



Adam R. Cote Attorney

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Bio

Clients say Adam *“has very broad horizons and a high intellect”* and that *“he is a great attorney and very effective for his clients.”*
Chambers USA

Adam Cote is the Leader of Drummond Woodsum’s Energy Practice and a member of the Business & Corporate Group and Drummond Woodsum Strategic Consulting. Over the course of his more than 20 years advising energy companies, municipalities, non-profits, and Tribal Nations, Adam has established himself as one of Maine’s most experienced and knowledgeable attorneys in the field of energy law. A former renewable energy business owner and gubernatorial candidate, he combines substantial knowledge of public policy, organizational development, law, and regulation with deft political handling to deliver tremendous value to his clients.

Adam’s energy practice includes a focus on renewable energy development, the wholesale purchase of electricity, the development of renewable energy credit policies, renewable portfolio standards, demand response, and non-transmission alternative technologies. In addition to representing solar developers throughout the state of Maine, he regularly advises clients on major wind, hydroelectric, and energy storage projects, including a solar and battery storage development that received one of the [largest clean energy grants](#) the State California has ever awarded.

In his robust business and strategic consulting practice, Adam advises clients on a wide array of general corporate matters, including project development and entity formation. He serves as Amazon’s lead counsel in Maine, where the retail giant continues to expand its logistics

Practice Areas

Business & Corporate
Energy & Public Utility Law
Government Relations &
Campaigns
Tribal Nations Law

Admissions

Maine

operation. Local and national media outlets, including Politico and Bloomberg, frequently turn to Adam for political analysis because of his deep knowledge of Maine’s business and government landscapes — expertise that Adam successfully leverages when clients decide to seek legislative solutions.

Adam has been recognized for his notable work in Best Lawyers USA for Energy Law and Energy Regulatory Law, and Chambers USA Maine Guide for Energy and Natural Resources. In 2014, he was one of twelve veterans named a White House “Champion of Change” by the Obama Administration for “advancing clean energy and climate security.”

Adam is also deeply committed to serving his country. He proudly served as a member of the Maine Army National Guard for twenty years and was deployed to Bosnia, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He is a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal and the Combat Action Badge, along with numerous other awards and distinctions.

In his free time, Adam spends time with his wife and five active kids in Sanford — his hometown. He coaches football, basketball, and baseball in local youth sports and travel teams. He has served on numerous local and statewide boards including Colby College Alumni Council, the Maine Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Vet2Vet Maine, a non-profit that provides support for Maine veterans. In 2018, Adam was a candidate for Governor of Maine, placing a close second out of seven candidates in the Democratic primary.

Education

University of Maine School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2001

Colby College, B.A. International Studies, *with honors*, 1995

Representative Clients & Matters

Adam Cote’s extensive experience includes representing:

- A consortium of Maine businesses, municipalities, colleges and school districts in negotiating net energy billing credit agreements for several large scale solar developments throughout the State.
- Several environmental organizations, businesses and Maine ratepayers opposed to the construction of a large-scale transmission corridor project.
- Amazon in expanding its network of warehouses and last-mile facilities in Maine.
- Several Maine towns and school districts in negotiating solar development projects on their landfills or other properties.
- A leading Maine non-profit in developing a solar array on their property.

- A large renewable energy developer in negotiating power purchase agreements with purchasers of electricity.

Recognition

Best Lawyers USA, Energy Law and Energy Regulatory Law

Chambers and Partners, USA Guide, *Maine, Energy & Natural Resources, Band 2*

Youngest alumni to receive Colby College, “Distinguished Alumnus Award”

Youngest in chapter history to receive Maine Chapter, National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame “Distinguished American Award”

White House “Champion of Change” Recognized as one of twelve veterans nationally for advancing clean energy initiatives and promoting greater climate security

The NewDEAL, Named as one of ten rising state and local elected officials recognized “for their work championing pro-growth progressive ideas.”

Publications

[*What We Can Expect from the Federal Government to Address Climate Change and Energy Independence*](#), *Maine Policy Review* 17.2, 46-50 (2008).

Memberships

Colby College Alumni Council
Member, 2016-present

Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Association (MRRA), 2009-2011

Maine Veteran’s Housing Coalition
Board Member, 2007-2010

U.S. Small Business Administration
Regional Advisory Committee Member, 2005-2009

Sanford School Committee
Board Member, 2011-2013

Community/Public Service

Vet2Vet Maine
Board Member

Maine Chapter of the National Football Foundation
Board Member