

CLIFFORD J. VILLA

Assistant Professor of Law University of New Mexico School of Law

villa@law.unm.edu

(206) 641-1134

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, University of New Mexico School of Law, June 2015 – present

Courses taught:

- Constitutional Rights
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Enforcement
- Environmental Justice, Climate, and Disasters (writing seminar)
- International Environmental Law (Madrid Summer Law Institute)
- Independent Study

Academic service:

- Chair, Building and Safety Comm. (AY15-17)
- Member, Natural Resources Comm. (AY15-17)
- Member, Faculty Appointments Comm. (AY15-16)
- Faculty Advisor, *Natural Resources Journal* (AY16-17)
- Faculty Advisor, Environmental Law Society (AY15-17)
- Faculty Advisor, Mexican American Law Students Ass'n (AY15-17)
- Latin American and Iberian Institute Grants and Awards Comm. (AY17)

Adjunct Professor, Seattle University School of Law. Aug. 2006 – June 2015

Courses taught:

- Disaster Law
- Environmental Enforcement
- Advanced Legal Writing: Environmental Drafting
- Alaska Natives and Environmental Law (Alaska Summer Program)
- Independent Study

Academic service:

- Faculty advisor, Environmental Law Society
- Faculty advisor, Latina/o Law Students Ass'n
- Co-founder, SEATTLE JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
- Steering Comm., SU Center for Environmental Justice and Sustainability

Assistant Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA Region 10, Seattle, WA. Nov. 1996 – June 2015

- Represented EPA in administrative hearings, civil litigation, and criminal prosecution to enforce federal environmental laws including Clean Air Act and Oil Pollution Act.
- Negotiated with responsible parties to secure CERCLA cleanup and cost recovery at mining sites, military bases, industrial areas, Indian country, and other contaminated sites.

- Supported the EPA Region 10 Emergency Response Unit, providing timely legal assistance through means including emergency orders and administrative warrants.
- Counseled agency clients on requirements of Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and other applicable federal and state laws.
- Cooperated with foreign governments, including Canada, Mexico, and Chile, on efforts to improve enforcement capacity in conjunction with free trade agreements.
- Member, EPA Region 10 Environmental Justice Integration Team.
- Liaison Officer, Incident Command System.
- Instructor, EPA CERCLA Education Center.
- Acting Unit Manager (2011-2012, 2014).
- Acting Deputy Regional Counsel (2010).

Enforcement Attorney, U.S. EPA Region 8, Denver, CO. Feb. 1995 – Oct. 1996

- Negotiated multi-billion dollar agreement with State of Colorado and U.S. Dept. of Energy to provide for cleanup of former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant.
- Advised remedy selection process leading to half-billion dollar cleanup of U.S. Army’s Rocky Mountain Arsenal.
- Provided enforcement support for multimedia environmental programs, including Safe Drinking Water Act and Underground Storage Tanks.
- Chair, EPA Federal Facilities Esquires Workgroup.

Honors Attorney, U.S. EPA Office of Federal Facilities Enforcement, Washington D.C. Oct. 1993 – Feb. 1995

- Advised and monitored federal facilities enforcement actions in EPA Region 5 (Mid-West Region) and Region 8 (Rocky Mountain Region).
- Represented EPA Headquarters in negotiations concerning Rocky Flats (DOE) and Rocky Mountain Arsenal (U.S. Army), commuting between D.C. and Denver.
- Supported military base closure restoration and reuse programs.
- Drafted speeches, letters, and Congressional testimony for political appointees.

EDUCATION

J.D., May 1993. Lewis & Clark Law School. Certificate in environmental law. Articles Editor, Lewis & Clark law review *Environmental Law*.

B.A. *summa cum laude*, May 1990. The University of New Mexico. Double major in English and economics; concentrations in professional writing and public finance.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

A PRACTICAL INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (Carolina Academic Press 2017), with Joel Mintz, Nova Southeastern Law School; Steve Gold, Rutgers-Newark Law School; and Kalyani Robbins, Florida International University College of Law.

Is the “Act of God” Dead, 7 WASH. J. ENVTL. L. & POL. 320 (2017).

Fighting for Environmental Justice: The Life and Work of Professor Eileen Gauna, 57 NAT. RESOURCES J. 519 (2017).

Dawning of Disaster Law, NORTHWEST LAWYER (Mar. 2016).

Clearing Up Questions on River Spill, ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL, Aug. 13, 2015.

Rising from the Ravages, THE LAWYER (Sept. 2014), available in original form at <http://www.law.seattleu.edu/news-and-features/news/2014-news-archives/professor-celebrates-philippines-typhoon-recovery-on-earth-day>.

Law and Lawyers in the Incident Command System, 36 SEATTLE U. L. REV. 1855 (2013).

The Practice of Disaster Law, ABA LAW PRACTICE TODAY (Mar. 2012).

