



Christian T. Gordon

Environmental Compliance Practice Group Leader

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Christian Gordon is a seasoned legal advisor with deep experience in environmental compliance and government procurement, guiding clients through complex regulatory landscapes and high-stakes transactions.

Christian leads the Environmental Compliance Practice Group at Lewis Rice, where he advises clients on the environmental dimensions of real estate and corporate transactions, as well as regulatory compliance. His experience spans real estate development, including environmental due diligence, land acquisition, construction contracts, leasing, and negotiating environmental terms in acquisition agreements. Christian has overseen the legal aspects of a brownfield redevelopment project and multiple Energy Assurance Leases, engaged with federal and state agencies on compliance and enforcement matters, and represented clients in environmental litigation.

In addition to his environmental law practice, Christian counsels clients navigating the intricacies of federal, state, and local government contracts. He brings hands-on experience from working on government contract issues at several U.S. Air Force bases and holds an LL.M. in Government Procurement from George Washington University Law School. He has also completed multiple Department of Defense-sponsored government contract courses. Leveraging this depth of knowledge, Christian helps clients across diverse industries compete for, secure, and successfully perform government contracts.

Before joining Lewis Rice, Christian served for over a decade as an attorney in the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG Corps). In 2021, he was competitively selected as one of five Air Force JAGs to pursue a Master of Laws in Government Procurement and Environmental Law at George Washington University Law School.

Education

- The George Washington University Law School (LL.M., 2021)
 - Government Procurement and Environmental Law
- University of Missouri at Columbia School of Law (J.D., 2013)
 - Alternative Dispute Resolution Certificate (2013)

Services

- Environmental Compliance
- Environmental, Chemical & Toxic Tort
- Government Contracting and Procurement
- Real Estate

- Saint Joseph's University (B.A., 2010)
 - International Relations

Legal Background

- United States Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps
 - Senior environmental law attorney, Scott Air Force Base (2020-2024)
 - Employment law attorney, Andrews Air Force Base (2018-2020)
 - International law attorney, Kabul, Afghanistan (2019-2020)
 - Chief prosecuting attorney, Luke Air Force Base (2016-2018)
 - Chief administrative and civil law attorney, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (2014-2016)

Professional Affiliations

- Fellow, Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (2025)

Admissions

- Missouri Bar
- New York Bar

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Member, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity (2023-present)

Q & A

Describe your experience as senior environmental law attorney for the United States Air Force.

I handled all the environmental law issues that arose across 12 military bases impacting 48,000 personnel. I led a team of 20 attorneys to perform environmental legal analyses and clear regulatory hurdles on multiple billion- and million-dollar projects. Through my environmental regulations expertise and effective and efficient negotiations with federal, state, and local regulators, I was able to expedite approvals for these projects and save the Air Force hundreds of millions of dollars. I also provided counsel on numerous real estate transactions vital to national security.

In addition, I developed and led the Air Force's environmental law training program. I trained attorneys and other senior leaders on the importance of environmental compliance and how to avoid legal penalties and reputational damage.

How does your military background enhance your work in Lewis Rice's Environmental Compliance Practice Group?

My experience navigating a range of environmental law issues, from compliance and clearing regulatory hurdles to restoration and remediation across 12 states has given me a thorough and complete grasp of environmental regulations. Managing these projects taught me to deliver practical, cost-effective solutions, which I currently bring to my clients at Lewis Rice. Additionally, my background in negotiating with federal, state, and local

regulators helps ensure my clients can expedite approvals and avoid costly delays.

My time in the military also taught me to operate well in gray areas and adapt to different situations quickly, which are essential qualities for dealing with complex and ever-evolving environmental regulations. I also learned how to build strong relationships and foster trust among my team.

How does your experience with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) translate to the environmental challenges your corporate and real estate clients face?

NEPA requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions. While NEPA only applies to federal agencies, my clients who are involved in corporate and real estate transactions also must undergo the process of environmental due diligence. Just as the federal government must assess the environmental impact of its actions, companies need to evaluate the environmental risks of their business decisions. I draw from my experience navigating NEPA to help my clients avoid legal issues.

How do you stay current on environmental law?

Environmental law is always changing to address new challenges and societal demands, and it is often influenced by different government administrations. Staying current requires continuous monitoring of regulations and adapting to new developments to ensure compliance. I prioritize staying informed to provide my clients with the most up-to-date counsel.