



# LAW OF THE ROCKIES

**Members**  
Marcus J. Lock  
Rufus O. Wilderson  
Jacob A. With  
Kendall K. Burgemeister

**Of Counsel**  
John R. Hill, Jr.

---

525 N. Main Street, Gunnison, CO 81230 | 970.641.1903  
lawoftherockies.com | Fax: 970.641.1943

---

December 31, 2014

**VIA UNITED STATES MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

**Re: *End of the year Newsletter***

Greetings Dear Clients, Colleagues, and Friends,

Seasonal salutations to you! We hope this finds you in good health and spirits. As 2014 draws to a close, we would like to take this moment to say thank you and send our best wishes to you and your families.

Over the past six years, Law of the Rockies has steadily established itself as one of the preeminent law firms on the Western Slope of Colorado. We attribute our success in large part to you: our clients, colleagues, and friends. So, first and foremost, thank you for all of your support.

Second, we wanted to take a moment of your time to update you on some recent developments about our lawyers.

Marcus Lock

In 2015, Marcus will take over the reins from Rufus Wilderson as the Firm's Managing Member. In this role, Marcus intends to ensure that the Firm continues its mission of providing its clients with exceptional, yet affordable, legal services.

The past couple of years have been very busy for Marcus. In 2014, Law Week Colorado named Marcus as a Lawyer of the Year, and Colorado Super Lawyers Magazine recognized him as one of the top young lawyers in Colorado. In 2013, he both co-chaired CLE International's 4th Annual Conference on Water Transfers, and was awarded the Colorado Lawyers Committee's Special Recognition Award for his advocacy on behalf of the mentally ill. Marcus also continues to serve on the Colorado Supreme Court's Pattern Civil Jury Instructions Committee.

Marcus's busy litigation practice spans the state and includes everything from simple business and real estate disputes to water matters, construction defect litigation, complex commercial litigation, and constitutional litigation in Colorado's state and federal courts. In addition, Marcus continues to represent clients in land use and development matters and in commercial, residential, and agricultural real estate transactions. Finally, Marcus is privileged to serve as general counsel for multiple Gunnison Valley businesses. If you have any questions about the Firm or have ideas, comments, questions, or

concerns about our practice, please do not hesitate to give Marcus a call; he loves discussing his vision for the Firm with anyone willing to listen.

Rufus Wilderson

Rufus's practice continues to include both litigation and transactions in a wide variety of matters across the state. His transaction practice in the past few years has included representing clients in matters concerning the acquisition, leasing and/or development of commercial, residential, and ranching properties not only on the Western Slope but also in Denver, Boulder, and El Paso Counties. His litigation practice encompasses matters large and small involving commercial disputes, quiet title issues, construction defects, land use conflicts, and water usage. In addition to his busy practice, Rufus serves on the Board of Supervisors for the Gunnison Conservation District and serves as Gunnison County's representative on the Gunnison Basin HB1177 Roundtable. Rufus is happy to discuss any questions you have about the Firm, the practice of law, or your particular legal issues.

John Hill

Law of the Rockies is truly fortunate to have John, who continues to serve in an of counsel capacity. Given his many years of experience representing the United States of America, and his vast knowledge of water law, not only is John a valuable resource to our clients, he is an incredible mentor to us as well. John is still actively accepting new clients, and provides advice concerning both state and federal water issues.

Jacob With

Over the past few years, Jacob and Marcus have been working together to provide comprehensive representation and advice concerning common interest communities. They advise numerous homeowners associations, both large and small, as well as HOA members, about the Colorado Common Interest Ownership Act, internal governance, HOA/member interactions, and liability and insurance issues. In addition to representing a number of HOAs and HOA members, Jacob continues to develop a sophisticated practice focused primarily on real estate and related litigation as well as estate planning and probate. In 2014, Jacob assisted clients located inside and outside of the Gunnison Valley with millions of dollars of real estate transactions, and he has successfully represented numerous clients in a variety of disputes regarding foreclosures, easements, construction defects, breaches of purchase contracts, and other business disputes.

Jacob has represented a number of personal representatives and trustees in handling estates and trusts of various sizes. In an effort to deliver affordable estate planning for the middle class, Jacob provided a second annual estate planning clinic with the assistance of Gunnison County Senior Resources. In 2014, at a presentation provided by Gunnison Valley Health, Jacob served as a member of a panel of experts discussing the practical side of elder care in the Gunnison Valley. Recognizing that caring for an elderly or disabled loved one can be both emotionally and legally challenging, Jacob finds a deep sense of fulfillment in overcoming legal obstacles on behalf of caregivers, conservators, and guardians so that they can focus on their loved ones. Jacob intends to continue providing free seminars and education regarding estate planning and elder law in 2015 with multiple presentations and panel discussions as well as a third annual estate planning event. Outside of his legal practice, Jacob serves as a board member for the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley and Gunnison Rotary.

Kendall Burgemeister

Kendall continued to develop a diversified practice, focused primarily on real estate, water, small business, and local government matters. Kendall has represented clients in water matters in the Colorado, Gunnison, Arkansas, and Rio Grande basins. Kendall has also represented buyers and sellers in numerous multi-million dollar real estate transactions. Kendall provides comprehensive counsel on various title, mineral rights, water rights, and other due diligence matters. Early in 2014, Kendall also began serving as a board member and treasurer for Gunnison Valley Mentors.

The Law Offices of Michael D. Vaughn

Lastly, we are pleased to announce our affiliation with the Law Offices of Michael D. Vaughn of Delta, Colorado. This new connection is a great opportunity for Law of the Rockies, as we are not only expanding our presence in the North Fork Valley and Delta County, but we now have the ability to provide assistance in Criminal Law (including DUI and DWAI), Divorce, Child Custody, and Bankruptcy. Prior to relocating to the Western Slope of Colorado, Michael spent 8 years of serving our country in the United States Air Force as a Judge Advocate General and as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in Colorado, Texas, and Wyoming.

In summary, 2014 was an important year for Law of the Rockies, and we are pleased to share some of our achievements with you. In addition, we are excited about the future, and we believe that our combination of experience, creativity, and intellect are the key ingredients to the Firm's continued success. As always, we intend to be aggressive in protecting our clients' interests, but sophisticated and nuanced in our approach to achieving our clients' goals.

We are grateful to live in, work in, and support this unique and special place called the Gunnison Valley. Once again, thank you, and we wish you all the best in the coming year!

Yours very truly,

Marcus Lock  
Rufus Wilderson  
John Hill  
Jacob With  
Kendall Burgemeister