

Conner Nicklas

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Education

University of Wyoming College of Law, Juris Doctorate with honors, May 2017

GPA: 3.7, Class Rank: 7/69, Academic Honor Roll: Dean's List: Fall: 2014, 2015, 2016; Spring 2015, 2016

Organizational Involvement:

- *Wyoming Law Review*: Staff Member
- Natural Resource Law Club member
- University of Wyoming Rural Law Center-Legislative Research Services: Director
- Phi Alpha Delta: Vice-Justice, Fall 2014 – present
- Law School Ambassador

Competitions:

- ABA Negotiations Competition, Spring 2015; ABA Negotiations Competition Semifinalist, Spring 2016; Davis and Cannon Environment and Natural Resources Law Competition, Fall 2015, 2016; Oil and Gas Lease Negotiations Competition, Spring 2016

Major Research Projects:

- Conner Nicklas, *Critical Analysis of Colorado's Use Variance Statute Compared to General Application of Use Variances* (2014) (Land Use Law, Professor Alan Romero).
- Conner Nicklas, *Improvements on Colorado's Assured Supply Laws in Connection with Land Use Planning* (2015) (Advanced Water Law, Professor Jason Robison).

Clearwater Christian College, Clearwater, Florida, Bachelor of Arts in Pre-Law Studies, December 2013

GPA: 3.6, Academic Honor Roll: President's List Fall 2010; Dean's List Spring 2010 to Fall 2013

Leadership/Organizational Involvement

- Political Club: Vice-President, 2011-2014
- "Student Leadership and Mentors" (SLAM Team) Mentor, 2012-14
- Republican National Convention School Representative, Tampa, Florida, 2012

Thesis:

- Conner Nicklas, *The Impending Water Crisis in the West* (2010) (addressing the potential water crisis the Western United States faces in the next century and the ramifications of such a crisis if no solution is found).

Experience

Falen Law Offices, LLC, Cheyenne, WY

Associate Attorney

June, 2017 – Present

- Review, edit, and draft natural resource management plans for counties and conservation districts.
- Draft and file petitions for rulemaking before various federal and state agencies.
- Lobby before the Wyoming State Legislature, Wyoming Governor, and Wyoming Congressmen regarding various landowner property rights issues
- Litigate matters before the Department of Interior IBLA and OHA.
- Communicate with various federal, state, and local agencies, including the BLM, USFS, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, and US Army Corps of Engineers on behalf of clients regarding various permitting issues
- File briefs before the United States Supreme Court concerning the Endangered Species Act.
- Negotiate and draft oil and gas leases and surface use agreements.
- Negotiate and draft various easements, including, pipelines, power transmission lines, wind energy, and access road easements.
- Assist landowners with various legal issues, including fence disputes, grazing leases, estate planning, and access disputes
- Organize and assist interstate landowner groups to collectively bargain various easements, including, pipelines, power transmission lines, wind energy, and access road easements.
- Participate in alternative dispute resolution.

- Assist counties and conservation districts in becoming participating agencies in federal actions.
- Testify before the Wyoming House and Senate Joint Interim Committee on Minerals on behalf of the Wyoming Land and Mineral Owners Association.
- Publish articles in trade magazines and newspapers regarding Chevron Deference, Wyoming oil and gas law, the Endangered Species Act, and other federal and local natural resource issues.
- Lead public presentations for various matters, including, educating the public regarding Chevron Deference, the Equal Access to Justice Act, Wyoming oil and gas law, and educating counties regarding their rights to participation under NEPA, FLPMA, and NFMA.

University of Wyoming Rural Law Center- Legislative Research Services, Laramie, WY

Director

January, 2017 – May 2017

- Directed and supervised research regarding extraterritorial jurisdiction for municipalities.
- Managed a website for the research to be compiled.
- Wrote the overall work product created from the research.

University of Wyoming Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Law Clinic, Laramie, WY

Clinic Member

August 2016 – May 2017

- Prepared legal documents such as motions to intervene and answers to complaints.
- Researched environmental issues in order to give legal advice to state officials.
- Attended meetings with assistant attorney generals conducting official state business.
- Participated in mock trial in anticipation of oral arguments in front of the 10th Circuit.
- Attended oral arguments before the 10th Circuit.
- Represented the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission at a Show of Cause Hearing for revocation of a bond from an oil company.

Welborn, Sullivan, Meck, and Tooley, Casper, WY

Summer Law Clerk,

June 2016 – August 2016

- Participated in a civil trial worth several million dollars
- Researched and drafted memos for the firm that were given to clients.
- Drafted legal documents, including, articles of organization, probate documents, and motions to compel.
- Participated in interrogatories and client interviews in which I gave clients legal advice.

Grand County Attorney's Office, Hot Sulphur Springs, CO

Intern,

May 2015 – August 2015

- Drafted and Filed court documents for various legal actions including law suits for emergency medical services collections, motions to dismiss, and complaints.
- Assisted the County Board of Adjustments in appeals of the County Assessor's decision.
- Attended water negotiations with other Western Slope communities regarding the purchase of water rights
- Drafted contracts for the county, including service and construction contracts for various county activities.
- Drafted legal letters for the county, including cease and desist letters and letters notifying tenants that their damage deposits were forfeited.
- Drafted resolutions for the Board of County Commissioners.
- Researched and drafted memos covering several issues, including attorney ethics, utility law, and nepotism.

Community Involvement & Leadership

Dress for Success: Created a clothes drive in which local attorneys donated professional clothing to law students who could not afford them, March 2016- September 2016.

Young Life: Team Leader & Membership Development Coordinator, August 2010-August 2014, August 2018-Present