

MICHAEL GORDON

Current Position:

Senior Policy Advisor New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton, New Jersey. Areas of responsibility include supporting and developing NRD program and major NRD cases; implementing Passaic River Superfund Cleanup and advisor to the Environmental Justice Advisory Council.

Prior Legal Experience:

Shareholder in the Law Firm Gordon & Gordon, P.C.
505 Morris Avenue, Springfield, NJ 1984-2016

Concentration in the area of environmental law, municipal law and constitutional law, representing as a special counsel over twenty New Jersey municipalities and the State of New Jersey, grass roots environmental organizations, private citizens, and environmental organizations in the areas of solid waste, hazardous waste, environmental justice, water pollution, environmental aspects of real estate transactions, facility site selections, emergent public health issues, toxic tort litigation, insurance coverage, environmental compliance, environmental coast recovery, natural resource damages, transportation, land use and economic damages.

Special Counsel New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Passaic River Litigation and other Natural Resource Damage Matters

Special Counsel for State of New Jersey against Tobacco Industry

Liaison Counsel for public entities litigation against Lead Industry Defendants

Serving as environmental attorney to the Ironbound community in Newark, New Jersey over the past thirty years on a variety of matters including dioxin contamination, garbage incineration, hazardous waste cleanup. To view a You Tube interview on this work, please visit: <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheEJCD>

Lecture Beijing China on Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims at China University of Law and Politics

Lecturer Natural Resource Damages and the Public Trust Doctrine Baykeeper Conference

Member Governor Jim McGreevy's Environmental Transition Team

Lecturer New Jersey Judicial College on Environmental Class Actions and Environmental Mass Torts

Member Governor James Florio's Emergency Solid Waste Task Force

Participant Governor Jim McGreevy's Smart Growth Summit

Former Public Advocate for Town of West Orange: Independent Attorney to represent the interests of the citizens of West Orange before all municipal boards.

Licensed to practice in the State of New Jersey, U.S. District Court and U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Previous Governmental Experience:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton, New Jersey

Office of Regulatory Affairs

Served within the Department on issues concerning statutory enforcement of hazardous waste and water pollution laws.

One of the principal drafters of the Environmental Cleanup Responsibility Act (ECRA) which was one of the first laws in the country to require the cleanup of industrial property upon sale or closure of the facility.

Publications:

"Toxic Circles: Environmental Hazards from the Workplace into the Community" Co-Author Chapter Dioxin at the Diamond Shamrock Facility with Dr. Ellen Silbergeld Rutgers University Press

"Courts Could Order Emergent Relief for Victims of Blast" New Jersey Lawyer

"Protecting the Passaic: A Call to Citizen Action" Seton Hall Law Review, Volume Twenty-Nine, No. 1

Education:

J.D. Rutgers University School of Law
Newark, New Jersey

B.A. Columbia College of Columbia University
City of New York

Teaching and Lecture Experience:

Natural Resource Damages and the Public Trust Doctrine Conference NJ/NY Baykeeper Conference

Environmental and Mass Tort Class Actions New Jersey Judicial College

Cleaning up Newark: "The History and Status of Contaminated Land in Newark" Seton Hall Law School

Adjunct Professor of Sociology, Montclair State College, Race and Ethnic Relations and Individual and Society

Environmental Defense Fund Lecturer

Association of Trial Lawyers of America NJ on Environmental Trial Tactics

Testimony before New Jersey Legislature

New Jersey State Bar - Institute for Continuing Legal Education "Toxic and Mass Torts"

Rutgers and Seton Hall Law Schools - Visiting Lecturer

Organizations & Recognitions:

New Jersey Law Journal first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award 2015 for shaping Environmental law in New Jersey

"Super Lawyers" Top 100 Selection - Environmental Law

"Super Lawyers" - selected by peers for inclusion - Environmental Law – 2005- 2016

Association of Trial Lawyers of America - NJ Gold Medal for 38.5 Million Dollar settlement against E.I. DuPont

Ten Leaders of Environmental Law - State of New Jersey Selected by Digital Press

Chairman Environmental Law Committee Association of Trial Lawyers of America - NJ

Rated A.V. - Martindale Hubbell

Best Lawyers In America - Environmental Law - selected by peers for inclusion

GREO Award for Legal Services – 2nd Annual NIMBY Convention

Essex Newark Legal Services - volunteer attorney certificate for outstanding service

Outstanding achievement for cleanup of 140 Thomas Street, Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste

Certificate of Achievement, Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Waste for representation of citizens groups in New Jersey

Pequannock River Coalition Award for Protecting Pequannock River

Who's Who in American Law

Million Dollar Advocates Forum

Seton Hall Law School Black Students Association Letter of Recognition on Environmental Justice

PARTIAL LIST OF PUBLISHED DECISIONS

New Jersey State Court Decisions

Howell Twp. v. Waste Disposal, Inc., 207 N.J. Super., 80 (App. Div. 1986)

Lafayette Twp. v. Board of Chosen Freeholders of Sussex County, 208 N.J. Super., 468 (App. Div. 1986)

McGrath v. N.J. District Water Supply, 224 N.J. Super., 563 (App. Div. 1986)

In the Matter of the NJPDES Permit No. N.J. 0055247, 216 N.J. Super., 1 (App. Div. 1987)

Ironbound Health Rights Advisory Commission v. Diamond Shamrock Chemical Company, 216 N.J. Super., 166 (App. Div. 1987)

City of Newark v. Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, 221 N.J. Super., 558 (App. Div. 1987)

In the Matter of Stream Encroachment Permit No. 12400, 231 N.J. Super., 443 (App. Div. 1989)

Ironbound Health Rights Advisory Commission v. Diamond Shamrock, 243 N.J. Super., 170 (App. Div. 1990)

Matter of Commissioner of Insurance, 256 N.J. Super., 553 (App. Div. 1992).

In Re: Lead Paint Litigation, 191 N.J. 405 (2007)

Federal Court Decisions

Student Public Interest Group of New Jersey v. Tenneco Polymers, Inc., 602 F. Supp. 1394 (D.N.J. 1984)

Student Public Interest Research Group of New Jersey v. Monsanto Co., 600 F. Supp. 1479 (D.N.J. 1985)

Student Public Interest Research Group of New Jersey v. Fritzsche Dodge & Olcott, Inc., 759 F. 2d 1131 (3d Cir. 1985)

Student Public Interest Group of New Jersey v. American Cyanamid, U.S. Dist., N.J. 28220 Lexis, (1986)

Gilberg v. Stepan, 24 F. Supp 2d 355 (D.N.J. 1998)

NJDEP v. Occidental Chemical, et al., U.S. Dist. Lexis 71245 (2006)