



Erin J. Greten*

Of Counsel

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With nearly two decades of experience working for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and in other preparedness, response, and recovery-related roles with the federal government, Erin Greten is uniquely qualified to advise clients on their disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

Erin Greten is a member of Baker Donelson's Disaster Recovery and Government Services Team and focuses her practice on disaster response and recovery assistance laws, contracting, and public policy. Ms. Greten's experience gives her specialized knowledge of FEMA's programs and broad practical understanding of federal operations including audits, administrative procedure, and financial processes.

Erin serves clients by applying her knowledge of FEMA's programs and federal law to identify creative ways to leverage, maximize, and maintain disaster assistance.

Prior to joining Baker Donelson, Ms. Greten served as the career senior executive Chief Counsel of the First Responder Network Authority, where she proactively managed and resolved legal issues of all types for the federal agency responsible for the nationwide public safety broadband network known as FirstNet. Prior to that, Erin served as FEMA's Associate Chief Counsel for Regional & Field Operations where she was responsible for the delivery of legal services to FEMA at all presidentially-declared disasters and emergencies nationwide, as well as FEMA's ten regional offices. She also served as FEMA's Deputy Associate Chief Counsel for Recovery, where she was principal legal advisor for FEMA's disaster recovery programs (Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, Fire Management Assistance Grants, Community Disaster Loans, etc.). In addition, she served as FEMA's Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulation & Policy, where she developed, implemented, and managed FEMA's regulatory program.

Before joining FEMA, Ms. Greten worked with the U.S. Coast Guard as a regulatory attorney, and practiced commercial litigation in a private law firm.



Case Studies

- Baker Donelson Attorney Represents Historic New Jersey Lighthouse in Appeal of \$4.4 Million FEMA Clawback - Pro Bono



Representative Matters

- City of Fernandina Beach, Florida – Favorably settled a FEMA arbitration involving application of the Public Assistance 50 Percent Rule, with FEMA agreeing to fund replacement costs as well as financing costs incurred by the City to replace the marina's dock attenuator system, a revision from the original "repair-only" determination worth an estimated \$6 million for the City.
- Successfully represented a Colorado county against FEMA in an arbitration regarding hazardous tree work.
- Successfully appealed a Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness denial by the US Small Business Administration regarding an applicant's non-profit status and accounting practices.



Professional Honors & Activities

- FEMA Administrator's Award for Innovation (2013)

- DHS Service Award for Superior Mission Achievement (2010)



Publications

- "OMB Soon To Release Updates To Uniform Grant Regulations" (April 2024)
- "OMB Proposed Rule Would Revise the Suspension and Debarment and Uniform Grant Administration Regulations" (December 2023)
- "Recent Trends in FEMA COVID-19 Appeal and Arbitration Decisions" (August 2023)
- "Inconsistency Between FEMA's Appeal Policy and Appeal Regulations Proves Fatal to Appeal – and How to Avoid a Similar Fate " (July 2023)
- "Filing a FEMA Public Assistance Appeal: The Real-Life Saga of Goldilocks and the Three Bears" (October 2022)
- "New FEMA Clarification Regarding Codes & Standards Requirements" (October 2022)
- "FEMA Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Public Assistance COVID-19 Policy on Deadlines and Overlapping Sources of Funding" (April 2022)
- "UPDATED: President Biden Extends 100 Percent Cost Share for COVID-19 Public Assistance" (March 2022)
- "Changes to FEMA's Public Assistance Appeals and Arbitrations Regulation Go Into Effect January 1, 2022" (December 2021)
- "Avoiding Audit Disaster After Receiving a Disaster Grant," *Law360* (December 2021)
- "New FEMA Thresholds and Indicators for Fiscal Year 2022" (November 2021)
- "DOJ Launches Initiative to Pursue Cybersecurity-Related Fraud by Government Contractors and Grant Recipients" (October 2021)
- "State/Tribe/Territory Application Period for FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance and BRIC Grants To Run September 30, 2021 - January 28, 2022" (August 2021)
- "EDA Publishes NOFOs Worth \$3 Billion in American Rescue Plan Act Grants" (August 2021)
- "FEMA Updates Policy on Stafford Act § 705" (August 2021)
- "Representing States, Tribes, and Local Governments before, During, and After a Presidentially-Declared Disaster," *The Urban Lawyer*, Volume 48, Issue 3 (Summer 2016); republished in *Homeland Security and Emergency Management: A Legal Guide for State and Local Governments*, 3d. ed. (2018)



Speaking Engagements

- Co-presenter – "Disaster Relief and Compliance: Avoiding the Disaster following the Disaster," ABA Standing Committee on Disaster Response and Preparedness (September 2021)



Webinars

- An Inside Look at How to Effectively Navigate the FEMA Appeals and Arbitrations Process (May 2022)



Education

- Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland Defense/Security, Executive Leadership Graduate, 2011
- Catholic University of America, J.D., 2001
- James Madison College, Michigan State University, B.A., 1997



Admissions

- Maryland, 2001
- Michigan, 2017

- Virginia, 2019
- U.S. Supreme Court, 2005

* Baker Donelson professional not admitted to the practice of law in Washington, D.C.; admitted to the Maryland, Virginia, and Michigan bars.