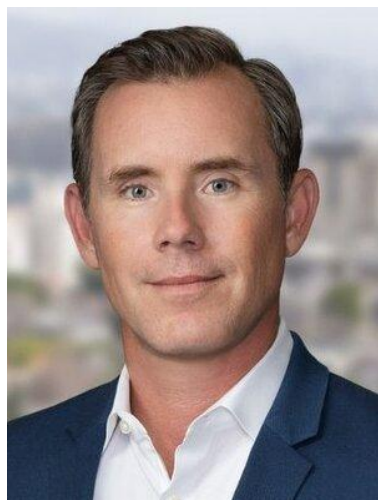


Saul Ewing Lands Greenspoon Marder Enviro Atty Trio In LA

By James Mills · [Listen to article](#)

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Christopher "Smitty" Smith



Steven Werth



Katherine Meek

Saul Ewing LLP is expanding its environmental team, bringing in a trio of Greenspoon Marder LLP litigators in the firm's Los Angeles office.

Christopher "Smitty" Smith has joined Saul Ewing's environmental practice as a partner, the firm announced Tuesday, after spending the past 18 months at Greenspoon Marder. Joining him in the move to Saul Ewing are counsel Steven Werth and associate Katherine Meek.

In a Wednesday morning interview, Smith told Law360 Pulse he had litigated against Freeman Freeman & Smiley LLP, a 50-attorney firm that merged with Saul Ewing in August 2023 to give Saul Ewing its first West Coast outposts.

"Freeman Freeman & Smiley had an LA and Orange County office that I had litigated against before. I knew them well and respected them a bunch," Smith said. "It was that relationship and that exposure that led me to this firm."

Smith is especially happy that all his clients could make the move with him to Saul Ewing.



"Saul Ewing doesn't have conflicts with my clients. So, I was able to bring over all my clients to the firm, which is a big win," said Smith. "All my clients are happy that we're doing the same thing we were doing before at my last place but doing it at Saul Ewing."

He is looking forward to expanding Saul Ewing's environmental practice to the West Coast.

"Saul has this great platform, this really robust environmental practice group that already exists, but they didn't have it on the West Coast," Smith said. "The goal is to build that practice on the West Coast into a competitor with all of the marquee West Coast practice groups that do environmental already, some in really big firms, some in boutique firms. But to be a really good bulwark or counterbalance to the marketplace for environmental practitioners on the West Coast."

Smith earned his law degree in 2007 from Seattle University School of Law. He worked as an associate with Greenberg Glusker LLP and later with Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, according to his LinkedIn profile. In 2019, he joined Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP for three years, then moved to the Wolf Wallenstein PC boutique. He then joined Greenspoon Marder in early 2024.

Werth handles disputes arising under state and federal environmental statutes. He also handles litigation related to bankruptcy estates as well as landlord-tenant disputes and insurance coverage litigation.

Werth earned his law degree in 1999 from the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law. He worked as an associate at Paul Hastings LLP and later Kaye Scholer LLP. He spent 17 years with Sulmeyer Kupetz LLP, then in 2022 moved with a team of Sulmeyer Kupetz attorneys to Greenspoon Marder.

Meek earned her law degree in 2023 from UCLA School of Law. She worked as a research fellow for Center for Law, Energy & the Environment at Berkeley Law, then joined Greenspoon Marder earlier this year.

"We are thrilled to welcome Smitty, Steve and Katherine to Saul Ewing," Los Angeles office managing partner Steven Ziven said in a statement. "Their move gives the firm's already outstanding environmental practice a strong foothold on the West Coast, especially for national businesses whose footprint includes California and who need support from a team with a deep understanding of California environmental regulations."

Pamela Goodwin, co-chair of Saul Ewing's environmental practice, is enthusiastic about having Smith on her team.



"Smitty adds a wonderful dimension to our group," Goodwin said in a statement. "He is equally strong representing clients in the courtroom and navigating the regulatory landscape on behalf of our developer clients. He was selected in 2024 by the Los Angeles Business Journal as one of the Leaders of Influence in the Litigators & Trial Attorneys category, and also has been recognized for his environmental law work by both The Lawdragon Green 500 and The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch list."