

Ronald W. Farley

Retired Partner

Birmingham, AL
(205) 458-5185
rfarley@burr.com



For more than thirty years, Ron has represented clients in the public and private sectors with respect to environmental law matters and related policy issues. During that time, he has worked with and for members of Congress, State legislatures, industry trade associations, and public commissions and departments in an effort to develop and implement reasonable policies and solutions to various issues, both individual and general in nature, related to environmental regulation and real estate development.

Ron's practice concentrates in the areas of Environmental and Administrative law. He counsels and represents clients on a wide variety of environmental permitting, compliance and regulatory enforcement matters and on environmental due diligence aspects of real estate and brownfield transactions including brownfield tax abatements. He has represented a wide range of clients, large and small, public and private, with particularized needs including industrial recruitment, site selection, construction on greenfield and brownfield sites, expansions and transfers as well as ongoing compliance requirements and response to enforcement actions.

Ron recently served on an advisory panel, appointed by Alabama's Governor, focusing on Riparian Rights and other legal issues in the state. The panel advised the Governor and the Alabama Water Agencies Working Group on issues related to the development of a water management plan for the State.

Ron is a contributing author to the firm's **Environmental Law Matters Blog** providing news and tips to clients on environmental matters.

Prior to joining the firm in 1997, Ron practiced for twelve years with the Office of General Counsel of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, where he held the positions of

PARALEGAL/ASSISTANT

Legal Practice Assistant
Melinda Killian
(205) 458-5234
mkillian@burr.com

CAPABILITIES

Administrative & Regulatory
Economic Development
Environmental
Government Investigations
Real Estate

EDUCATION

J.D., Mercer University Walter F.
George School of Law (1983)
M.S., Georgia State University (1977)
B.A., Auburn University (1971)

LICENSED IN

Alabama
Georgia

Ronald W. Farley

Associate General Counsel and Assistant Attorney General. His duties included representing the Department in a variety of legal matters, particularly those involving hazardous and solid waste management and wastewater regulation.

While in law school, Ron was on Mercer's Championship Moot Court Team and was selected to the National Order of the Barristers. Prior to entering law school, Ron served as a legislative aide to the Honorable Elliott H. Levitas, a Member of Congress from Georgia's Fourth District.

Honors & Recognition

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Administrative/Regulatory Law since 2009, Environmental Law since 2006, Litigation-Environmental since 2011
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, "Lawyer of the Year," Administrative/Regulatory Law, Birmingham, AL, (2022)
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, "Lawyer of the Year," Environmental Law, Birmingham, AL since 2018
- *Chambers USA*, Leading Practitioner in Environment (2018)
- *Mid-South Super Lawyers*, Environmental (2016-2017)
- *Alabama Super Lawyers*, Environmental (2008-2015)
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rating

News

- Ron Farley Featured in *Birmingham Business Journal* on What Trump's Environmental Policy Will Mean For Alabama Industry
Firm News, 02.17.2017
- Burr & Forman Launches Environmental Law Blog
Firm News, 10.03.2012

Speaking Engagements

- Speaker: Southeastern Environmental Law & Regulation Conference
Speaking Engagement, Sandestin, FL, 06.15.2018
- Speaker, First Annual Environmental Professional Conference
Speaking Engagement, Birmingham, AL, 05.02.2017
- Speaker, Environmental Committee of Manufacture Alabama
Speaking Engagement, Alabama, 02.22.2017
- Ron Farley spoke at the Boundary Issues and Easement Law Live Seminar
Speaking Engagement, Birmingham, 03.09.2015

Ronald W. Farley

Articles

- “Insight: EPA Enforcement Curbs Shouldn’t Translate to Less Compliance, Unless...,” Bloomberg Environment
Articles / Publications, 04.17.2019

Blog Posts

- EPA Administrator Nomination Confirmed by Senate While EPA Defends Recent Analysis Showing Decline in Enforcement
Environmental Law Matters, 03.04.2019
- EPA Enforcement Actions Down Substantially
Environmental Law Matters, 02.04.2019
- EPA Proposes Revising Mercury and Air Toxics Standards for Power Plants
Environmental Law Matters, 01.08.2019
- *Grant v. Citizens Bank, N.A.*: Florida Courts Agree that Statute of Limitations does not Bar Collection of Amounts More than Five Years Past Due
Consumer Finance Litigation, 01.01.2019
- Government Climate Change Report Issued -- Despite Continued Skepticism, Evidence and Predictions of Significant Potential Damage Seem Difficult To Deny
Environmental Law Matters, 12.11.2018

Civic Activities

- Birmingham Downtown YMCA, Past Chair, Property Committee, Member; Past Member of the Board of Directors

Professional Activities

- American Bar Association; Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Sections
- State Bar of Georgia, Environment Section
- Alabama State Bar; Environmental Law Section, Executive Committee, Past Chair; member; Administrative Law Section, Member, Past Officer
- Air & Waste Management Association, Past Chair of the Southern Section (AL, GA, MS, TN)
- Manufacture Alabama; Environmental Committee, Member; Waste Sub-Committee, Chair; Annual Environmental Conference, Planning Committee
- Business Council of Alabama, Environment & Energy Committee Member
- Department of Environmental Management's Enforcement & Administrative Penalty Policies & Procedures, Advisory Committee Co-Chair
- Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Advisor