



Steven C. Silverman Bio

Steven C. Silverman joins the Colorado Department of Agriculture after more than three decades of distinguished public service, including twenty years of work supporting farmers and ranchers as a senior official at the United States Department of Agriculture. Most recently, Mr. Silverman served as the Director of USDA's National Appeals Division (NAD), where he oversaw a nationwide staff of professional adjudicators who resolve program disputes on behalf of farmers and ranchers in Colorado and across the United States. As the NAD Director, Mr. Silverman supervised a headquarters office in Alexandria, Virginia, and three regional offices, including an office located in Lakewood, Colorado.

Prior to being named Director of the National Appeals Division, Mr. Silverman served for two and a half years as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General at the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the United States Department of Justice. As Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Silverman supervised a wide range of environmental legal, policy and legislative matters. He played a key role in the Department of Justice's handling of actions during the Obama administration to combat climate change, and led a team to negotiate the Federal Government's cleanup responsibilities at the Hanford Nuclear Site in Washington State.

Before serving as Deputy Assistant Attorney General at the Department of Justice, Mr. Silverman served as Principal Deputy General Counsel at the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. As Principal Deputy General Counsel, Mr. Silverman supervised the operations of USDA's Office of General Counsel and oversaw a diverse portfolio of legal and policy matters involving nearly all of USDA's agricultural and rural development programs.

Mr. Silverman also served as the Acting General Counsel of USDA from August 2009 to January 2010. As the Acting General Counsel, Mr. Silverman led efforts to resolve several high profile class action civil rights lawsuits that had challenged USDA for several decades. Prior to serving as the Acting General Counsel, Mr. Silverman served for six years in Colorado as the Regional Attorney of USDA's Mountain Region, located in Lakewood.

Mr. Silverman began his professional career as an Honors Lawyer at the Environmental Enforcement Section of the U.S. Department of Justice. He served as a law clerk to Judge Pamela Ann Rymer in the United States District Court for the Central District of California after graduating with Distinction from Stanford Law School. Mr. Silverman earned his undergraduate degree from Princeton University, where he graduated summa cum laude with a major in public policy from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Mr. Silverman is a native of Des Moines, Iowa.