

Stephen Paul Smith

Experience:

2023-Present **Of Counsel** **Atlanta, GA / Washington, D.C.**
Beveridge & Diamond PC

- Advise Fortune 500 companies, municipalities, real estate firms, and related entities in nearly all environmental situations. This entails significant environmental compliance and enforcement defense work related to federal and state actions under the Clean Water Act (CWA), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Clean Air Act (CAA), Oil Pollution Act (OPA), and Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), among many others. It also entails comprehensive counsel for complex, multi-party environmental cleanups pursuant to the Comprehensive Response, Compensation and Liability Act (Superfund) and comparable state cleanup laws, as well as strategic counsel for environmental risks and due diligence of real estate transactions, redevelopment, and related liabilities.

2010-2023 **Associate Regional Counsel, Office of Regional Counsel** **Atlanta, GA**
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4

- Led all legal aspects of complex environmental cleanups and enforcement actions throughout the Southeast on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), including being lead counsel for hundreds of matters against regulated industry pursuant to the Superfund, CWA, RCRA, OPA, and SDWA, among others.
- Led teams and developed robust relationships with directors, managers, and staff within Region 4, as well as EPA Headquarters, the U.S. Department of Justice, and state agencies, by representing EPA in a broad range of priorities and roles, including:
 - Special Assistant to the Regional Counsel serving as liaison between ORC and other EPA divisions and state agencies, leading special projects related to the Agency's new administration transition and other priorities;
 - Acting Chief of the Office of FOIA, Privacy and Litigation Support overseeing all aspects of requests, responses, and appeals related to the Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act;
 - ORC lead for all oil spill and prevention related matters pursuant to the CWA and OPA;
 - ORC representative for the EPA's National Removal Enforcement Workgroup ensuring effective responses at emergency and time-sensitive cleanup actions;
 - ORC representative for Brownfields Redevelopment and Land Revitalization facilitating redevelopment and reutilization at Superfund sites;
 - ORC representative for former RE-Powering America's Land Initiative encouraging renewable energy projects on current and formerly contaminated lands, landfills, and mining sites; and
 - ORC representative for the White House Council on Strong Cities, Strong Communities working with municipalities to build capacity and support their visions for economic growth and community outreach.

2023-Present **Trustee, Board of Trustees** **Atlanta, GA**
Morris Brown College

- Member of the Board of Trustees for Morris Brown College, one of five Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Atlanta. Founded in 1881, Morris Brown was the first educational institution in Georgia to be entirely owned and operated by African Americans and now boasts a resurgence in impact and position in the collegiate academic landscape.

2021-Present **Trustee, Board of Trustees** **Atlanta, GA**
Hopeful/Honest Initiative on Race and Understanding

- Serve as Trustee of the charitable trust partnering with business and community leaders from across the Southeast to facilitate hopeful/honest dialogue surrounding race and equity. This includes hosting events to inspire mutual understanding and empathy, foster diverse relationships, and ensure positive action on racial equity and reconciliation.

2018-2023 **Former Chairman, Board of Directors** **Atlanta, GA**
Trinity Community Ministries

- Oversaw the Board of Directors and long-term success of Trinity’s recovery of Atlanta’s homeless and addicted communities. Referred to as a “Tough Program for Tough Times,” Trinity provides shelter to men of various backgrounds, helping them transform from despair to leaders and mentors in their communities. This included coordinating a premier athletic fundraising event hosted at Mercedes-Benz Stadium called the Trinity Combine which supports Trinity—having raised more than \$1M through partnerships with Lululemon and Truist Bank, among others.

2017-2022 **Former Chairman, Board of Directors** **Avondale Estates, GA**
Avondale Elementary School Education Foundation

- Oversaw the Board of Directors and community outreach—in conjunction with school leadership—to ensure that every student at Avondale Elementary School (AES), a Title I school in Atlanta, has the resources to thrive. This entailed critical AES improvements like a new school playground, outdoor classroom, gym flooring, donor-funded field trips, technology for the AES STEM initiative, professional development for AES staff and teachers, fire relief for impacted AES families, and a school mural to bring life and promise to the school’s aging building, among others.

2014-2023 **Liaison, Past Co-Chair, and Vice Chair** **Atlanta, GA**
American Bar Association’s Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources

- Liaison to SEER on behalf of EPA, including serving in several capacities for SEER over the years, developing relationships with environmental practitioners across the country. Served as Co-Chair and Vice Chair responsible for planning and coordinating multiple national and regional conferences, including:
 - Vice Chair of the 2021 and 2020 SEER Spring Conferences held virtually;
 - Co-Chair of the 2019, 2015, and 2013 SEER Region 4 Environmental Law Conferences held in Atlanta, GA; and
 - Vice Chair of the 2014 SEER Fall Conference held in Miami, FL.

Notable Leadership, Development, and Awards:

- **Leadership Atlanta**, Class of 2025
- **40 Under 40**, Georgia Trend Magazine, Class of 2022
- **20 Under 40**, Auburn University, Inaugural Class of 2022
- **Leadership Dekalb**, Class of 2020
- **40 Under 40**, Atlanta Business Chronicle, Class of 2019
- **LEAD Atlanta**, Leadership Atlanta, Class of 2017
- **Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt**, Process Improvement Center of Excellence, Atlanta FEB, January 2016
- **Leadership Government**, Atlanta Federal Executive Board, Class of 2014

Education:

2007-2010 **The University of Mississippi School of Law** **Oxford, MS**

- Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, May 2010
- Mississippi Law Journal, Development Editor
- Ole Miss Moot Court Board, Member

2002-2006 **Auburn University** **Auburn, AL**

- Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, in Political Science, May 2006
- Spanish Minor