

July 27- Land Use Murr v. Wisconsin Part II

SPEAKERS:

John Echeverria is a Professor of Law at Vermont Law School where he teaches Property, Public Law and a wide range of environmental and natural resource law courses. Prior to joining the Vermont Law School faculty in 2009, he served for 12 years as Executive Director of the Georgetown Environmental Law & Policy Institute at Georgetown University Law Center. He also was General Counsel of the National Audubon Society and General Counsel and Conservation Director of American Rivers, Inc., and was an Associate for four years in the Washington, D.C. office of Hughes, Hubbard & Reed. He served for one year as law clerk to the Honorable Gerhard A. Gesell of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia immediately after graduating from law school.

Professor Echeverria has written several books and numerous scholarly articles on environmental and natural resource law topics. He has published pieces for more general audiences in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Christian Science Monitor*. He has represented state and local governments, environmental organizations, and planning groups in a variety of legal matters at all levels of the federal and state court systems. In 2007, Professor Echeverria received the Jefferson Fordham Advocacy Award from the American Bar Association to recognize outstanding excellence within the area of state and local government law over a lifetime of achievement. In addition to teaching at Vermont Law School, he has served as a Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School and Georgetown University Law Center.

Professor Echeverria received a JD degree from the Yale Law School. He received a Master's degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies as well as a BA degree from Yale College (summa cum laude).

Susan Trevarthen ESQ., FAICP chairs the Municipal Land Use and Zoning practice and is a Member of the law firm of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, P.L. in Fort Lauderdale. She handles land use, planning and zoning matters for governments, and is Town Attorney for a Broward coastal community. Her work includes reviewing and negotiating development agreements and approvals, drafting municipal codes and plans, advising municipal staffs, managers and attorneys, defending challenges to municipal regulations and decisions, handling public hearings, and counseling elected officials, as well as advocating for municipalities on legislative issues in her field. Her practice also includes constitutional law issues (such as takings, Harris Act, and First Amendment-protected land uses including signs), public school facilities, and hot topics in zoning law. Ms. Trevarthen has been board certified in City, County and Local Government Law by the Florida Bar since 2003, has been recognized as one of the top land use attorneys in the state in publications such as *Florida Trend Magazine* and *SuperLawyers*, and is AV rated. She has also held leadership positions in the Florida Bar's Section for Environmental and Land Use Law and Section for City, County and Local Government Law. Susan grew up in Boca Raton, Florida. She was graduated from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a joint degree in law and planning (M.R.P. and J.D., 1991) and from Duke University (A.B., 1986), and is a member of the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Lisa Soronen is the Executive Director of the SLLC. Prior to joining the SLLC, Lisa worked for the National School Boards Association, the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, and clerked for the Wisconsin Court of Appeals. She earned her J.D. at the University of Wisconsin Law School and is a graduate of Central Michigan University.

Jeffery Mandell is a litigator with extensive trial and appellate experience in federal and state courts. He also serves as a counselor to various businesses and individuals on how best to handle litigation risk and to navigate administrative regulations.

Recently, Jeff authored an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Wisconsin v. Murr*, arguing on behalf of organizations representing every level of municipal government in Wisconsin that the Court should defer to the Wisconsin courts and should not use the case as an occasion to reexamine federal takings law. Jeff's experience also includes authoring an amicus brief to the Supreme Court advocating a significant new interpretation of the Class Action Fairness Act, under which class action defendants would have more freedom to litigate in federal court.