

## Elizabeth (Liz) Alice Och

Senior Associate

Denver

### Biography

Liz Och is dedicated to resolving her clients' complex litigation challenges. Liz combines her commercial litigation experience with her background in environmental science and dispute resolution to bring creative, collaborative solutions to conflicts over natural resources, environmental remediation, and energy production.

Liz counsels clients in all stages of environmental and natural resources disputes. She has rich experience with matters arising under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and state cleanup statutes. Liz also advises clients in the energy industry on conflicts ranging from royalty disputes to lease-interpretation issues.

In her general commercial practice, Liz works with a variety of clients to carefully evaluate and resolve their litigation matters. She has deep experience with records-request disputes under the Freedom of Information Act and state records acts, as well as experience litigating under the False Claims Act. Liz is quick to learn her clients' industries and motivations to identify business-minded solutions. Clients value Liz's leadership, team-mindedness, and project-management skills.



### Phone

+1 303 454 2469

### Fax

+1 303 899 7333

### Email

[elizabeth.och@hoganlovells.com](mailto:elizabeth.och@hoganlovells.com)

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### Practices

Energy Regulatory

Environment and Natural Resources

Litigation Services

Investigations, White Collar, and Fraud

Administrative and Public Law

Commercial Litigation

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### Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

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### Areas of focus

Administrative Procedure Act

Liz polished her legal skills in law school as president of the Law School Student Senate, co-founder of *The Michigan Journal of Environmental & Administrative Law*, an active member of the Environmental Law Society, and a board member of Student Funded Fellowships. Liz also earned her master's of science from the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment, where she studied water conservation efforts in the American West.

Liz is passionate about giving back to her community. She is a member of the firm's recruiting committee and is closely involved in the Denver office's summer associate program. Liz serves on the board of the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado and is Co-Chair of the organization's Associate Advisory Board. She also maintains an active pro bono practice.

## Representative experience

Representing a higher education finance nonprofit organization in a proposed class-action suit, successfully securing dismissal of the claims.

Representing an industrial client in various environmental and litigation matters in connection with a Superfund site in Washington state.

With a team, dismissed a purported class action brought by a royalty holder against an oil and gas company before the Denver District Court and Colorado Court of Appeals.

Successfully briefed BLM lease-prioritization matter in federal court for Peabody Energy, freeing up over US\$1bn of coal for extraction.

## Latest thinking and events

### ■ Published Works

- Environmental Citizen Suits Under the Trump Administration: Key Concepts and Risk Management for Extractive Industries *Rocky*

Environmental Litigation  
False Claims Act and Qui Tam  
Site Remediation  
E-discovery and Information Management

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## Education and admissions

### Education

M.S., University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment, 2014

J.D., University of Michigan Law School, cum laude, 2013

B.A., Northwestern University, 2010

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## Bar admissions and qualifications

Colorado

Washington

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## Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Colorado

U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington

U.S. District Court, Western District of Wisconsin

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*Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, 63rd Annual  
Institute, July 2017*

- Published Works
  - Interview with Laura Robertson *The Energy Dispatch*
- Published Works
  - What's in a Name? CLS's "First Name Unknown" Name Change Project *The Colorado Lawyer, Vol. 46, No. 3*
- Hogan Lovells Publications
  - Public Trust Challenges to Pipelines *Hogan Lovells Oil and Gas Newsletter*