



SHAREHOLDER

Stephen R. Estey



(248) 254-4865
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With decades of experience, Steve Estey is well-versed in breaking down the legal complexities that his real estate, energy, and telecommunications clients face.

Steve finds creative solutions to real-world problems while navigating his clients through the entitlement process before administrative and government tribunals, at arbitration, and in the trial and appellate courts.

Whether it's siting new transmission lines, utility-scale solar and wind farms, wireless telecommunication facilities, or a new commercial building, Steve is a relentless advocate for his clients, which include Fortune 500 companies, energy and telecommunications companies, small businesses, and individuals. He has a deep understanding of their businesses and develops practical, business-focused solutions to achieve their goals. His knowledge and experience is far-reaching, including all land use entitlements, eminent domain, easement disputes, adverse possession issues, boundary and title claims, quiet title, general commercial real estate-related matters, and general commercial litigation.

Steve routinely acts as a liaison for his clients in the community, creating alliances with decision-makers and other key constituents. He regularly appears at municipal meetings and public forums, forging relationships to ensure projects and developments move toward completion. Because of the close relationships he has built, Steve has productive working rapport on all sides, giving him the trusted connections necessary to secure approvals and get deals done.

Before joining Zausmer to lead its real estate and renewable energy practice groups, Steve was an equity partner at an Am Law 200 firm. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his law degree, *cum laude*, from Wayne State University Law School. Away from the office, Steve enjoys spending time with his wife and six children. He is an avid outdoorsman, fly fisherman, and Wolverine football fan.



FARMINGTON HILLS

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PRACTICE AREAS

Business & Commercial Litigation
Eminent Domain
Energy Infrastructure
Environmental
Real Property
Renewable Energy

EDUCATION

Wayne State University Law School,
Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, 1997

University of Michigan,
Bachelor of Arts, 1990

BAR ADMISSIONS

State of Michigan
U.S. Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan

PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

State Bar of Michigan
Real Property Law Section
Council Member
Breakfast Roundtables, Chairperson – 2010-2011
Winter Conference, 2023
Zoning & Land Use Committee, Co-Chairperson,
2012-2023
Homeward Bound, Chairperson – 2013 – 2015
International Right of Way Association, Member, 2023
Oakland County Bar Association Federal
Bar Association

IN THE COMMUNITY

Catholic Lawyers Society, Board of Directors, Member,
2007-2008
American Inns of Court, Oakland County Circuit Court,
Barrister (emeritus)
Energy Bar Association, Member
International Right of Way Association, Member
City of Plymouth Planning Commission, Plymouth, Michigan,
2002-2003
City of Plymouth Board of Zoning Appeals, Plymouth,
Michigan, 2000-2002

HONORS & AWARDS

Best Lawyers in America "Lawyer of the Year" in Eminent
Domain and Condemnation Law – 2021
Hour Detroit Magazine "Top Lawyers in Bloomfield Hills"
for Land Use and Zoning Law – 2019
Best Lawyers in America for Eminent Domain and
Condemnation Law, Land Use and Zoning Law,
Real Estate Law, and Real Estate Litigation –
2018 – Present
Super Lawyers (Michigan) for Land Use and Zoning Law,
Eminent Domain, and General Litigation – 2013 – Present
Avvo Top Rated Lawyer
Wayne State University, Bronze Key Certificate Recipient – 1997



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