

VICTOR J. FRANCKIEWICZ, JR.

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Vic's legal and executive management experience centers on governmental innovation, real estate development, environmental stewardship, and construction. He provides clients with legal advice informed by results-oriented leadership in the public sector and private industry, and by a strong scientific and technical background.

PRACTICE AREAS AND INDUSTRY TEAMS

- Administrative Law
- Governmental Litigation
- Real Estate Development and Finance
- Public Facilities and Public-Private Partnerships
- Public Finance
- Construction Law
- Environmental
- Governmental Finance

EXPERIENCE

- Lead counsel for Louisiana Land Trust, a legislatively-chartered nonprofit charged with managing 11,000 Hurricane Katrina-damaged properties across South Louisiana and returning them to commerce.
- Strong experience handling complex, multi-parcel real estate projects and resolving real estate title issues.
- Manager of the firm's title subsidiary (North Boulevard Title, LLC); licensed as a title insurance producer in Louisiana.
- Prepared innovative land use ordinance for St. James Parish, Louisiana and counseled local authorities in implementation and successful defense against legal challenges.
- Led 15-member legal team representing the Regional Transit Authority in New Orleans in major effort to reorganize the agency following a change in administration, and to restructure the agency following Hurricane Katrina.
- Lead counsel for an international water treatment company in a seven-year long class action in Louisiana over drinking water quality.

- Managed defense team defending several national clients against 21,000 plaintiffs alleging lung injury from silica dust in Mississippi litigation.
- Executive management experience in public works construction, zoning, environmental regulation, federal programs, employment and labor matters and economic development.
- Prepared Mississippi's coastal zone management program, including drafting legislation, wetlands permitting and waterfront industrial development regulations.

Notable Litigation:

- *Martello v. City of Ferriday*, 886 So.2d 645 (La. App. 3rd Cir. 2004), *writ denied*, 894 So.2d 1148 (La. 2005). Represented a water treatment equipment manufacturer in a long-running class action.
- *Freeman v. Walley*, 276 F. Supp. 2d 597 (S.D. Miss. 2003): Represented an excess insurer opposing a \$4 million underlying judgment in an action removed to federal court.
- *International Rivercenter v. Henry C. Beck Co.*, 672 So. 2d 1160 (La. App. 4 Cir.), *writ denied*, 675 So.2d 1083 (La. 1996); and *International River Center v. Johns-Manville Sales Corporation*, 861 So.2d 139 (La. 2003). Represented the general contractor in a construction dispute over a major facility in New Orleans.
- *Lindy Investments, L.P. v. Shakertown Corp.*, 209 F.3d 802 (5th Cir. 2000): Represented the owners of four large apartment complexes in an action against the manufacturer of defective siding.
- *Massey v. Decca Drilling Company, Inc.*, 647 So.2d 1196 (La. App. 2nd Cir, 1994), *writs denied*, 653 So.2d 563 and 564 (La. 1995). Represented the insurer on appeal of a \$19 million jury award; secured a reduction of the award to \$44,000.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Louisiana, 1993
- Mississippi, 1993

DISTINCTIONS

- *Martindale-Hubbell*[®]
 - BV[®]-Distinguished[™] Peer Review Rated, 2004-2017
- *Best Lawyers in America*[®]
 - Lawyer of the Year, Administrative/Regulatory Law (New Orleans), 2021
 - Administrative/Regulatory Law, 2020-2021
- CityBusiness Leader in Law, 2016
- *National Excellence Award for Public Policy*, Governmental Research Association, 2000
- *Common Cause Legislative Leadership Award*, 1990
- *Volunteer of the Year* for pro-bono services, Safe Harbor Women's Shelter, 1996
- *Senator*, Mississippi State Senate, 1989-1993

- *Mayor*, Bay St. Louis, 1985-1989
- Mississippi Advisory Commission on Public Trust Tidelands, 1988-1990
- *Co-Recipient*, Ted Aschman Prize, American Society of Planning Officials, 1976

ASSOCIATIONS

- Mississippi Bar Association
- Louisiana State Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Bureau of Governmental Research, 1999-2000
 - *President and CEO*

EDUCATION & HONORS

- Loyola University, J.D., 1993
 - *Loyola Law Review*
 - Moot Court Board
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, M.C.P., City Planning, 1976
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, S.B., Urban Studies, 1976

PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Speaker, "Legal and Urban Planning Aspects of Disaster Recovery," Massachusetts Institute of Technology School of Architecture and Planning, November 19, 2018.
- *A Sinking Coast Bubbles up Legal Challenges*; presentation and paper on property law, coastal regulation, and disaster recovery issues resulting from coastal land loss and rising sea levels; New Orleans, Louisiana, December 30, 2014.
- *Overview and Status Report on the New Orleans Capital Program*, Bureau of Governmental Research, October 2000; examined capital budget process of City of New Orleans.
- *Privatization of Sewerage and Water Board Operations*, Bureau of Governmental Research, April 2000. A report on the options and issues involved in privatizing a major urban utility system.
- *Property Tax Exemption and Assessment Administration in Orleans Parish*, Bureau of Governmental Research, December 1999; comprehensive examination of operations of seven Orleans Parish Tax Assessors. The report was the analytic foundation for post-Katrina reforms that abolished the archaic seven-assessor system. It won the prestigious Governmental Research Association's National Excellence Award for Public Policy in 2000.
- *The States Ante Up: An Analysis of Casino Gaming Statutes*, 38 Loy. L. Rev. 1123 (1993).

- *Chisom v. Roemer: The Elected Judiciary is Subject to Vote Dilution Claims Under the Voting Rights Act*, 38 Loy. L. Rev. 211 (1992).
- Frequent lecturer on zoning and land use issues at professional seminars in Mississippi and Louisiana.