



Patty Naughton

She | Her | Hers

Of Counsel

Syracuse

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Education

- Santa Clara University School of Law, *Summa Cum Laude* (Top of Class), JD
- Yale Law School, Special Student Status
- Stanford University, *With Distinction*, BA

Practices & Industries

- Regulatory
- Environmental
- Commercial Litigation & Complex Trials
- Energy
- Data Center & Digital Infrastructure

Admitted to Practice

- New York
- California

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- US District Court for the Northern District of New York
- US District Court for the Southern District of New York
- US District Court for the Western District of New York

Biography

Patty concentrates her practice on civil litigation, administrative law, and appellate work, representing both private and public entities in environmental law, land use and zoning, and regulatory law. Patty works collaboratively with clients across multiple industries to achieve their unique goals, whether to permit a large industrial or commercial project or to defend those projects against legal challenges.

Patty regularly represents clients before administrative agencies that include the NYS Public Service Commission and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation as well as the trial and appellate courts across New York State.

Patty previously worked for judges at all levels of the court system, from the trial level through the intermediate appellate courts to the California Supreme Court, and uses her knowledge of the judicial decision-making process to inform her case strategy, preparation, and presentation.

Bar Associations

- Central New York Women's Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- Onondaga County Bar Association

Selected Memberships & Affiliations

- Barclay Damon's Women's Forum

Representative Experience

- Successfully defended a multi-national corporation against a lawsuit claiming the operation of a 13,000+ acre underground

mining operation had not been subjected to an adequate environmental impact review.

- Served as lead counsel representing a group of self-insured employers against the NYS Workers' Compensation Board and successfully obtaining a stay of enforcement.
- Represented a local government legislative body in high-profile litigation challenging legislative action.
- Represented numerous clients in connection with Article VII transmission-line siting proceedings before the Public Service Commission.
- Served as both local counsel and lead counsel for an international company in federal actions involving a variety of environmental issues, including CERCLA.
- Served as co-counsel for a major interstate oil pipeline company in the development of a pipeline between New York State and New Jersey, examining issues such as environmental compliance and the use of interstate rights-of way.
- Successfully represented companies in the NYS minerals industry seeking permits to mine under the Mined Land State Reclamation Law.
- Counseled a local government in an environmental-review process associated with the development of an outdoor amphitheater.
- Represented a local women-owned business enterprise in successfully challenging the denial of recertification by a state agency.
- Served as co-counsel on the PSC application for the world's longest direct-current underground-transmission line.
- Represented the largest tourism-destination facility ever designed for Central New York, working in conjunction with local municipalities and public agencies on its fulfillment.
- Assisted a beverage company in obtaining industrial hemp processing and growing licenses for the production of CBD-infused dietary supplement drinks.

Prior Experience

- Gilberti Stinziano Heintz & Smith, P.C., Senior Attorney

Judicial Clerkships

- US District Court for the Northern District of California, Judge Robert Peckham

Selected Community Activities

- Mid-York Library System, Board of Trustees Member
- University of Santa Clara Law School, Former Adjunct

Selected Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®: Syracuse "Lawyer of the Year": Environmental Law, 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®: Commercial Litigation, 2024–2026; Environmental Law, 2025–2026

Selected Speaking Engagements

- National Business Institute, "Constitutional Limitations of the Zoning Power" CLE
- Fifth Judicial District Conference Judicial Seminar, "The Article 78 Proceeding"

Selected Alerts & Blog Posts

- Proposed NYS Budget Includes Major Changes to ORES and Transmission Siting
- ORES Procedural Regulations Now Effective
- Pre-Employment Marijuana Testing Ban Goes Into Effect in New York City
- Deep Dive: New Accelerated Process for NYS Renewable Energy Siting
- NY State Legislature Passes Budget and Includes Major Changes for Siting of Renewable Energy Projects