

**JOHN A. PENDERGRASS**  
**Senior Attorney**  
**Environmental Law Institute**

**EDUCATION:**

- J.D. Case Western Reserve University School of Law.  
Cleveland, Ohio, - May 1979.
- Order of the Coif, top 10%
  - Case Western Reserve Law Review, Vol. 29 Editor and Vol. 28 Associate
- B.S. Michigan State University.  
East Lansing, Michigan, - June 1976.  
Degree in Environmental Science from Lyman Briggs College.
- Graduated with highest honors, Member of Honors College
  - National Merit Scholar, Phi Kappa Phi, Beta Beta Beta, Phi Eta Sigma
  - Varsity letter in soccer, top ten student athletes 1973-74.

**BAR ADMISSIONS:** Ohio 1979, Wisconsin 1983.

**EXPERIENCE:**

Mr. Pendergrass joined ELI as a Senior Attorney in July of 1988. He is Co-Director of International Programs for ELI working with local and international partners to improve environmental law, policies, institutions, and management in the Americas, Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe. Mr. Pendergrass has worked with NGOs, national environmental agencies, academic institutions, and international organizations to train judges, government personnel, industry managers, and the public on environmental law, enforcement, and compliance issues. He has conducted research and written on natural resource damage assessment in Nigeria and community-based natural resource management in Brazil. In 2005 he drafted a Law on Drinking Water under the Program for Institutional and Regulatory Strengthening of Water Management in Armenia. In the late 1990s, while resident in Costa Rica, he was part of a team that advised the Minister of Environment for El Salvador to make improving the country's water supply and water pollution control programs the highest priorities for the Ministry.

Mr. Pendergrass' research and writing has covered a variety of topics, including water quality, property law and the public trust doctrine, land use, Superfund, state hazardous substance cleanup programs, brownfields, institutional controls, pollution prevention, biodiversity protection, enforcement, environmental management systems, market-based environmental programs, and sustainable development. Mr. Pendergrass also directs ELI's Judicial Education program, which has educated hundreds of judges in 15 states and 16 countries, including Honduras and Costa Rica, since 1991. He is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Commission on Environmental

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Law, the Multi-State Working Group on Environmental Performance, and the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board Accreditation Council.

Mr. Pendergrass was a member of the Study Committee on Hazardous Wastes in Highway Rights-of-Way of the National Research Council. He served on the Brookings Institution Task Force on Civil Justice reform, which recommended legislation (since enacted as the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990) and other changes to the federal civil justice system to reduce delay and transaction costs in federal civil litigation.

From 1986 to 1988, Mr. Pendergrass was a Visiting Assistant Professor at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law, where he taught Administrative Law, Scientific Analysis of Environmental Problems, and Legal Research and Writing.

From 1984 to 1986, Mr. Pendergrass was an Associate with the firm of DeWitt, Sundby, Huggett, Schumacher & Morgan, S.C. in Madison, WI. His practice focused on environmental and administrative law. He advised clients on state and federal law concerning land use and solid and hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal. He also advised clients on water pollution and groundwater protection issues.

As an Attorney-Advisor for the Branch of Regulatory Programs, Division of Surface Mining, Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. (1980-1984), he reviewed, drafted and defended regulations and Environmental Impact Statements. His responsibilities also included advising policy makers on substantive and procedural legal issues involved in administrative action. He had primary legal responsibility for cooperative agreements with the states. He was also responsible for significant litigation in federal courts and administrative tribunals concerning the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, NEPA, the APA and other federal statutes. He received two awards for outstanding performance.

As a Solicitor's Honors Program Attorney (1979-1980), he provided counsel to the various Offices and Bureaus within the Department of the Interior. The subject matter included fish and wildlife, parks, mineral leasing, wilderness, Indian affairs, and administration of the territories.

#### **PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND TESTIMONY:**

Mr. Pendergrass has published more than 20 articles and book chapters and has been a columnist in *The Environmental Forum* for 16 years. He has testified before Congress and has made numerous presentations on issues relating to environmental law, management and enforcement, including to judges in the United States, Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Uganda, and India.

His recent publications include:

[The Georgetown International Environmental Law Review](#), Type II Partnerships, International Law, and the Commons, Vol. XV, Issue 4, 855 – 886 (Summer 2003) (Carl Bruch and John Pendergrass).