Kathleen K. Law

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DES MOINES OFFICE

An aha moment in high school planted the seed of law school in Kathy Law's mind. "Two boys on a competing school's debate team announced they were going to be lawyers," she says. "I thought if they could do it, so could I, and so I decided right then and there to become an attorney."

Kathy put her dream of law school on hold, however, to work with her husband to save their farm and to raise their family during the 1980s farm crisis. "I worked to put food on the table until the farming got better," she says. "Fast-forward 20 years and I was finally able to start law school." She had no idea her delay would one day be the stepping-stone to a real estate law practice that is anything but typical.

Kathy practices in the area of real estate law, mainly representing commercial real estate developers and also wind energy developers. Kathy's work with commercial real estate developers involves reviewing abstracts and issuing title opinions. She drafts and negotiates purchase agreements, leases, and easements, and she handles platting and subdivision work.

For wind energy matters, Kathy represents her clients in site acquisition and negotiating and preparing agreements with landowners. She helps with zoning, permitting, and other title matters. "Farms are typically the choice location for wind energy, so my farming background gave me an advantage when the opportunity in the wind energy field came knocking," she says.

Kathy also works with other alternative energy, renewable fuels, and public utility projects, assisting with project finance and asset sales of developed sites as well as sales of project companies.

Timeliness and efficiency are just two qualities of Kathy's strong work ethic. Clients find her dependable and responsible, and they consistently send her referrals. Kathy appreciates getting to work with wind clients who are concerned about making farmers happy and interested in protecting the land. "It's so rewarding to represent people who actually care and want to work together for the greater good," she says.

Kathy was the president of the Iowa Wind Energy Association for three years and has been active in various professional and community organizations. When not in the office, Kathy is an avid gardener, cultivating hundreds of perennials, and an artist who creates art in glass. "Gardening and art projects let me change gears after a long day at work," she says. "And they are hobbies my husband and I can do together."

RECOGNITION

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Chambers USA
Real Estate, 2011–2026



PRACTICE AREAS

- Business, Finance & Real Estate
- Alternative Energy, Renewable Fuels & Public Utilities
- Construction & Development
- Municipal & Eminent Domain
- Real Estate

EDUCATION

- William Penn University (B.A., magna cum laude)
- Drake Law School (J.D., with highest honors)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Iowa

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Adjunct Professor, Drake Law School
- Adjunct Professor, Drake University
- Adjunct Professor, Grand View University, Des Moines
- Legislative Intern, Iowa Legislature
- Academic Research Assistant, Professor A. Charlow
- Academic Success Program Tutor, Drake Law School
- Criminal Law & Contracts II Tutor, Drake Law School
- Scranton Manufacturing Co., Inc., Scranton, Iowa
- Kathy's Kreations, Churdan, Iowa

Energy & Natural Resources, 2026

Drake University Law School
Recent Alumni Award, 2017

Des Moines Register
"30 People to Watch in 2017"

Iowa State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
Award of Merit, 2014

American Bar Association RPTE Fellows
Class of 2008–2010 (one of six young attorneys in the nation selected)

American Bar Foundation
Fellow

American College of Real Estate Lawyers
Fellow

Iowa State Bar Association
Graduating Senior Award, 2005

Order of the Coif

Drake Law Review
Associate Editor, 2004–2005

Drake Moot Court Board
2004–2005

Drake Law School
Dean's List, 2002–2005
Top "A"

- Civil Procedure II & Contracts II, spring 2003;
- Federal Income Tax & Wills & Trusts, summer 2003;
- Children and the Law, spring 2004

David Brown Scholarship Recipient
2004

Drake Law Alumni Scholarship Recipient
2004

Robert D. Blue Scholarship Recipient
2002

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

Drake Law School Board of Counselors

CREW Iowa

Iowa Commercial Real Estate Association
Board of Directors

Iowa Wind Energy Association

- Board of Directors

- President

Iowa Conservative Energy Forum
Leadership Council

Iowa Arboretum
Board of Directors

American Bar Association

***Probate and Property Magazine,* a publication of the American Bar Association**
Articles Editor for Real Property, 2022

RPTE Fellows
Class of 2008–2010

Iowa State Bar Association
- President, 2025–2026
- President-elect, 2024–2025
- Vice President, 2023–2024
- Board of Governors, 2016–present
- Real Estate Section Council, appointed 2008
- Title Standard Committee, 2008–present
- Real Property Committee, 2008–present
- Legal Forms Committee, chair
- Annual Meeting Committee, co-chair

Polk County Bar Association
Board of Directors

I Have a Dream Foundation
Board of Directors

Boy Scouts of America
Assistant Scoutmaster

Mexico mission trip leader
1999

Los Angeles mission trip leader
2002

REPRESENTATIVE TRANSACTIONS

Alternative Energy Developers
Property acquisition, zoning, and economic incentives for five 100,000,000-gallon ethanol plants.

Wind Energy Project Developers
Acquisition of land rights, title curative matters, and zoning for over 4,000 megawatts of constructed and operating (or where construction has commenced) wind energy projects in the Midwest and over 800 more megawatts in various stages.

SPEECHES & PUBLICATIONS

"Iowa Real Property Law and Practice"

LexisNexis, 2024

"Options, Rights of First Refusal and Rights of First Offer"
American Bar Association Real Property, Trust & Estate Section Law Annual Conference, 2022

"Underwriting Energy Transactions"
American Land Title Association
2022

"Trees—A Unique Branch of Law," *ABA Probate & Property,* Vol. 31, No. 2, March/April 2017

"A Practitioner's Guide to Real Estate and Wind Energy Project Development"

American Bar Association, 2014

"Wind Power: Developing Real Property for a Wind Project," *ABA Probate & Property,* Vol. 23, No. 4, July/August 2009