



James D. Squeri Of Counsel

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Practice Areas

Energy | Energy Project Development | Infrastructure | Pipelines & Terminals | Public Utility Regulation

James D. Squeri primarily practices before the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), with his main focus on energy and transportation-related issues.

His practice involves all aspects relating to CPUC oversight and regulation of the state's private utilities, including electric, natural gas, water, telecommunication, and pipeline service providers. He provides legal advice to public utilities subject to the CPUC's authority as well as to consumers of public utility services.

Jim's clients include the major oil pipeline and refined petroleum product pipeline service providers in California, a natural gas utility, renewable energy producers, the California Building Industry Association, and various municipal entities throughout the state. His recent focus has been on major rate cases at the CPUC and handling mergers involving public utilities and requiring CPUC approval.

Prior to joining Downey Brand, Jim was a partner of the law firm Goodin, MacBride, Squeri & Day in San Francisco from 1986 until 2021. Before that, Jim was an associate at the law firm of Graham & James for three years and was legal counsel to the CPUC, adviser to the CPUC President, and an administrative law judge from 1975-1983.

Experience

- Lead counsel in over 20 major rate proceedings involving water, natural gas, electric, and pipeline utilities
- Lead counsel in CPUC proceeding resulting in deregulation of the state's trucking industry
- Presiding Administrative Law Judge in CPUC proceeding resulting in development of rules governing the extension of electric and natural gas service to new residential construction.
- Counsel on first successful application to the California Energy Commission for Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) eligibility for an out-of-state facility.

Professional & Community Service

- Conference of California Public Utility Counsel, 1985-present

Education

- J.D., Boston University School of Law, 1975
- B.A., Stanford University, 1971

Honors & Rankings

- AV Preeminent[®] Rating by Martindale-Hubbell[®]
- Best Lawyers in America[®], Energy Law, 1993-2023
- Best Lawyers in America[®], Communications Law, 2023
- Best Lawyers[®] 2016 “Lawyer of the Year” for Communications Law in San Francisco