Insurance Act, and the Stafford Act to advance NRDC's adaptation goals.
- Draft and submit regulatory comments and litigation strategies to influence federal and state climate resilience policies.
- Serve as spokesperson with Congress, media, and partner coalitions, regularly briefing policymakers and external stakeholders.
- Manage the Chicago Summer Legal Internship program, mentoring law students in environmental advocacy.

Patton & Ryan LLC, Chicago, IL

Contract Attorney (Sept. – Nov. 2014)

- Supported litigation team through document review and trial preparation.

Natural Resources Defense Council, Chicago, IL

Litigation Extern (Mar. – Jul. 2014)

- Researched state coal dust regulations and potential federal preemption challenges.
- Evaluated municipal legal exposure in enforcing environmental ordinances.

Treasury Wine Estates, Melbourne, VIC

Law Clerk (Apr. – Oct. 2013)

- Drafted supply contracts and variation agreements.
- Participated in contract negotiations.

Environment Justice Australia, Melbourne, VIC

Legal Intern (Dec. 2012)

- Conducted legal research and advocacy on environmental justice issues.

Friends of the Earth, Washington, DC & Melbourne, VIC

Legal Fellow (Jan. – Nov. 2012)

- Researched the regulatory process under the *Clean Air Act* for a new synthetic fuel to enter the market and analyzed potential legal challenges.
- Researched federal tax credits and subsidies that harm the environment.

Peace Corps, Bamako, Mali

Natural Resources Management Volunteer (Jul. 2008 – Jan. 2010)

- Partnered with local agricultural groups to implement soil conservation and tree-planting programs.
- Organized HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives with community youth organizations.

Education

American University Washington College of Law — JD, Dec. 2013

- Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law; Environmental Law Society (Secretary)
- Dual degree program with Monash University Law School

Connecticut College — BA in Government, May 2006 (Cum Laude)

- Goodwin-Niering Center for the Environment Scholar
- Study Abroad: Vietnam National University

Publications

- *Buyer Beware: Sea Level Rise and Real Estate Disclosure*, George Washington Journal of Energy and Environmental Law (2025)
- *A Rising Tide Lifts All Damage Costs: The Need for a Federal Flood Protection Standard*, Natural Resources & the Environment (2020).
- *Changing the National Flood Insurance Program for a Changing Climate*, Environmental Law Reporter News & Analysis (2019).
- *The Uncertain Flood Zone*, ShelterForce (2019)
- *Breaking the Cycle of "Flood-Rebuild-Repeat": Local and State Options to Improve Substantial Damage and Improvement Standards in the National Flood Insurance Program*, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, Columbia Law School (2019).
- *Involvement of Civil Society in the Evolution of International Investment Law*, International Economic Law and African Development (2014).

Bar Admissions

- Admitted to Illinois