



Agnieszka “Aga” Dixon Attorney

Phone: 207.253.0532

Fax: 207.772.3627

Email: adixon@dwmlaw.com

84 Marginal Way, Suite 600
Portland, ME 04101-2480

Assistant: Gabrielle Barber **Email:** gbarber@dwmlaw.com

Bio

Aga Dixon has a diverse practice serving municipalities, schools, nonprofits, and Tribal Nations on a broad range of land use, energy, public finance, and climate change issues.

Aga represents landowners, environmental nonprofits, and local governments on the full spectrum of land use, conservation, land management, planning and zoning matters. A former senior land use planner, she brings unparalleled insights to her clients. She regularly conducts legal reviews of significant and controversial development projects, prepares local ordinances to address emerging land uses and state and federal laws, assists clients with public proceedings, renders legal opinions, litigates land use matters, and advises officials daily on all manner of municipal budget and land use issues—including housing law (LD 2003) compliance, solar development, mineral mining, aquaculture, harbor management, floating structures/houseboats, short-term rentals, dangerous buildings, recovery residences and Fair Housing Act compliance, and municipal regulation of medical and adult use cannabis.

Aga has substantial expertise in energy law and assists public sector clients with reaching net zero goals and lowering their energy costs by negotiating renewable energy power purchase agreements and net energy billing credits agreements, solar leases, and related transactions. She enjoys advising clients on issues and opportunities presented by new State and Federal legislation affecting governance and budgets.

Aga also advises school clients on emerging topics in school law, including the creation and operation of education service centers and compliance with federal award/grant administration rules. She provides

Practice Areas

Energy & Public Utility Law
Land Use & Conservation
Municipal Law
Public Finance
School & Education
Tribal Nations Law

Admissions

Maine

Tribally-Controlled Schools with stem-to-stern legal guidance and representation on school construction projects involving 638 grants and PL 100-297 construction funding, as well as post-construction issues and audits, serves as bond counsel, and advises public sector clients on all aspects of public finance (including tax-exempt bonds, equipment lease purchase financing, borrowing and budgets, procurement, and energy/air quality improvement projects).

When she is not lawyering, Aga enjoys spending time in nature – biking, hiking, camping, sailing, and paddling – with family and friends.

Education

University of Maine School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2013

Dartmouth College, B.A., *cum laude*, 1999

Judicial Clerkship

Hon. Ellen A. Gorman, Maine Supreme Judicial Court

Representative Clients & Matters

- Served as special counsel to the Town of Columbia Falls with the evaluation of a proposed land annexation and development project known as the Flagpole of Freedom Park, which was proposed to include the world's tallest flagpole and observation tower, 55 memorial walls, a 4000-seat amphitheater, a village composed of six living-history museums, hotels, restaurants, shops, and housing. Over 12 months, she worked in close collaboration with municipal officials to prepare a Code of Ordinances—a user-friendly zoning framework that creates simple and predictable processes for development that is appropriately sized for the Town.
- Successfully litigated a case before the Maine Law Court (*MSAD 6 Board of Directors v. Town of Frye Island*, 2020 ME 45), which ultimately prevented the Town of Frye Island from withdrawing from MSAD 6. As a result, the school district avoided the loss of roughly \$1.5 million in annual assessments that support the school budget and education.
- Advised several Tribally Controlled Schools (including the Laguna Department of Education), municipalities, quasi-municipal districts, and other public entities on Federal (including ISDEAA) award/grant administration, procurements, and audits, and negotiated complex, multi-party PL 93-638 and PL 100-297 construction contracts between owners, contractors, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- As a former land use planner, Aga coordinated regulatory reviews of significant and controversial development projects for the Maine Land Use Planning Commission (formerly, “LURC”), including a five-year administrative review of the largest land

- development and conservation project in Maine's history.
- Assisted many municipalities in drafting ordinances and moratoria governing emerging land uses such as aquaculture, medical and adult use marijuana business establishments, short-term rentals, metallic mineral mining, and solar farms.

Recognition

- Edward S. Godfrey Leadership Award
- Maine Law Alumni Association Award
- Robert & Patricia Switzer Foundation Fellowship

Memberships

Maine State Bar Association

Member

Maine Municipal Association

Member

Regional Organization of Municipal Attorneys

Member

Community/Public Service

Allagash Wilderness Waterway Foundation

Vice President