



COLORADO
WATER CONGRESS
INFORM | CONNECT | TRAIN | ACT

Legal Ethics in Water and Environmental Law November 5, 2019

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 1580 Logan St. Ste 610

8:30 a.m. Registration

8:40 a.m. Introduction

8:45 a.m. Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct: Ethical Principles and Obligations for Water Lawyers
Stephen H. Leonhardt, Attorney, Burns, Figa, & Will, P.C.

9:35 a.m. Break

9:50 a.m. Conflicts of Interest in Water Law Practice
Cynthia Covell, Attorney, Alperstein and Covell, P.C.

10:35 a.m. *Ethical Issues for Water Lawyers: Dealing with Unrepresented or Limited-Represented Parties*
Jamie Sudler, H2O Radio and former Deputy Attorney Regulation Counsel

11:05 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. Perspectives on Legal Ethics: Private Practice, NGO, State Government
Amy Beatie, Deputy Attorney General (Natural Resources and Environment Section)

12:00 p.m. A Panel on Hypothetical Problems
Stephen H. Leonhardt and Cynthia Covell

1:00 p.m. Adjourn



CWC 2019 Legal Ethics Workshop Speaker Bios:

Stephen H. Leonhardt

Stephen H. Leonhardt is a shareholder with the law firm of Burns, Figa & Will, P.C., in Greenwood Village. He works primarily in water law, as well as environmental and governmental law and related litigation and appeals. Mr. Leonhardt represents public agencies and private parties on a variety of water and governmental matters. Mr. Leonhardt grew up in Colorado Springs and graduated from Washington University in St. Louis (B.S.C.E. with honors, 1982) and Stanford Law School (J.D., 1985). He has spoken and written articles on water law issues, and on the initiative and referendum process in Colorado. Mr. Leonhardt was a member of the Ethics Committee of the Colorado Bar Association from 1988 to 1996, and lectures frequently on issues of legal ethics.

Cynthia F. Covell

Cynthia Covell, co-founder and shareholder of Alperstein & Covell P.C. graduated from the University of Colorado in 1974 and from the University of Denver, College of Law in 1977. Her practice emphasizes water rights matters, representing municipalities, non-profit organizations, individuals and businesses in the acquisition, transfer, sale, change and adjudication of water rights and water supplies, and in administrative proceedings regarding water matters. Ms. Covell has been a member of the Colorado Bar Association Ethics Committee since 1986, has chaired that committee, and is a member of the Colorado Supreme Court Standing Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct. She is also a member of the Colorado Supreme Court's Attorney Regulation Advisory Committee, and a member of the Court's hearing board panel for disciplinary cases. Ms. Covell lectures frequently on ethics matters, particularly as they relate to water and natural resource water law practices.

Jamie Sudler

James (Jamie) Sudler worked in the Office of regulation Counsel from 1992 to 2016. When he left, he was the Chief Deputy Regulation Counsel in charge of the Litigation Division of that office. Jamie is a Co-Producer at H2ORadio.org, which produces radio shows about all types of issues involving water from contamination and sustainability to drought. During the fall of 2016, he has been a lecturer at the University of Colorado at Boulder teaching a course on The American West. He also is a volunteer announcer with KGNU doing local headlines. Jamie currently serves on the Colorado Bar Association Ethics Committee. Jamie was licensed to practice law in 1977. Early in his career he worked as a Deputy District Attorney in Denver. He also was an associate in the firm of Rothgerber, Appel & Powers. He later was the First Assistant in charge of the Special Prosecutions Unit of the Colorado Attorney General's Office. His undergraduate degree is from the University of California at Berkeley, and his law degree from the University of Denver. He also has a Master's Degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton.



Amy Beatie

Amy Beatie moved to Colorado immediately after college in 1993 and has lived in Colorado ever since. From November 2007 until December 2017, she served as the Executive Director of the Colorado Water Trust, whose mission is to provide water to Colorado's rivers in need. Prior to working at the Trust, Ms. Beatie practiced water law at two Front range water law firms, clerked for the Honorable Gregory J. Hobbs, Jr. of the Colorado Supreme Court, and worked on water and oil and gas issues for a nonprofit in Wyoming. Ms. Beatie is currently the Deputy Attorney general for Natural Resources and the Environment, and an Adjunct Law Professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Ms. Beatie is on the Advisory Council of the One World One Water Center of Metro State University, serves on the Advisory board of the University of Denver Water Law review, and in April was selected to serve on the Board of Directors for Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, an environmental stewardship organization. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College and her law degree from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law.