



Kathryn M. Zickert

Partner | Atlanta

kzickert@sgrlaw.com

Tel: 404-815-3704

Fax: 404-685-7004

Areas of Practice

Zoning, Planning and Land Use | Environmental/Natural Resources Law | Hospitality | Litigation/Trial Practice

Kathryn M. Zickert is a Partner in and the leader of the Zoning, Planning and Land Use Practice Group of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Ms. Zickert practices in all aspects of land use and zoning including environmental and land use litigation, condemnation, re-zonings, variances, special or conditional use permits, special exceptions, subdivision approvals and all other permitting, fair housing, developments of regional impact and historic preservation.

Ms. Zickert has extensive experience in zoning and land use related law, representing primarily developers, property owners, and some municipal governments in administrative and litigation matters. Her development practice covers a broad range of commercial real estate projects, including retail, office, industrial and mixed use, as well as various residential projects, including attached and detached single family and multi-family units.

In recognition of her expertise in land use/environmental law, Ms. Zickert has been selected for inclusion in *Georgia Super Lawyers* and *Super Lawyers Corporate Counsel* edition, *Georgia Trend* magazine's *Legal Elite* for multiple years, the Legal 500 U.S. for Georgia Real Estate Lawyers in 2009 and as one of *The Best Lawyers in America*® for both Land Use and Zoning Law and Litigation – Land Use and Zoning for over a decade. In 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2022, she was named the Best Lawyers® "Lawyer of the Year" for either Zoning and Land Use or Litigation – Land Use and Zoning in Georgia.

Ms. Zickert is a member of Legal Action Network for Development Strategies (LANDS), a national group of zoning and land use lawyers who represent only private property interests. She is the author of a number of zoning and other land

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use ordinances used throughout Georgia. Additionally, she is a regular speaker at national and local land use seminars sponsored by the Atlanta Regional Commission, the National Business Institute, Law Seminars International, Lorman, the Georgia Institute for Continuing Legal Education, the National Association of Homebuilders, the American and Georgia Planning Associations and the American Bar Association. Ms. Zickert has served as an Adjunct Professor for Emory University School of Law, teaching advanced litigation courses, and as a DeKalb County Magistrate. She has also served as a Board Member for the Metropolitan Atlanta Transit Authority (MARTA), and currently serves on the Board of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority.

Ms. Zickert received her B.A., *cum laude*, from Vanderbilt University and her J.D. from Emory University School of Law. She is admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in Georgia, as well as the Fifth Circuit and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeal.

Admissions

Georgia

Georgia State Courts

U.S. District Court Middle District of Georgia

U.S. District Court Northern District of Georgia

Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

Memberships

Legal Action Network for Development Strategies (LANDS)

Lawyer's Club of Atlanta

State Bar of Georgia Real Property and Local Government Sections

Publications

"Tree Preservation Ordinances: Sacrificing Private Timber Rights on the Diminutive Altar of Public Benefit", *Mercer Law Review*, Winter 2001