

Derek Seal

Shareholder Chair, Environmental Practice Group; Chair, Public & Regulatory Law Practice Group

Practices: Environmental Law; Public & Regulatory Law; Government Relations; Environmental Regulatory; Environmental Water Law
Industries: Energy

Derek Seal brings over 24 years of regulatory and legislative experience to Winstead's Energy & Environmental Law Practice Group. Derek is a former General Counsel of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Prior to this position, he was Counsel to former TCEQ Chairman Kathleen Hartnett White. Before joining the TCEQ in November 2002, he served in the combined roles of General Counsel in the Texas Legislature for the House Committee on Environmental Regulation and General Counsel and Chief of Staff for Representative Warren Chisum, who was the Chairman of that committee.



Austin Office

512.370.2807 Direct
 512.370.2850 Fax
 dseal@winstead.com

Education

St. Mary's University School of Law
 – J.D., 1996

University of Texas at Austin
 – B.A., Economics, 1991

Representative Experience

- Experience with all aspects of administrative law, with a focus in environmental permitting and enforcement
- Specific representative experience includes successfully assisting clients in the following types of matters:
 - TCEQ contested case hearings
 - Water supply and water rights
 - Wastewater discharge permitting, including industrial wastewater discharge permits, municipal discharge permits and permits involving the land application of treated effluent
 - Water utility and wastewater utility regulation
 - Air permitting matters, including amendments, modifications and permit alterations, and agency reviews of permit renewals
 - Compliance with regulatory requirements, including the use of the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act
 - TCEQ regulatory enforcement orders
 - Obtaining Innocent Owner Operator/Certificates
 - Remediation of properties affected by underground petroleum storage tanks
 - Drafting legislative initiatives and formulating legislative strategies relating to natural resources and the environment.
 - Agency rulemakings and policy development before the TCEQ and Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission.
 - Environmental due diligence

Professional & Community Service

- State Bar of Texas, Environmental & Natural Resources Law Section
- American Bar Association
- Austin Bar Association (Environmental Law Section)
- Air and Waste Management Association (Central Texas Chapter)

- Participant in the Association of Chemical Industry of Texas, Texas Oil and Gas Association, and the Texas Water Conservation Association
- University Masonic Lodge No. 1190 (former Board Member of the University Lodge Foundation)
- Austin Christian Fellowship Church

Awards & Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America* - Environmental Law, Woodward/White, Inc., 2016-2020
- Chambers and Partners USA Guide: America's Leading Business Lawyers, 2013-2018
- *Chambers USA Guide to America*, Chambers & Partners Publishing, 2019

Admissions

- Texas, 1996