

Tara Hopper Rice

Counsel

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Industries

Energy

Finance

Oil, Gas & Minerals

Regional & Community Banks

Renewables

Practice Areas

Business & Commercial Litigation

Real Estate

Solutions

Data Centers

Bar Memberships

Pennsylvania

Ohio

West Virginia

Wyoming

Tara Hopper Rice concentrates her practice on civil litigation matters related to securities, real estate and energy transactions with a focus on issues related to the development and purchase of oil, gas and other minerals, collection disputes, and general business litigation.

In her securities practice, Tara represents broker-dealer firms and other licensed individuals in the securities industry before federal and state courts as well as the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Tara counsels clients on issues surrounding hydraulic fracturing and well-specific activities, such as contract review, subsurface trespass, environmental concerns, and insurance disputes and is skilled in drafting and reviewing drilling, leasehold, coal, and division order opinions and analyzing complex leaseholds and fractionalized heirships. She has substantial experience with commercial and residential real estate transactions, regularly conducing closings and preparing subdivisions, and real estate/energy litigation, including handling property assessment appeals, boundary and surface use issues, recovery of royalty payments, and ownership and easement disputes.

Beyond securities and real estate/energy services, Tara handles bankruptcy/workout matters, including representation of secured and unsecured creditors in Chapter 7, 11, and 13 proceedings, dischargeability issues, proof of claim filings, debt and payment negotiations, and fraudulent transfer and claim objections. She is the recipient of the ACBA Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section's Gerald K. Gibson Memorial Award and American

Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence.

Tara also practices insurance defense litigation, focusing on cases involving real property damage; municipal law; and family law, handling divorce, custody, support and equitable distribution matters as well as disputes arising from prenuptial, marital, and postnuptial agreements. Additionally, she is also a certified housing court arbitrator and mediator.

Other Info About Tara

Education

Duquesne University School of Law, J.D., 2012, *cum laude*

Duquesne University, M.A., 2007, *magna cum laude*

Saint Vincent College, B.A., 2006, *cum laude*

Recognition

The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch®, Energy Law, 2024-2025; Oil and Gas Law, 2024-2025; Real Estate Law, 2024-2025

Professional Affiliations

Western District Bankruptcy Inns of Court and Pro Bono Partnership

Allegheny County Bar Association

Pennsylvania Bar Association

Energy and Mineral Law Foundation

Major Publications

A Technical and Legal Overview of Induced Seismicity (Co-Author), Energy & Mineral Law Foundation, 2015

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