



Partner

[jgiordano@archerlaw.com](mailto:jgiordano@archerlaw.com)

215-246-3170

**Philadelphia, PA**

**Practice Areas**

Government Affairs

White Collar Defense & Corporate Compliance

**Admitted**

District of Columbia

United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

United States Supreme Court

**Education**

Villanova University School of Law, Juris Doctor, 2002, Honors: *Phi Delta Phi*

Villanova University, B.A., English, *magna cum laude*, 1998, Select Honors and Activities: *Phi Beta Kappa*, Medallion for Academic Excellence, *Phi Kappa Phi*

John Giordano is a Partner in the firm's Government Affairs practice, as well as a member of Archer Public Affairs. In this capacity, Mr. Giordano provides government and regulatory affairs advice and advocacy representing clients at all levels of government.

Prior to joining Archer, Mr. Giordano served as Deputy General Counsel to the Presidential Transition Committee of President Donald J. Trump. During this time, he also served as one of only ten people on the U.S. Department of Energy Landing Team, where he was the sole Landing Team Attorney.

Immediately before joining the Trump Transition Team, Mr. Giordano was the founding Assistant Commissioner for the division of Air Quality, Energy and Sustainability (AQES) at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The creation of AQES marked one of the most comprehensive reorganizations of the Department and ushered in a new focus on energy security. Here, Mr. Giordano was also instrumental in drafting the comprehensive update to the state's 2011 Energy Master Plan, and served as the Governor's representative on the Delaware River Basin Commission.

Mr. Giordano's state service also includes serving as the DEP's Assistant Commissioner for Compliance and Enforcement, and as Deputy Secretary (Chief Operating Officer) of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Prior to his appointment to DCNR, Mr. Giordano was on Governor Tom Corbett's Transition Team as a member of the Energy and Environment Committee.

Prior to entering state service, Mr. Giordano was Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer for a regional transportation and equipment leasing company, where he was responsible for all legal, compliance and external affairs functions. In this capacity, he provided counsel on environmental, regulatory and compliance issues, as well as commercial transactions, products liability, corporate real estate, logistics, and operational matters, including employment and labor relations.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Giordano was a federal prosecutor and a senior Justice Department official, serving in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia, and as Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division at the U.S. Department of Justice (ENRD). While with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Mr. Giordano prosecuted federal felony and misdemeanor matters, including national security violations, fraud, narcotics offenses,

environmental crimes, and government theft. As Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General for ENRD, Mr. Giordano provided counsel on civil and criminal matters involving various environmental and natural resource laws, including those related to pollution-control, land acquisition, resource and ecosystem management; wildlife protection, and national security programs. Here, he also advised Justice Department officials and client agencies on litigation strategy and risks, policy issues, and regulatory initiatives, as well as represented the United States as lead counsel in federal appellate courts.

Before joining the Justice Department, Mr. Giordano served as a Senior Advisor and Staff Director in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Energy, where he provided counsel on energy policy, energy related economic activities, FERC regulation and oversight, and national security issues.

Prior to his experience in Washington, D.C., Mr. Giordano was an associate at DLA Piper, and a law clerk to the Honorable Joseph E. Irenas for the U.S. District Court, D.N.J.

Mr. Giordano is a Lecturer in Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and a Faculty Advisor at The Wharton School's Initiative for Global Environmental Leadership. He has also lectured at the University's Department of Earth and Environmental Science on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

In addition, Mr. Giordano is a member of the Drexel University President's Energy and the Environment Council, where he provides advice and recommendations on the effective utilization of the school's education programs and research resources to meet emerging energy and environment needs. This includes supplying strategic guidance on establishing the A.J. Drexel Institute for Energy and the Environment (IExE).

Mr. Giordano also serves on the Advisory Board of The Discovery Center at Strawberry Mansion Lake, which is a joint venture between the Audubon Society (Audubon, Pennsylvania) and the Philadelphia Outward Bound School. In this capacity, Mr. Giordano provides advice and guidance on establishing a state-of-the-art educational center for environmental conservation, leadership development, and community connections through preserving 50-acres of open land and a wildlife sanctuary, which encompasses a 37-acre reservoir in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park.

## **Professional And Community Involvement**

- Federalist Society, Philadelphia Chapter
- Federal Bar Association, EDPA Chapter
- The Philadelphia Club
- The Union League Of Philadelphia
- *Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law* at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Board Member

- Audubon Pennsylvania, Board Member

### **Awards And Recognition**

- NJBIZ “Forty Under 40” Award (2014)