ALSTON & BIRD



Della Wager Wells
Retired Partner

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Related Services

For 30 years, Della focused on assisting public utility companies through taxable and tax-exempt financing for their commodities.

Della Wager Wells was a member of the Corporate & Finance Area, Energy Group, Finance Group, and Public Finance Team and concentrated her practice in energy finance for public gas and public power in areas including authority representation and related corporate, tax and securities matters involving taxable and tax-exempt financings for gas and electric facilities and commodities. Della also represented clients in their execution of investment products and interest rate and commodity swaps and hedges.

Della was a frequent speaker on topics relating to joint action by public issuers and the acquisition, financing and operation of public gas and power projects, both through prepayment and through reserve and generation asset acquisition. She earned a J.D., with distinction, in 1986 from Emory University; an M.A. in English from the University of Virginia in 1983; and a B.A., magna cum laude, in 1980 from the University of Georgia, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Representative Experience

- Worked with joint action issuers in pioneering a transaction for the prepayment for long-term natural gas supplies from the proceeds of tax-exempt bonds, negotiating all necessary gas purchase agreements, surety arrangements, commodity hedging arrangements, interest rate swap arrangements and investment arrangements to achieve a longterm, firm, secure supplies of natural gas for joint action agencies serving local governments' and utility districts' gas distribution systems.
- Assisted issuers throughout the Southern states in joint action purchases of natural gas reserves and prepaid supplies as bond counsel, special tax counsel, gas counsel and issuer's counsel.
- Advised a multi-state joint action agency comprising seven individual joint action agencies in five states in its formation, initial contracting and reserve acquisition financing.
- Served as bond counsel, issuer's counsel, swap counsel and gas counsel in a wide range of transactions ranging from
 gas and revenue bonds and lease purchase financings to novel transactions in the public power and public gas industry
 for the financing of electric generation and transmission facilities and the acquisition of long-term gas supplies.

Professional & Community Engagement

- National Association of Bond Lawyers
- The Loridans Foundation, trustee
- The Compass Rose Society, board

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- Emory Law School Alumni Board, president
- Emory Law School Advisory Board

Education

- Emory University (J.D., 1986)
- University of Virginia (M.A., 1983)
- University of Georgia (B.A., 1980)

Admitted to Practice

- Georgia
- New York