

Kevin J. Bruno | Partner  
Environmental

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Kevin Bruno is a partner in the New York and Princeton offices of Blank Rome. He previously served as co-chair of the firm's Energy, Environmental, & Mass Torts practice group, and as co-chair of the firm's policyholder-only Insurance Recovery practice group. His practice includes environmental and mass tort litigation and compliance counseling to a broad spectrum of industries. Kevin has also spent his career representing policyholder clients in their pursuit of claims in multiple lines of insurance coverage, and provides counseling to clients in their placement of a broad array of first party and liability insurance products.

Kevin's experience includes:

- Defending clients against private party, NGO, and government claims associated with site contamination.
- Defending clients in mass tort litigation, including lawsuits relating to alleged exposure to air, surface water, and groundwater-related discharges and releases.
- Defending clients against lawsuits and criminal investigations brought by the government pursuant to state and federal environmental programs.
- Representing clients in connection with private party cost recovery actions, and internal environmental audits and investigations.
- Representing policyholders in their placement and pursuit of insurance coverage, including general liability, first party property, environmental, products, professional liability, directors & officers' liability ("D&O"), and fidelity insurance coverages.

Kevin is recognized in *Chambers USA* as a leading lawyer in environment law. *Chambers* notes that Kevin "draws on a deep understanding of environmental

insurance law when litigating challenging claims and enforcement actions” and “...is valued for his familiarity with both state and federal environmental law and procedures. He is particularly strong at permitting and enforcement matters and is singled out for his ‘good client service, knowledge and responsiveness.’” Clients note that he is “a good, skillful litigator who prepares well, as well as excelling as a negotiator and communicator” and that “Kevin always exhibits the utmost professionalism while still being friendly and down-to-earth.”

Kevin was also selected to the “BTI Client Service All-Stars,” a listing of 113 attorneys based on interviews of more than 250 in-house corporate counsel at large and *Fortune* 100 companies, and has received numerous other recognitions, listed below.

Before joining Blank Rome, Kevin was a founding member of Robertson, Freilich, Bruno & Cohen, LLC. Prior to that, he was an associate and member of Hannoch Weisman, PC, and one of the original members of its environmental department and insurance recovery practice group.

## Outside The Firm

Kevin also dedicates his time in the service of the legal community and the community in which he lives in various ways. He is a member of the Board and Treasurer of the Law Firm Sustainability Network, a nonprofit organization of law firms and legal departments committed to promoting the benefits of environmental sustainability and corporate social responsibility within their firms and throughout the legal industry. He devotes his time to the Her Justice organization, seeking U-Visas for female victims of domestic violence and other crimes in New York City. At home, he is also President of his building’s Co-Op Board. He is an avid traveler, golfer, and scuba diver.

## Select Engagements

- One of the world’s largest oil refineries, in what are, collectively, amongst the most significant mass tort actions arising from alleged exposure to numerous air releases.
- An oil exploration company, in its pursuit of directors’ and officers’ liability insurance for the defense and settlement of multiple securities class action lawsuits, and related SEC and DOJ investigations.
- A global chemical manufacturer, in national multidistrict litigation relating to alleged contamination of groundwater in numerous states, cities, and U.S. territories.
- One of the world’s largest satellite companies, in its pursuit of insurance coverage for a large-scale satellite loss.
- The alleged successors to the United States Radium Corporation, in nearly 15 years of litigation and trials relating to radium-sourced products and tailings, including mass tort and property damage claims, as well as environmental claims asserted by USEPA and USNRC.

- A major property company, in pursuing insurance coverage for the defense and potential indemnity of alleged environmental liabilities and related property damage.
- One of the nation's largest global logistics and transportation companies, in all insurance-related regulatory, policy placement, and counseling matters, and as national coordinating counsel for all insurance litigation.
- One of the nation's largest media conglomerates, in pursuing insurance coverage against 85 insurance companies under 580 policies for environmental liabilities throughout the United States.
- One of the world's largest lightweight metals engineering and manufacturing companies, in pursuing insurance coverage for large-scale environmental liabilities associated with one of the company's U.S.-based aluminum smelters.
- A software manufacturer, in its pursuit of first party insurance coverage for employee theft losses under a fidelity/crime policy.
- A healthcare and human services risk management company that provides professional advisory services and administers insurance coverage for hospitals, long-term care facilities, and social services agencies in the New York City metropolitan area, generally, and in providing advice with respect to reinsurance claims.
- A major New Jersey hospital and its officers and directors, in pursuing insurance coverage for dozens of lawsuits arising out of the hospital's employment of a nurse who later confessed to the murder and attempted murder of patients at numerous health care facilities in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.
- A manufacturer of latex gloves, in pursuing insurance coverage for hundreds of products liability claims throughout the United States and assisted the client and defense counsel regarding a comprehensive settlement of all products-related claims.

## **Admissions**

- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court - New Jersey
- District of Columbia
- New York
- U.S. District Court - Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court - Southern District of New York

## **Memberships**

- American Bar Association
- District of Columbia Bar Association
- New Jersey State Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association

## **Education**

- Rutgers University School of Law, Newark, JD
- Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey at New Brunswick, BA, magna cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa; Rutgers Scholar

## Recognitions

- 2011–2022, Litigation - Environmental, listed in *Best Lawyers in America*©
- 2007–2022, Insurance Law, listed in *Best Lawyers in America*©
- 2021, “Lawyer of the Year” in Insurance Law, Princeton, listed in *Best Lawyers in America*©
- 2011–2021, Environment Law, Band 1, listed in *Chambers USA*
- 2005–2022, New Jersey “Super Lawyer” for Insurance Coverage, listed by *Super Lawyers*
- 2019–2021, Global Leader in Environment, listed in *Who’s Who Legal*
- 2020, “Lawyer of the Year” in Litigation – Environmental, Princeton, listed in *Best Lawyers in America*©
- 2018, “Lawyer of the Year” in Insurance Law, Princeton, listed in *Best Lawyers in America*©
- 2018, “Client Service All-Star,” listed by BTI Consulting Group
- 2017–2018, listed in *Who’s Who Legal – Environment*
- 2010–2016, listed in *Who’s Who in International Law*
- 1997–2016, AV Preeminent®, listed by Martindale-Hubbell®
- 2014–2015, “Lawyer of the Year” in Environmental Law, Princeton, listed in *Best Lawyers in America*©

## Professional Activities

Kevin has been appointed to multiple leadership positions within the American Bar Association (“ABA”).

- August 2020, reappointed for a fourth term to the leadership of the ABA Section of Litigation, and will serve as one of the Section’s division directors for the 2020–2021 bar year
- September 2017, reappointed for an eighth term as the Section of Litigation’s Liaison to the ABA’s Standing Committee on Environmental Law, now known as the Special Committee on Section, Division and Forum Coordination
- June 2016, appointed to a sixth term as co-chair of the Section of Litigation’s 2,000 member Environmental & Energy Litigation Committee

In addition, he previously served as co-chair of the Section’s Expert Witnesses Committee. These appointments are in recognition of his well-earned reputation as one of the nation’s leading litigation attorneys. In 2014, he was named a fellow of the American Bar Foundation in New York.

Kevin is also an adjunct professor of environmental law at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey.

