

2013 Ocean Seminar Series

Tracing Seafood from Vessel to Plate

*Co-hosted by the Environmental Law Institute and the D.C. Bar's
Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Section.*

Thursday, December 12, 2013 • 1:00pm-3:00pm ET

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Read Porter

Senior Attorney, Environmental Law Institute

Read Porter is a senior attorney with the Environmental Law Institute, where he directs the Invasive Species Program and leads much of ELI's work on seafood sustainability. His recent work on marine issues has investigated U.S. offshore aquaculture policy, fisheries compliance and enforcement, and governance and credibility of seafood certification systems. Prior to joining ELI in 2006, Mr. Porter served as a law clerk for the Honorable Julia Smith Gibbons on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and was Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard Environmental Law Review. Mr. Porter holds a JD from Harvard Law School and a BA in Geology from Amherst College.

Peter Koufopoulos

Chief, Seafood Processing and Technology Policy Branch, Center for Food Safety & Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA)

Peter Koufopoulos is the current Chief of Seafood Processing and Technology Policy Branch at FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. Peter has been the Branch Chief since August 2010. Prior to becoming Chief Peter worked in the New England District office as both an Investigations Supervisor and as a Regional Shellfish Specialist. Peter started with the FDA in 2001. Prior to joining FDA Peter worked for eight (8) years for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the last four (4) of those years as a District Supervisor in Charleston, South Carolina over their molluscan shellfish program.

Tim Hansen

Director, Seafood Inspection Program, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Hansen began his career in the seafood processing business holding several quality assurance and production positions in Washington State and Alaska. In 1985 he joined the National Marine Fisheries Service Inspection Program as an intermittent inspector in Seattle, WA. He was quickly transferred to

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Los Angeles, California and was promoted to Deputy Regional Chief Inspector in 1987 and held that position through 1991. In 1992 he was selected to be the Director of Field Operations for the Inspection Program. In 1996 he became the Director of Technical Services for the Seafood Inspection Program leading a group of trainers and scientist who supported the program and industry. In 1998 Mr. Hansen joined the FDA Office of Seafood at the beginning of the implementation phase of the seafood HACCP regulation. He became a branch chief in 1999 and a Division Director in 2003. During this period he was heavily involved in Codex Fish Committee work and the international implementation of the seafood HACCP regulation (21 CFR 123). In August 2006 Mr. Hansen became the Director of the NOAA Seafood Inspection Program. Mr. Hansen holds a B.A. in Political Science from Washington State University and a B.S. in Fisheries Science from the University of Washington.

John Connelly

President, National Fisheries Institute

John Connelly is President of the National Fisheries Institute, America's leading trade association advocating for the full seafood supply chain. He served as Chairman of International Coalition of Fisheries Associations and currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Marine Stewardship Council and the Board of Directors of International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, a coalition of the tuna industry, WWF, and academics. He also serves on the Board of Directors for ALLFISH, a public-private partnership with the World Bank.

Beth Lowell

Campaign Director, Oceana

Beth Lowell is a campaign director at Oceana, the largest international advocacy group working solely to protect the world's oceans. She originally joined Oceana in 2005 as an ocean wildlife advocate and served as the organization's federal policy director for several years before taking on her current role. Beth's current responsibilities include directing Oceana's campaign to Stop Seafood Fraud. Specifically, she works to require traceability of all seafood sold in the United States, keep illegal fish out of the U.S. market, and ensure that seafood is honestly labeled. Beth has recently appeared in segments by The Dr. Oz Show, FOX News, and NBC TODAY and Nightly News with Brian Williams. Prior to Oceana, she served as policy director for the Endangered Species Coalition (ESC). Before the ESC, Beth worked for the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group. Beth is a graduate of Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where she received a Bachelor's degree in behavioral neuroscience and a minor in environmental science.

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