English Lucas Priest & Owsley, LLP



Sarah P. Jarboe

Partner

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Overview

Sarah Jarboe primarily practices environmental law and civil litigation. She grew up in rural Kentucky near Owensboro, and the outdoors formed the fabric of her childhood. Sarah's enthusiasm for nature is reflected in her legal practice. For her undergraduate education, Sarah attended the University of Louisville where she double majored in psychology and philosophy and minored in history. The analytical reasoning that intertwined Sarah's college courses led to her general interest in the legal field.

During Sarah's challenging studies at Vanderbilt Law School, it became clear that finding an area of law that was meaningful to her was vital to academic, professional, and personal success. Environmental law was a perfect match for Sarah – it is a natural outgrowth of her upbringing in the countryside. Uniting her interest in nature with her legal practice gives Sarah the advantage enjoyed by those who truly love their work.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Environmental Law

Sarah joined ELPO in 2013 after working as a law clerk for two years for Chief Justice John D. Minton of the Kentucky Supreme Court in his Bowling Green office.

As part of her practice with ELPO, Sarah has represented clients in permitting and policy issues and enforcement actions. She has advised clients on various environmental matters, including the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Underground Injection Control Program under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund), Oil Pollution Act, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act. Sarah is an experienced negotiator, having participated in negotiations in enforcement and permitting cases with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection.

“I concentrate on helping companies comply with the complex and often confusing web of environmental regulations without sacrificing their business objectives,” says Sarah. “My favorite days are when I get to wear work boots and a hard hat because it means I am in the field working side-by-side with my clients.”

In addition to her work at ELPO, Sarah is an active member and contributor to national and statewide environmental associations and boards. Sarah currently serves on the Board of the Friends of Mammoth Cave National Park and on the American Bar Association’s Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources’ (SEER) 2020 Fall Conference Planning Committee. Previously, she sat on the SEER 2016 and 2017 Fall Conference Planning Committees. Sarah was one of 12 participants selected nationwide for SEER’s Leadership Development Program from 2014 to 2015. In addition, she devoted five years to the position of Newsletter Vice Chair for SEER’s Smart Growth and Green Building Committee. Sarah also served as Chair of the Environment, Energy and Resources law section of the Kentucky Bar Association from 2016 to 2017, and previously served as Chair Elect and Vice Chair of that section.

Sarah is a frequent speaker at environmental conferences, presenting on topics such as environmental liability related to waste issues, federal and state environmental audit policies, green infrastructure and consent decrees for water and wastewater utilities, the value of water to the U.S. economy, cooperative federalism, brownfields, and environmental common law actions and remedies.

Sarah and her husband have three young children. Locals frequently can find their family enjoying Kereiakes Park or Mammoth Cave National Park with their Vizsla.

Credentials

Education

- Vanderbilt University Law School, Nashville, J.D., 2011
- University of Louisville, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Philosophy, 2008

Admission

- Kentucky, 2011
- U.S. District for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, 2013
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, 2014

Affiliations

- Bowling Green-Warren County Bar Association, Member and past chair of Young Lawyers Committee, past member of the Board of Directors
- Kentucky Bar Association, Member and Chair of the Environment, Energy and Resources law section, 2016-2017
- American Bar Association , Member; Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources' (SEER) 2016 and 2017 Fall Conference Planning Committees Member; Leadership Development Program, 2014-2015; and Vice Chair of Newsletter, Smart Growth and Green Building Committee, 2010-2015
  - 2020 Fall Conference Planning Committee

Community Involvement

- Leadership Bowling Green, Class of 2015
- Friends of Mammoth Cave, Board Member, 2019 - present
- ELEVATE Kentucky, Class of 2019
- Friends of Mammoth Cave, Board Chair, 2025

Insights

News

- Fifteen ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized in 2027 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America
- Eight ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2026 Super Lawyers. One Named Rising Star
- ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized in the 32nd Edition of The Best Lawyers in America©
- ELPO Law Attorneys Speak on Environmental Law
- Attorney Sarah Jarboe collaborates on American Bar Association podcast
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2025 Super Lawyers. One Named Rising Star

- ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers in America® and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America.
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2024 Super Lawyers; One Named Rising Star
- Ten ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America© 2024; Five Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
- LEGAL UPDATE: EPA Announces Proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR)
- Three ELPO Law Attorneys to Serve as Co-Counsel in Lawsuit Against the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers
- Eight ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2023 Super Lawyers; One Named Rising Star
- Nine ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized as Best Lawyers 2023; Five Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
- ELPO Law Attorneys Published in American Bar Association's Environmental Law Resource Book
- Eight ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2021 Super Lawyers; One Named Rising Star
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Recognized as Best Lawyers 2021; Three Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
- Seven ELPO Law Attorneys Named 2020 Super Lawyers; Two Named Rising Stars
- LaJuana Wilcher, Sarah Jarboe, Joye Beth Spinks contribute to ABA year-end review
- Kentucky School Board Insurance Trust Members to Receive $5 Million Disbursement
- Sarah Jarboe, LaJuana Wilcher to speak at Environmental Conference
- Kentucky school systems to receive additional $1.8 million in reimbursements
- LaJuana Wilcher, Sarah Jarboe contribute to ABA year-end review
- Attorney Sarah Jarboe organizes environmental law conference
- Partner Sarah Jarboe participates in endangered bat survey
- Sarah Jarboe named partner at ELPO
- Attorney Sarah Jarboe organizing ABA environmental conference
- Sarah Jarboe named Chair of KBA environment, energy and resources law section
- Attorney Sarah Jarboe graduates from Leadership Bowling Green
- ELPO wins $9.2 million decision for education client
- Sarah Jarboe joins Leadership Bowling Green's new class
- Sarah Jarboe selected for ABA Environmental Law Leadership Program
- Sarah Jarboe takes leadership position in KBA environmental law section

Presentations

- LaJuana Wilcher, Sarah Jarboe present to Kentucky Rural Water Association
- Sarah Jarboe presents on Kentucky Brownsfields program
- Attorney Sarah Jarboe gives presentation on cooperative federalism in environmental law
- Sarah Jarboe, LaJuana Wilcher presented at Kentucky Water Law Conference
- ELPO attorneys presenting at Kentucky Bar Association conference
- Environmental attorneys address stormwater issues in presentation

Publications

- LEGAL UPDATES - November 6, 2019 - LEGAL UPDATE: New Pharmaceutical Hazardous

Waste Rule Could Impact Healthcare Facilities

- LEGAL UPDATES - June 22, 2016 - Senate Strengthens EPA’s Tools to Regulate Toxic Substances
- LEGAL UPDATES - June 3, 2016 - Supreme Court creates new opportunity to challenge Clean Water Act obligations