

# **September 20 - Health and Environment**

## **When the Sheriff Arrives: Effective Municipal Defense of Private “Citizen Suits” under Federal Environmental Statutes (Clean Water and Clear Air Actions)**

**\*\*90 Minutes\*\***

### **Speakers:**

**Steven Torres** is a partner at West Group Law PLLC and has over 20 years of experience in municipal law, including construction and public-private partnerships and has been a project advisor and chief legal counsel who has managed in excess of \$1.5 billion in project value in the areas of utilities, water and wastewater, transportation, building construction and renewable energy. Attorney Torres has significant knowledge and experience in state, federal and local regulations including zoning, land use planning, and building and environmental permitting. His range of experience in state and federal regulatory permitting, enforcement, compliance and litigation includes work under the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, National and State Environmental Policy Acts, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act among others.

Attorney Torres is nationally recognized in his practice area and is a frequent lecturer, guest speaker and teacher/mentor to other practitioners. He is also an author, editor and lecturer for various national, international and regional government or industry trade groups, and co-edited the Second Edition of MCLE's "Massachusetts Municipal Law". Attorney Torres has had several essays published in the areas of labor law, international law, municipal law and constitutional law. He is a sought after speaker on municipal law, renewable energy, emerging technology and alternative delivery construction project development. Attorney Torres has been a national panelist for the Design-Build Institute of America, the National League of Cities, the American Water Works Association, the International Municipal Lawyers Association, the Solid Waste Association of North America, the Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York municipals and bar associations and other national and regional organizations.

Prior to joining West Group Law PLLC, Attorney Torres served for thirteen years as a city attorney for four consecutive mayoral administrations in two cities. He was Corporation Counsel for the City of Fall River, Massachusetts and City Solicitor for the City of Taunton, Massachusetts. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1987-1990 as a nuclear operations officer.

**Jillian Jagling** is an associate attorney with West Group Law PLLC with experience in both the public and private sectors. She represents and provides legal advice to public entities, including municipalities and public authorities, in connection with the construction, improvement and operation of all types of public facilities and operations, including water and wastewater facilities, municipal buildings, recreational facilities, transportation systems, solid waste management, and other public projects and facilities. Her practice includes, structuring procurements from start to finish, including drafting and managing the procurement process, drafting and negotiating contracts, project financing, contract management and governance, as well as disputes. Many of these public projects incorporate alternative project delivery models including design-build, design-build-operate, and public private partnerships. She also provides counsel on matters related to municipal law and regulations, including energy management, zoning, land use, planning, conservation, and labor and employment, among others. Additionally, Attorney Jagling advises for-profit and nonprofit businesses on corporate formation and dissolution, operating agreements and bylaws, contract drafting, negotiations and interpretation, and trademarks. Attorney Jagling's previous roles include an Associate with another law firm and in-house counsel with an insurance company. Attorney Jagling also served in the United States Army Reserves for eight years, during which time she was with the 3rd Legal Support Operations Unit in Boston, MA as a paralegal. d