



Eleni Kouimelis

Partner
Chair, Environmental Law Practice

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Eleni is chair of the firm’s nationally ranked Environmental Law Practice. Prior to joining Winston & Strawn in 1989, Eleni served as assistant regional counsel with USEPA Region 5, where she brought actions to enforce the air, water, and toxic statutes in judicial and administrative forums, and provided legal counseling and policy assistance to program clients in these areas.

Eleni focuses her practice on environmental issues that arise in a variety of contexts, including transactions, compliance counseling, and litigation. She provides compliance counseling to diverse industrial and manufacturing clients in all the environmental media, including designing and implementing audit and sustainability programs, strategic planning, and permitting. In addition, Eleni advises clients in the remediation and redevelopment of contaminated properties under both voluntary and government-mandated cleanups. Eleni also advises clients in corporate and real estate transactions, including acquisitions, divestitures, financings, and securities offerings. She represents clients in environmental enforcement actions brought by federal, state, and local authorities in jurisdictions throughout the United States, and in private party litigation involving contaminated property.

Recent Experience

Represented The Honey Pot Company Holdings, LLC, a leading better-for-you feminine care brand, in the sale of a controlling stake in the business to Compass Diversified (...)

Frontenac Acquisition of Integrated Openings Solutions

Winston Represented MCE Holdings in Its Acquisition of Applied Industrial Controls and Engineered Systems Group

ISG Enterprises Acquisition of Apple

Arthur J. Gallagher Acquisition of Clements Worldwide

Crowe LLP's Carveout Sale of its Health Care Consulting Business

Winston Represented MCE Holdings in Its Acquisition of Nova Hydraulics

CFS Brands acquisition of Foodware

Hendrickson Acquisition of Brunner International

Winston Represented OneOutdoor Holdings in the Sale of Benchmark Landscaping and Georgia Scapes to United Land Services

Recognitions

- Environment: Litigation practice recognized in *The Legal 500 US* in 2023
 - Listed in *Chambers USA* in Illinois Environmental Law from 2011–2023
 - Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Environmental Law and Litigation – Environmental from 2009–2024
 - Recognized in “The *Lawdragon* Green 500: The 2024 Leaders in Environmental Law”
 - Recognized in *Lawdragon’s* “500 Leading U.S. Environmental & Energy Lawyers” in 2021–2023
 - Named to list of Notable Women in Law by *Crain’s Chicago Business* in 2022
 - Elected as a Fellow to The American College of Environmental Lawyers in 2022
 - Recognized in *Euromoney’s* 2021 Women in Business Law Expert Guide
 - Recognized in the 2021 Women in the Law edition of *Best Lawyers*®
 - Listed in *Super Lawyers* – Top 50 Women Lawyers in Illinois 2016 and 2020
 - Named an Illinois Super Lawyer every year since 2010
 - Honored by the Hellenic Bar Association in 2019 as “Lawyer of the Year” in recognition of outstanding leadership, commitment to excellence and service to the Greek-American community
 - Recognized by the United Hellenic Voters of America to be honored as “The Most Distinguished Greek-American of 2017” in Leadership
 - Presented with 2015 “Award of Appreciation” by the Hellenic American Organizations of Illinois for outstanding legal contributions to the Hellenic-American community
 - Featured in the 2014 issue of the Real Estate, Construction, and Environmental edition of *Leading Lawyers Magazine* in an article titled, “Environmental Lawyer Sees Her Practice as Driven Journey”
 - Recognized by *Leading Lawyers Magazine* in the 2012 Women’s Edition, as well as ranked among the Top 50 women attorneys
 - Recognized by *Corporate Counsel* and *The American Lawyer* magazines as a 2013 Top Rated Lawyer for Energy, Environmental, and Natural Resources
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Activities

Eleni is a founding member and president of Hellenic Legal Assistance Services, a not-for-profit legal aid clinic. Eleni is a board member of the Hellenic Foundation and a board member of the Hellenic Bar Association Foundation. Eleni also serves on the Founded on the Rock Committee for the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago.

“Eleni is a pleasure to work with. She understands the law and the business aspects of the disputes.”

Chambers USA

Credentials

EDUCATION

Eleni received a J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law in 1985, where she was a member of the *Loyola Law Review*. She received a B.A. from the University of Illinois in 1982.

ADMISSIONS

- Illinois

LANGUAGES

- Greek

Related Insights & News

- Eleni frequently speaks and writes articles on a variety of environmental subject areas.
- Eleni wrote the Environmental Disclosure Requirements chapter for *Environmental Law in Illinois Corporate and Real Estate Transactions*, published in 2007 (Co-author) and updated in 2016, as well as the Environmental chapter of *Equipment Leasing–Leveraged Leasing* published by the Practising Law Institute in 1999 and 2004 (Co-author), most recently updated in 2014.

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Attorneys Featured on *Lawdragon's Green 500: The 2024 Leaders in Environmental Law List*

FEBRUARY 2, 2024

PRO BONO IN ACTION

Winston Pro Bono and Winston For Good Collaborate to Help Migrants File for Asylum

DECEMBER 8, 2023

BLOG

EPA Revises Guidance on Assessing Environmental Justice in Regulatory Analysis

DECEMBER 4, 2023

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2024

AUGUST 17, 2023

RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Recognized in *The Legal 500 U.S. 2023*

JUNE 7, 2023

RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Recognized in *Chambers USA 2023*

JUNE 6, 2023

BLOG

It's Official: EPA Approves Phase I Standard ASTM E1527-21 as Meeting All Appropriate Inquiry, Effective February 13, 2023

JANUARY 26, 2023

BLOG

Developing Environmental Regulatory and Litigation Risks for Finished Products

DECEMBER 21, 2022

BLOG

Prioritizing PFAS: The Latest EPA, State, and Global Efforts To Regulate PFAS in Drinking Water

DECEMBER 6, 2022

RECOGNITIONS

Cardelle Spangler and Eleni Kouimelis Recognized on *Crain's Chicago Business'* 2022 Notable Women in Law List

SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2023

AUGUST 18, 2022

NEWS

Eleni Kouimelis Elected to American College of Environmental Lawyers 2022 Class of Fellows

AUGUST 17, 2022

Capabilities

Environmental

Environmental Litigation & Enforcement

Energy

Retail & Luxury