



Leon Vance
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Profile

Mr. Vance joined Faulkner Banfield, P.C. in 1983, following a clerkship with Judge James Barrett of the United States Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit. Mr. Vance focuses his practice on complex litigation, particularly in the areas of oil and gas tax and royalties, natural resources law, and defense of products liability, personal injury and professional malpractice claims. Working from Faulkner Banfield's offices in Juneau, Mr. Vance has appeared before courts and administrative agencies throughout Alaska, handling matters arising all over the state, including issues concerning:

- Oil and natural gas produced from Alaska's North Slope
- The TransAlaska Pipeline, running from the North Slope to Valdez, Alaska
- Tankers carrying crude oil from the terminus of the TransAlaska Pipeline in Valdez, Alaska
- Spill prevention and response vessels located throughout Prince William Sound
- The nation's only LNG-export plant, located at Kenai, Alaska
- An electrical utility on Prince of Wales Island in Southeast Alaska
- A silver mine located on Admiralty Island in Southeast Alaska
- Businesses and professionals operating in Juneau, Alaska

Mr. Vance served as Alaska counsel for Polar Tankers, Inc., in its successful United States Supreme Court appeal of a property tax that violated the Tonnage Clause of the U.S. Constitution (*Polar Tankers, Inc. v. City of Valdez*, ___ U.S. ___, 129 S. Ct. 2277 (2009)).

Professional Associations and Public Service

Mr. Vance is a member of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation and Commonwealth North. He has served on a variety of professional, municipal and non-profit boards and committees and as a volunteer coach for youth soccer and baseball teams.

Education

J.D., with honor 1982
University of Wyoming
College of Law

Editorial Board Member, *Land and Water Law Review*, 1980 – 1982

B.A. Geology 1979
Rice University

Representative Clients

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

Bitzer Canada, Inc.

BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc.

ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.

Crowley Marine Services, Inc.

ExxonMobil Corporation

ING Commerce Group

Polar Tankers, Inc.

SeaRiver Maritime, Inc.