

September 21 – Land Use – L18

Wetlands

SPEAKER BIOS

Virginia S. Albrecht is a partner at Hunton & Williams. Her practice focuses exclusively on environmental law and administrative law -- in particular, the Clean Water Act (CWA) wetlands program, the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other federal regulatory programs that affect the use of land. Albrecht has experience in permit negotiation, litigation of policy issues, lobbying Congress and the Administration, enforcement defense, and compliance counseling. Representative clients include development companies, agricultural and mining companies, state and local agencies, and trade associations. She has extensive experience with federal environmental agencies both in Washington and in district and regional offices.

Michael Klemens: Educated in the United States and Europe, Dr. Michael W. Klemens is a conservation biologist and land-use planner who seeks to achieve a balance between ecosystem requirements and human needs. He has conducted field work in East Africa and throughout the United States and has written several books including the definitive study of Connecticut's amphibians and reptiles and authored over 100 scientific papers. He is on the scientific staff of the American Museum of Natural History, serves as a consultant to various Federal agencies, as is adjunct faculty at several universities.

He was appointed in 2013 by CT governor Dannel Malloy to serve on the Council of Environmental Quality, which oversees environmental compliance of various State agencies and the CT Siting Council which permits wireless telecommunications and electrical infrastructure in Connecticut.

Locally, Michael has served over eight years on the Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission, most recently (and currently) as its Chairman. He states that he "brings an independent perspective to planning issues, mindful of the need to balance the stewardship of community interests with rights of land-owners to use their properties productively". He strongly believes that increased public participation in municipal government is essential, and that all points of view have merit and require serious consideration.

Dwight H. Merriam founded Robinson & Cole's Land Use Group in 1978. He represents land owners, developers, governments and individuals in land use matters. Dwight is a Fellow and Past President and of the American Institute of Certified Planners, a former Director of the American Planning Association, a former chair of APA's Planning and Law Division, and a former chair of the American Bar Association's national Section of State and Local Government Law. He teaches land use law at the University of Connecticut School of Law and at the Vermont Law School and has published over 200 articles and nine books and including *Inclusionary Zoning Moves Downtown*, *The Takings Issue*, *The Complete Guide to Zoning*, and *Eminent Domain Use and Abuse: Kelo in Context*.

Daniel R. Mandelker is a leading scholar and teacher in land use law, environmental law, and state and local government law. He was the principal consultant and contributor to the American Planning Association's model planning and zoning legislation project. He was also the principal

consultant to a joint American Bar Association committee that prepared a model law for land use procedures that was adopted by the ABA House of Delegates. He recently published a book on designed planned communities and a handbook on free speech law for on premise signs. Additionally, he received the ABA's State and Local Government Section Daniel J. Curtin Lifetime Achievement Award.