

Leslie has more than two decades of experience counseling clients in a broad range of environmental, health and safety compliance matters, land use and zoning projects, and alternative energy developments.

Environmental, Health and Safety

Leslie specializes in the areas of environmental permitting, environmental and OSHA auditing, solid and hazardous waste management, and environmental enforcement. She works collaboratively with consultants, engineers, and other specialists to bring the best of all disciplines to service her clients' needs. Leslie helps utilities and alternative energy providers understand and comply with complex federal, state, and local permitting and entitlement matrices and requirements, and is well-versed in federal pre-emption laws. In addition, Leslie draws on her experience handling international environmental, health and safety matters to provide trusted counsel to U.S. and foreign clients on the regulation of imports and exports under REACH, ECHA, TSCA, EPCRA and OSHA, as well as the FTC and the U.S. Customs Service.

Mergers and Acquisitions

Leslie conducts the environmental, health and safety due diligence required in corporate mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures. She leverages issues with a focus on getting deals done and protecting clients from contingent liability risks.

Land Use and Zoning

Leslie represents national retailers and franchisors, traditional and alternative energy providers, local developers, and municipalities during the SEQRA review and land use entitlements processes, including prosecuting and defending CPLR Article 78 proceedings and hybrid actions. In counseling public and private entities, Leslie has managed and overseen the adoption of numerous municipal ordinances and local laws throughout New York State and is well-versed in navigating the accompanying procedural requirements.

Leslie is the Partner in Charge of Harter Secrest & Emery's Corning, New York office.

Professional and Civic Affiliations

- President, Board of Directors, Arts Council of the Southern Finger Lakes
- Vice President, Board of Directors, Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development



LESLIE M. CONNOLLY

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Admissions

New York

Education

Fordham University School of Law,
J.D.

Emory University, B.A.

- Member, Board of Directors, Three Rivers Development Corporation
- Chair, Corning Area Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Council
- Member, Chemung County Chamber of Commerce Public Affairs Council
- Member, Women Presidents' Organization, Rochester I Chapter
- Chair, Board of Directors, Trillium Health, 2013-2016
- Member, Board of Directors, Trillium Health, 2004-2016

Honors and Awards

- Recipient, "Top Women in Law" Award, *The Daily Record*, 2019
- Named as *Best Lawyers*® 2015 Land Use and Zoning Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Rochester, NY
- Selected by her peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the fields of Environmental Law, Land Use and Zoning Law, and Land Use and Zoning Litigation
- Selected to the Upstate New York Super Lawyers list, 2013-2019
- Recipient, "Forty Under 40" Award, *Rochester Business Journal*, 2006
- Martindale-Hubbell DistinguishedSM Peer Review Rated

Publications

- Co-Author, "DEC Initiative Targets Hazardous Waste at Pharmacies, Other [Retail] Entities," *New York Law Journal*, April 14, 2015
- "When you know the right thing to do, how do you get it done?" *Rochester Business Journal*, July 26, 2013

