



James R. Neal

Senior Attorney

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James "Jim" Neal's practice focuses primarily in the areas of:

- Energy Oil & Gas Law
- Administrative Law
- Real Estate Law
- Condemnation & Eminent Domain
- Telecommunications

A Martindale-Hubbell "AV" Rated Attorney, Jim has for many years been listed in the Best Lawyers in America, for practice in the areas of oil, gas, energy, and natural resources. He was also named *Best Lawyers'* 2014 Lansing Natural Resources Law Lawyer of the Year. Jim received his B.A. from Michigan State University in 1971. Following that, he received his law degree from the University of Detroit Law School in 1974.

Jim is a past president of the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum and former board member. In 2000, he received the W. Richard Neller Service Award and is a charter member and past president of the Red Cedar Lions Club.

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Legal Affiliations

- State Bar of Michigan
 - Member
 - Oil and Gas Law Committee
 - Member
 - Past Chairman
- American Bar Association
 - Member

PRACTICE AREAS

Administrative Law
Condemnation & Eminent Domain
Energy, Oil & Gas Law
Finance, Real Estate & Bankruptcy Law
Real Estate Law
Telecommunications

EDUCATION

University of Detroit Law School,
J.D., 1974
Michigan State University, B.A.,
1971

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Michigan

HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

Best Lawyers® in America - Energy Law, Natural Resources Law, and Oil and Gas Law, 1997-2025

Best Lawyers® in America - 2011, 2025 "Lawyer of the Year" - Lansing, Oil and Gas Law

Best Lawyers® in America - 2012, 2016, 2018, 2025 "Lawyer of the Year" - Lansing, Energy Law

Best Lawyers® in America - 2014, 2018, 2024 "Lawyer of the Year" - Lansing, Natural Resources Law

Michigan Super Lawyers, Energy and Natural Resources Law, Administrative Law, 2006-2007, 2012-2022



- Ingham County Bar Association
 - Member

W. Richard Neller Service Award,
2000

Community Affiliations

- Michigan Oil & Gas Association
 - Member, Legal and Legislative Committee
- Michigan Basin Geological Society
 - Member
- Michigan Association of Petroleum Landmen
 - Member
- R.E. Olds Transportation Museum
 - Past President, Former Board Member
- Red Cedar Lions Club
 - Charter Member, Past President