



Sarah M. Stevenson Shareholder

DIRECT 505.848.1884 FAX 505.848.9710

Email: sarah.stevenson@modrall.com

OFFICE SANTA FE MAIN 505.983.2020



Related Practices

Energy, Environment and Natural Resources

Environment

Water Rights and Water Quality

Litigation

Appellate

Commercial

Native American Law

Economic Development

Energy and Resources

Tribal Law and Courts

Related Industries

Business in Indian Country

Energy

OVERVIEW

Sarah Stevenson is a shareholder in the Natural Resources Department and a litigator representing public entities and private businesses. Her natural resources experience focuses on water law, including water adjudications and interstate water compacts, and Native American law, including natural resource development projects on Native American land. She has advised clients developing projects on Native American land on issues regarding indigenous rights, jurisdiction, and contract formation. Sarah has litigated business disputes and employment and First Amendment cases.

Sarah graduated magna cum laude from Fordham University School of Law, and received a joint J.D./M.A. in International Political Economics and Development from Fordham University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. While at Fordham, she was chosen as a Crowley Scholar in International Human Rights, participated in the Leitner Human Rights Clinic, and was a research assistant for Professor Russell Pearce. She clerked for the Honorable Patricio M. Serna of the New Mexico Supreme Court from 2009 to 2011. Her B.A. is from Scripps College.

Southwest Super Lawyers® has listed Sarah as a Southwest Rising Star in Appellate practice, and she has been named a Future Star by *Benchmark Litigation, The Definitive Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys*. Sarah is recognized by *Best Lawyers in America®* for her work in Environmental Law and Native American Law.

Education

Fordham University School of Law, J.D., 2009, magna cum laude, Order of the Coif, Dean's List 2007-2009

Fordham University, M.A., International Political Economy and Development, 2009

Scripps College, B.A., American Studies, 2001, with honors

Bar Admissions

New Mexico

New York

United States Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit



U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico

ACTIVITIES

Professional Activities

- Ex Officio Member, New Mexico Supreme Court Commission on Equity and Justice, 2021-present
- Board of Directors, New Mexico Women's Bar Association, 2021-present
- Member, Modrall Sperling Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 2017-present
- Board of Directors, Indian Law Section, State Bar of New Mexico, 2016-2018
- Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 2011-present; Young Professionals Committee, 2012-2016; Human Rights and the Extractive Industries Conference Steering Committee, February 2016

Clerkships

- Law Clerk, Justice Patricio M. Serna, New Mexico Supreme Court, 2009-2011

Public Service

- U. S. Peace Corps, Niger, West Africa; HIV/AIDS Program Coordinator, 2004-2005; Community Health Agent, 2002-2004

NEWS & ARTICLES

News

39 Modrall Sperling Attorneys Recognized in Best Lawyers

Posted on [December 1, 2020](#) By [Daniel Schueler](#)

***Benchmark Litigation* Highly Recommends Modrall Sperling**

Posted on [November 21, 2019](#) By [Daniel Schueler](#)

Articles

New Mexico Produced Water Act

Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Newsletter,

Vol. XXXVI, No. 3, September 6, 2019

By [Sarah M. Stevenson](#)

Indian Law in the Next Supreme Court Term: Grants and Pending Applications

July 16, 2018

By [Sarah M. Stevenson](#)

A Historic Moment in Indian Water Rights in New Mexico: Entry of the *Aamodt* Final Decree

August 29, 2017

By [Maria O'Brien](#) and [Sarah M. Stevenson](#)

The Congressional Review Act: Regulations on the Chopping Block

March 20, 2017

By [Sarah M. Stevenson](#)



Jemez Pueblo's Aboriginal Title Claims to the Valles Caldera Dismiss; Pueblo Appeals

December 31, 2013

By [Sarah M. Stevenson](#)

DISCOURSE

Presentations

- Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Sacred Sites and the Role of Consultation and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, *Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Int'l Mining and Oil & Gas Law, Development, and Investment*, April 22-24, 2013, Cartagena, Colombia

Articles

- **Maori Land Rights & the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**
32 Fordham Int'l L. J., 298, October 7, 2008
By [Sarah M. Stevenson](#)
- **Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Sacred Sites and Traditional Cultural Properties and the Role of Consultation and Free, Prior and Informed Consent**
32 J. Energy & Nat. Resources L., No. 3, 297, July 22, 2014
By [Stuart R. Butzier](#) and [Sarah M. Stevenson](#)
- **Don't Let the Well Run Dry: Management and Use of Groundwater in Times of Scarcity**
Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Annual Institute Proceedings 2015,
Vol. 61, ch. 23, [Maria O'Brien](#) and [Sarah M. Stevenson](#), October 7, 2015
By [Maria O'Brien](#) and [Sarah M. Stevenson](#),

HONORS

- *Best Lawyers in America*® in Environmental Law and Native American Law, 2021
- *Southwest Super Lawyers*®, selected as a Southwest Rising Star, 2014-present
- *Benchmark Litigation, The Definitive Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys* recognized as a Future Star, 2020-present