

With his experience in both government and mining, paired with his technical expertise, Jake provides thorough analysis and practical solutions to his mineral and energy clients.



Jake Ward-Herzik

Associate | Reno

Biography

Jake is a member of the firm's Environmental, Energy & Natural Resources team. His practice focuses on a range of complex issues and serves mining, industrial and renewable energy clients.

Prior to joining Parsons Behle & Latimer, Jake earned his J.D. in 2022 from the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Jake was a summer legal intern in the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of the Solicitor where he was tasked with handling complex administrative claims in the Torts Practice Branch. Jake was also the Nevada Mining Association's first legislative extern. As an advocate for the mining industry at the Nevada Legislature, Jake worked with policymakers and industry stakeholders to promote common sense legislative outcomes. In addition, Jake drafted regulations and researched novel legal issues as an intern for the Nevada Cannabis Association.

Before law school, Jake earned a Master of Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs in Austin, Texas, where he focused on environmental and energy policy. Jake was awarded a Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno's Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering. Jake's technical background includes mining and water resources science and engineering.

Jake is a native Nevadan who enjoys desert hikes, early mornings on Lake Tahoe and good barbeque.

Contact information

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Capabilities

Energy & Utilities

Environmental & Natural Resources

Mining

Public Lands

Water Rights, Quality & Infrastructure

Licensed/Admitted

Nevada

Accomplishments

Professional

First Place, Student Note, “150 Years On: Common Sense Updates to the Mining Law of 1872 to Address Our Changing Climate,” Nevada Law Journal (forthcoming publication)

Quarterfinalist, National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition (2022)

CALI Award in Property Law and Environmental Law

Lyndon B. Johnson Graduate Fellow, University of Texas at Austin (2018)

Academic

J.D., William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 2022

M.P.Aff., Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin, 2019

Thesis: “Sustainable River Management on the US/Mexico Border: Recommendations for the Paso del Norte”

B.S., Geological Engineering, University of Nevada, Reno, 2015

Honors Thesis: “Bingham Canyon Landslide: Analysis and Mitigation”

Associations

Professional

The Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law (2020 to Present)

The Nevada State Bar

Presentations

“Essential Water Law Concepts,” *American Exploration & Mining Association Conference 2022*, Dec. 4, 2022