



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**William H. Haak Joins MD as *Partner***

*January 2, 2015; CLEVELAND, OH* – **McMahon DeGulis LLP** announced today that **William H. Haak** has joined the environmental and energy law firm as Partner in the Cleveland office. Mr. Haak will focus his practice on environmental and safety issues affecting clients based across Ohio and nationwide.

Mr. Haak is uniquely qualified to serve his clients with experience on both sides of the negotiating table – first as an Assistant Attorney General with the Ohio Attorney General's Office in the Environmental Enforcement Section, and later as in-house counsel with several major manufacturing companies. In his role as in-house counsel, Mr. Haak spent extensive time on factory floors, around chemical reactors and in tank farms on top of large storage vessels. He developed close working relationships with his clients and their employees – from hourly union and non-union workers to EH&S professionals and top level executives.

With more than 20 years of experience as an environmental attorney specializing in complex air pollution permitting, compliance and enforcement issues, Mr. Haak brings substantial experience that complements the firm's existing environmental practice and adds further depth to its safety practice.

Michael McMahon, Partner at McMahon DeGulis, notes that "with increased enforcement by OSHA, we see safety issues rising to prominence in much the same way as environmental issues did twenty years ago. Bill is the best qualified attorney for this new work in the Midwest."

In addition to his work as in-house counsel, Mr. Haak also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Toledo College of Law. He has taught classes on Occupational Safety and Health Law, Air Pollution Law, as well as The Law and Climate Change.

"Bill is a terrific addition to our firm. With his government and in-house experience, and strong safety background, he adds an exciting new element to our team," noted Gregory DeGulis. He added, "I am thrilled that, when he was a second year law student many years ago, Bill followed my recommendation and chose to practice in environmental law. I am looking forward to working with him."

Mr. Haak obtained his JD from Case Western Reserve University School of Law after earning a BA in Business Finance from the University of Akron. He has attended advanced business, leadership, strategic thinking and management training at General Electric's Crotonville management training center in New York.

"Joining McMahon DeGulis is a once-in-a-career opportunity.," said Mr. Haak. "I've known many of the partners for longer than I can remember, and have a great deal of professional respect for everyone at the firm. Beyond that, my family and I couldn't be more excited to return to Northeast Ohio."

McMahon DeGulis LLP is one of Ohio's leading law firms providing environmental and litigation services. Through offices in Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, the firm's attorneys represent corporations and organizations across the country in all areas of environmental law. As a founding member of the Environmental Law Network ([elnonline.com](http://elnonline.com)), which consists of 27 US and 6 international law firms, McMahon DeGulis is able to provide access to environmental lawyers in other regions. Visit the firm on the web at [www.mdllp.net](http://www.mdllp.net).

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