



SpencerFane®

Kaleb W. Brooks

Partner

Contact

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Overview

As a member of the firm's litigation and dispute resolution practice group, Kaleb helps businesses and government clients litigate environmental and commercial disputes.

Kaleb's practice is focused on complex litigation in fields including water rights, water quality, environmental remediation, environmental torts, condemnation and eminent domain, professional negligence, and breach of contract. He represents clients in New Mexico state courts, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Education

- Indiana University Maurer School of Law, 2017 (J.D.), *summa cum laude*
- University of Denver, 2014 (M.A.)
- Regis University, 2012 (B.A., B.S.), *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- New Mexico, 2017

Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Community Involvement

- St. Elizabeth's Homeless Legal Clinic, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Volunteer Attorney

- New Mexico State Bar Association, Trial Practice Section, Former Young Lawyers Division Liaison
- New Mexico State Bar Association, Trial Practice Section, Former Secretary

Distinctions

- *Albuquerque Business First*, 40 Under 40, 2025
- *Best Lawyers in America*, Ones to Watch, 2023-2026
- *Southwest Super Lawyers*, Rising Star, 2024-2025

Memberships

- Phi Delta Phi
- Order of the Coif
- Oliver Seth Inn of Court

Presentations and Publications

- "[NM Case Shows Power of Environmental Public Nuisance Law](#)," *Law360*, March 2025
- "[Gas Contract Fight Holds Lessons On Force Majeure Clauses](#)," *Law360*, January 2025
- "Update on National, 10th Circuit, and New Mexico E-Discovery Practice," New Mexico Trial Practice Institute, December 2021
- "Too Heavy a Burden: Testing Complicity-Based Claims Under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act," 92 Ind. L.J. 40, 2016
- "Banking on the Present: The Ontological Rhetoric of Neo-Classical Economics and Its Relation to the 2008 Financial Crisis," 100 Q.J. of Speech, no. 2, 2014

Related Experience

- Represented a state government in an interstate compact dispute over water rights in the lower Rio Grande before the U.S. Supreme Court, sitting in its original jurisdiction.
- Obtained summary judgment on behalf of an environmental remediation contractor on CERCLA cost recovery and tort claims relating to the 2015 Gold King Mine spill in southwestern Colorado.
- Served as counsel for a water rights applicant in a complex project involving proposed pipeline to transport groundwater into the Middle Rio Grande.
- Represented a commercial laundry service in a CERCLA cost recovery suit concerning groundwater contamination.
- Represented local municipalities and counties in condemnation and eminent domain actions for roadway and pedestrian infrastructure projects.
- Represented a major mid-stream natural gas pipeline company construct large gathering line projects as condemnation and eminent domain counsel.
- Represented an irrigation and water conservancy district as water counsel.