



MEA Founder Melissa Scanlan Appointed to Lead Vermont Law School Environmental Law Center Staff and Board Congratulates Scanlan on Her New Opportunity

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MADISON, WI – The Board of Directors and staff of Midwest Environmental Advocates would like to extend hearty congratulations to the organization’s founder, Melissa K. Scanlan, for accepting a position as the Associate Dean of the Vermont Law School. Scanlan will be additionally using her expertise as the Director of the school’s Environmental Law Center. Scanlan currently teaches [water law and policy at the University of Wisconsin Law School](#).

Originally from Wisconsin, Scanlan received a law degree and a Master of Science in Environmental Science, Policy and Management from the University of California, Berkeley. She was the recipient of Berkeley’s Harmon Award for the Best Environmental Law Writing and the Alvin & Sadie Landis Scholarship in Water Law.

Scanlan founded [Midwest Environmental Advocates](#) in 1999 to further her work in environmental justice and to provide legal support for everyday citizens to use the power of the law to protect Wisconsin’s heritage of healthy water, air, land and government. She served as the Executive Director of Midwest Environmental Advocates from 1999-2007. She then moved to Milwaukee to open the organization’s Milwaukee office and served as Senior Counsel from 2007-2010. She now serves on MEA’s Board of Directors.

“Melissa decided early on in her life that she wanted to do something to save the environment and make the world a better place,” said University of Wisconsin Law School Emeritus Professor Arlen Christenson. “I met her when she was considering law school in 1995, the same year that the public intervenor’s office was abolished along with our environmental law clinical program. But even before she founded Midwest Environmental Advocates, she has always been very focused and smart. Her ideas have been ahead of their time and her new position at the Vermont Law School is probably the best job in the country for her experience and vision.”

Scanlan is the author of law review articles primarily focused on water law, Wisconsin’s Public Trust Doctrine, and the Great Lakes Compact. She is the Water Law and Policy Scholar at the University of Wisconsin Law School and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s School of Freshwater Sciences. She also serves on the board of the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin. Read more about her new position on the [Vermont Law School](#) website.

Midwest Environmental Advocates is a public interest organization that uses the power of the law to support communities fighting for environmental accountability. Learn more about the Midwest Environmental Advocates on the web at [midwestadvocates.org](#), like MEA on [Facebook](#) or follow @MidwestAdvocate on [Twitter](#).

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