The Road Taken: A Reflection on Michael C. Blumm & William Warnock's Roads Not Taken: EPA vs. Clean Water, 34 ENVTL. L. 809 (2004).

Superfund vs. Mega-Sites: The Coeur d'Alene River Basin Story, 28 COLUMBIA J. ENVTL. L. 255 (2003).

Cleaning Up at the Tracks: Superfund Meets Rails-To-Trails, 25 HARVARD ENVTL. L. REV. 481 (2001).

California Dreaming: Water Transfers from the Pacific Northwest, 23 ENVTL. L. 997 (1993).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

The Animas River Spill: Environmental Law and Liability, Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Annual Institute, Natural Resources Law Teachers Luncheon (keynote presentation), Santa Fe, NM, July 20, 2017.

Drawing the Line at daPL: Responding to "Trumpism" and the Legacies of Settler Colonialism (discussant), UNM School of Architecture and Planning, Albuquerque, NM, Feb. 27, 2017.

Is the "Act of God" Dead?—

UNM School of Law, Albuquerque, NM, Sept. 25, 2017

U. of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, CO, Feb. 15, 2017.

U. of Houston Law Center, Houston, TX, Feb. 13, 2017.

U. of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA, Jan. 20, 2017.

The Water Quantity/Water Quality Connection: Continuing Stories, NM Water Judges Seminar, Albuquerque, NM, Nov. 4, 2016.

Professional Responsibility for Government Lawyers: A "Different Balance" (legal ethics presentation), Conference of Gov't Mining Attorneys, Santa Fe, NM, Sept. 21, 2016.

Flint Drinking Water Contamination: Frames of Reference—

Harvard Law School, April 13, 2016.

Seattle U. School of Law, Seattle, WA, Mar. 21, 2016.

U. Nevada-Las Vegas Boyd School, Las Vegas, NV, Feb. 8, 2016.

UNM School of Law, Albuquerque, NM, Feb. 3, 2016.

The Animas River Spill: Causes, Impacts, and Legal Implications, CLE presentation, UNM School of Law, Albuquerque, NM. Oct. 2015.

Supreme Court Review (2014-15), CLE presentation, Albuquerque Bar Ass'n, Albuquerque, NM. June 2015.

Reflections on the Tenth Anniversary of Katrina, Roundtable Session at the Law and Society Ass'n conference, *Law's Promise and Law's Pathos in the Global North and Global South*. Seattle, WA. May 2015.

Environmental Concerns and Public Participation in Oil Spill Response Planning. Panel presentation at 33rd annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference, University of Oregon School of Law. Eugene, OR. March 2015.

Environmental Rights. Session chair for "Just Sustainability: Hope for the Commons" conference at Seattle University, sponsored by Center for Environmental Justice and Sustainability. Aug. 2014.

Disaster Management and the United States' Experience. Presented at the School of the SEA, Bantayan Island, The Philippines. April 2014.

EPA's Role in Disaster Response. Webinar sponsored by EPA National Enforcement Training Institute. May 2013.

Environmental Justice and the Law. Heritage University, Toppenish, WA. Oct. 2011.

Constitutional Law and the On-Scene Coordinator. Webinar sponsored by U.S. EPA Readiness Training Board. Aug. 2011.

You Can't Always Get What You Want: EPA in Court (2009). Keynote speech at national On-Scene Coordinators Readiness Training. Orlando, FL. Feb. 2010.

Professional Responsibility and Environmental Law: For Government Lawyers, a Different Balance. Ethics CLE workshop presented at 26th annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference, University of Oregon School of Law. Eugene, OR. March 2008.

Información Ambiental y El Sistema Americano. Presented in Spanish at "Jornadas de Verano: El Derecho de Información Ambiental y El Ámbito Municipal," in conjunction with the University of Alicante. Finestrat, Spain. July 2005.

Hipotética Minería: La Cuenca del Corazón de la Lechuza. Presented in Spanish at "Taller de Cooperación: El Tratado Libre y La Restauración de Los Daños Naturales," sponsored by U.S. State Dept. Santiago, Chile. Sept. 2004.

Superfund Meets TMDLs. Presented at "Getting It Done: TMDL Implementation in Watershed Restoration," sponsored by Washington State University. Stevenson, WA. Oct. 2003.

SELECTED HONORS

Distinguished Environmental Law Graduate, Lewis & Clark Law School (2013)

EPA Region 10 Environmental Justice Award (2012)

Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award, Seattle University School of Law (2009)

Gold Medal for Commendable Service, U.S. EPA (2009)

Modelo de Excelencia award, Latina/o Bar Ass'n of Washington (2008)

Silver Medal for Commendable Service, U.S. EPA (2006)

Certificate of Commendation, U.S. Dept. of Justice (2002)

PROFESSIONAL/SERVICE AFFILIATIONS

Washington State Bar Ass'n. Active member in good standing.

Oregon State Bar. Inactive member.

New Mexico State Bar Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Section liaison

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Cycling, flyfishing, hiking, writing, photography.