

## Sloane Anders Wildman Environmental Attorney

**What brought you to Babst Calland?** I spent most of my career in the environmental group of a global law firm, and although I loved my practice group there, an opportunity at Babst Calland arose at just the right time, and it became clear this was the right firm for me. What I like most about Babst Calland is that it was founded as an environmental firm, and the environmental practice remains important to the firm today. At the same time, as Babst Calland has grown around the environmental practice, every practice area seems equally valued.

**What areas of your practice do you enjoy most and why?** I like working in areas where I feel I can truly add value. I enjoy solving complex regulatory problems, especially involving hazardous waste regulation. Another area I enjoy is transactional work, although I haven't done much of it since joining Babst. I also really like the relatively rare long-term case, where I work as part of a client team and my institutional knowledge is integral to the matter's success.

**What is the best professional advice you have ever received?** A mentor once told me to explain complex concepts as though I was talking to my then 10-year-old daughter. Even though my daughter is no longer 10, I continue to use that advice today. Much of my work involves analyzing complicated regulations and synthesizing them into a written work product that is understandable. Not missing the forest for the trees is important. So, whenever I write about something complicated, I take a step back and ask myself whether a 10-year-old would be able to understand it.

**What qualities do you most like to see in young attorneys?** Responsiveness and communication throughout the course of a project are critical, especially if something is taking more time than anticipated. Proactive problem-solving is also key, because this is why clients hire us. When I ask younger attorneys to research something, I always tell them why I'm asking, and that, in theory, gives them what they need to think independently, consider if we're asking the right questions, and work with me proactively to find a solution.

**In an alternate life where you are not an attorney, what would be your profession?** I have many alternate lives where I am not an attorney! In college, I majored in art history with an emphasis in classical archaeology, and sometimes wonder whether I should have pursued a Ph.D. and gone into the museum field. I also think about being the commissioner of a pro sports league. And sometimes, I imagine having a little coffee shop and bakery in Vermont.

**Describe the best vacation you have ever taken.** My favorite place I've ever visited is the Canadian Rockies, but one of my more recent memorable "vacations" was a family trip with my middle daughter's ice hockey team during her senior year in high school. We traveled to central and eastern Europe, where she played against the U-18 national teams from Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia. It was a really unique experience for my family.

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