

SENIOR COUNSEL

PETER M. RACHER

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Indianapolis

PRACTICES

BUSINESS
ENVIRONMENTAL
INSURANCE COVERAGE
LITIGATION
REAL ESTATE

INDUSTRIES

AGRIBUSINESS
EDUCATION & SCHOOLS
ENERGY & UTILITIES
HEALTH CARE & LIFE SCIENCES
INDIVIDUALS & CLOSELY HELD BUSINESSES
MANUFACTURING
MUNICIPALITIES & GOVERNMENT
NONPROFIT & RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS
PETROLEUM MARKETERS
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION
TECHNOLOGY
WASTE SERVICES

OVERVIEW

Peter Racher is a passionate advocate for individuals, families and businesses of all sizes. He handles the prosecution and defense of toxic torts, class actions, and other challenging cases. Peter's clients have recovered millions of dollars in damages arising from environmental contamination of farmland and homes and from toxic exposures. He successfully defended an attempt to enjoin the U.S. Army from transporting and destroying deadly VX nerve agent, which had been stockpiled in Indiana for decades. The Hoosier Environmental Council named Peter an "Environmental Litigator of the Year" for his role in one of the first cases construing Indiana's Underground Storage Tank statute. Peter and colleagues have achieved multiple recoveries against insurers who violate obligations to cover environmental liability claims. He prosecutes and defends class actions and routinely advises clients in avoiding or minimizing environmental liability exposures and in recovering cleanup costs.

Peter loves working on cases where law, science and public policy intersect. He has team-taught environmental law classes at the IU McKinney School of Law. Peter is a past chair of the Environmental Law Section of the Indiana State Bar Association. Peter has served as a volunteer attorney for the ABA's Death Penalty Representation Project.

AWARDS

- 2021, Named Best Lawyers® Litigation – Environmental "Lawyer of the Year" in Indianapolis
- 2003-2027, Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® – Environmental Law, and Litigation – Environmental

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- 2018-2026, Ranked by *Chambers USA*
- 2011, named Distinguished Barrister by Indiana Lawyer
- 2008, Selected as Fellow of the Indianapolis Bar Association Foundation
- 2009-2027, Selected for inclusion by *Indiana Super Lawyers Magazine – Environmental*
- 2011-present, Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent Peer Review Rated
- 2015, 2019, Selected for inclusion in *Top 50 Super Lawyers – Indiana*

EDUCATION

- J.D., 1986, *magna cum laude*, Indiana University Bloomington – Maurer School of Law
- B.A., 1978, Biology, Oberlin College

BAR ADMISSIONS

- State of Indiana, 1986
- Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, 1986
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1993
- United States Supreme Court, 2016

EXPERIENCE

- Lindsey v. DeGroot, 898 N.E.2d 1251 (Ind. Ct. App. 2009)
- Sierra Club v. Gates, Cause No. 2:07-cv-0101-LJM-WGH, 2008 WL 4368531, slip op. (S.D. Ind. September 22, 2008)
- Sierra Club v. Gates, 499 F. Supp. 2d 1101 (S.D. Ind. 2007)
- Barnett v. Alcoa, Inc., Cause No. 3:06-cv-184-RLY-WGH, 2007 WL 1183823, slip op. (S.D. Ind. April 18, 2007)
- Ind. Dep't of Envtl. Mgmt. v. DeGroot, Cause No. 35D01-0704-MI-00013, slip op. (Huntington County Superior Court April 19, 2007)
- Metaldyne Co., LLC v. Intermet Corp., Cause No. 33D01-0607-PL-0015, slip op. (Henry County Superior Court July 31, 2006)
- Pflum v. Visteon Sys. LLC, Cause No. Case No.: 1:04-CV-00170-DFH-VSS (S.D. Ind. Oct. 21, 2005) (settled)
- Am. States Ins. Co. v. Kiger, 662 N.E.2d 945 (Ind. 1996)
- Hubbard v. Fid. Fed. Bank, 91 F.3d 75 (9th Cir. 1996)
- Shell Oil Co. v. Meyer, 705 N.E.2d 962 (Ind. 1998)

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AFFILIATIONS

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, American Bar Association, Section on Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law
- Fellow, Indiana State Bar Association
- Member, Indiana State Bar Association, Environmental Law Section (Chair 1998- 1999)
- Distinguished Fellow, Indianapolis Bar Association
- Member, Indianapolis Bar Association, Environmental Law Section
- Associate Member, American Association for Justice

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- Chair, 2023 IRT Celebrity Radio Show Committee
- Chair, 2022 IRT Silent Auction Committee
- Board of Directors, Indiana Repertory Theatre
- Former Member and Secretary, Board of Directors, Central Indiana Land Trust

ARTICLES & EVENTS

- 2023 | Co-Presenter
  Emotional Distress and Other Psychological Damages, Panel with Linda Havel and Nick Bognanno, ICLEF

- 2018 | Publication
  How to Prepare for an Unavailable Expert Witness, *Indiana Lawyer*, August 2018

- 2017 | Presenter
  Expert Witnesses: Using Indiana Court Rules to Your Advantage Seminar; *Admission Hurdles for Expert Testimony*

- 2016 | Speaking Engagement
  Speaker, Preparing for the Unthinkable: Assisting the Client in Planning for Disaster, When Disasters Strike: What Should You Do for Your Client?, ICLEF Seminar

- 2009 | Publication
  Author and Speaker, “Downpours Deluges & Floods: Litigation After the Cataclysm,” Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum Seminar, Indianapolis, Indiana

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- 2002 | Publication
  Author and Speaker, “Legal Ethics,” American Agricultural Law Association Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana

- 2002 | Publication
  Author and Speaker, “Recent Developments in Environmental Law in Indiana,” part of Cutting Edge Complex Environmental and Real Estate Development Issues in Indiana, sponsored by Lorman Education Services

- 2001 | Publication
  Author and Speaker, “Complying With Environmental and Special Use Regulations,” Part of Land Use Law Seminar sponsored by National Business Institute

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