



Noelle E. Wooten

Shareholder

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Noelle Wooten focuses her practice on environmental and consumer product litigation, regulation, and compliance.

Noelle Wooten represents clients in state, federal, and administrative disputes involving environmental and consumer product litigation, regulation, and compliance matters. She applies her technical background, prior experience at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and more than 30 years of practice to assist clients with matters involving complex toxic tort issues, private party disputes, and administrative penalty actions.

Ms. Wooten has significant experience in several areas of environment law, including environmental litigation, environmental due diligence, risk assessment and negotiation strategies in real estate transactions, and environmental compliance and regulatory counseling in matters involving hazardous substances, waste management, chemical control, retail product management, and drug packaging. She provides guidance in reviewing or creating compliance programs and finding solutions to environmental issues. Ms. Wooten defends actions such as alleged violations of the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and Superfund. She has appeared before the Supreme Court of North Carolina, the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings, and the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission to advocate on behalf of her clients.

Ms. Wooten also works with both buyers and sellers in real estate and business transactions by providing environmental due diligence counsel and assistance in the identification and allocation of environmental risk. She enjoys bringing creative solutions to environmental challenges to facilitate business transactions and brownfield redevelopment projects, as well as working with regulators across the country to remedy environmentally impaired properties.

In addition to her litigation, compliance and regulatory practice, Ms. Wooten is a trained mediator.

Before practicing law, Ms. Wooten worked as an environmental protection specialist in the EPA's Office of Solid Waste where she contributed to the 1990 Toxicity Characteristic Rule and served as co-chair for the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the RCRA Policy Issues Committee.

Representative Matters

- Represented a nationwide reverse logistics company on a range of issues involving hazardous waste material transport and handling, pharmaceutical drugs and medical devices, tobacco and alcohol, and environmental permitting.
- Represented a number of companies in a large group of parties regarding hazardous waste disposal and Superfund issues at a bankrupt waste disposal site.
- Represented and advised a construction company on a range of environmental matters, including asset sale of major subsidiary and regulatory issues with state agencies.
- Served as a U.S. Legal Agent for an international drug packaging manufacturer for all matters involving drug master file submissions, inquiries, and other communications with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Health Canada.

- Represented a long-standing real estate and private equity investment company in numerous transactions and general business matters, including the sale of its 21-theater, 230-screen movie theater division to a national cinema complex company after 70 years of continuous operation.
- Served on team as joint defense counsel for 12 major oil companies in an environmental litigation case involving claims of nuisance, trespass and negligence, medical monitoring, diminished property value, and strict liability. The team defeated class action certification and defended claims of property devaluation.
- Defended a chemical company in an administrative action for alleged violation of the Toxic Substances Control Act and provided advice and counsel in preparing an in-house compliance program.



Professional Honors & Activities

- Member – American Bar Association, Environmental and Health Law Sections
- Member – Commercial Real Estate Women of Charlotte, former President and National Delegate
- Member – Mecklenburg County Bar, Environmental Law Committee
- Member – National Ground Water Association
- Member – North Carolina Bar Association
- Member – Volunteer Lawyers Association
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Commercial Litigation (2017 – 2025)
- Selected for *Business North Carolina* magazine's "Legal Elite in Environmental" (2021 – 2025)
- Selected for *Charlotte Business Journal's* "40 Under 40" (2000)
- AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell



Publications

- "Grappling with Safe Battery Handling and End-of-Life Concerns in the EV Revolution," republished November 11, 2024, in *Law.com/New Jersey Law Journal* (October 2024)
- "Is "Forever" Really Forever? EPA's New Guidance on PFAS Destruction and Disposal" (July 2024)
- "PFOA and PFOS Are Now Hazardous Substances Under CERCLA" (July 2024)
- "A Focus on Public Water Systems: The Much-Anticipated Regulation of PFAS in Drinking Water Has Begun" (April 2024)



Education

- University of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 1992
 - Phi Beta Kappa
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, B.A. Chemistry, 1988, magna cum laude



Admissions

- North Carolina, 1992