



Partner

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215-246-3170

Philadelphia, PA

Practice Areas

Government Affairs

Environmental Law

Health Care

International Law

Land Use, Environmental Permitting &

Compliance

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: *Phi Beta Kappa*,
Medallion for Academic Excellence, *Phi Kappa
Phi*

John Giordano is a Partner in the firm's Government Affairs practice. In this capacity, Mr. Giordano provides clients with strategic counsel on international, government, and regulatory law.

Prior to joining Archer, 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 (NJDEP). 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 NJDEP'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 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 also taught a course on politics, policy, and federal law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School (2013-2016), and was a Faculty Advisor at The University of Pennsylvania Wharton School Initiative for Global Environmental Leadership (2016-2020). 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, from 2019-2020, Mr. Giordano served as one of only two individuals annually selected by the President of the United States to serve as Public Delegate to the United Nations with the personal rank of Ambassador. In this capacity, he engaged on numerous foreign policy issues before the General Assembly and the Security Council, including those related to Human Rights, Human Trafficking, Counterterrorism, and Outer Space.

Professional and Community Involvement

- Board Member, Audubon Mid-Atlantic
- The Union League Of Philadelphia
- The Philadelphia Club

Awards and Recognition

- NJBIZ "Forty Under 40" Award (2014)