Stephen M. Anstey

Counsel

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Services

Government & Regulatory

Kilpatrick Connect

Litigation

Native American

Native American Litigation

Industries

Generative AI

Energy

Digital Assets and Distributed Ledger Technology

Fintech

Stephen Anstey is an attorney and leads Kilpatrick Connect – AI Legal Consulting. He is a member of Kilpatrick's Generative AI and Digital Assets & Distributed Ledger Technology practices as well as the Firm's Government & Regulatory, Fintech, Native American Affairs, and Energy teams. His practice focuses on artificial intelligence, energy, sustainability, Tribal law, distributed ledger technology, and digital assets. Additionally, Stephen has expertise relating to the development and administration of significant federal grants as well as comprehensive federal and global regulation and policy, including the EU AI Act, the Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence, the $1.2 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), the $280 billion CHIPS Act, and the $433 billion Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). He has also worked extensively on pro bono civil rights cases, including discrimination and LGBTQIA+ matters.

Artificial Intelligence and Kilpatrick Connect
Stephen leads the Firm's innovative artificial intelligence (AI) legal consulting and advisory service. Kilpatrick Connect provides a safe, secure, and economical hub for client questions, issue resolution, and strategy development concerning AI. Kilpatrick Connect leverages the Firm's legal expertise, industry knowledge, and nearly 165 years of experience serving the world's innovators to provide tailored AI legal consulting services. Through Kilpatrick Connect, Stephen helps his clients navigate the intricate legal, regulatory, and policy landscape surrounding AI while supporting the development of practical and actionable AI strategies and solutions that ensure their business remains compliant, mitigates risks, and is positioned for growth.

Regulation and Public Policy
Stephen advises his clients on federal regulatory and policy matters affecting numerous industries, including AI, renewable energy, conventional energy, sustainability, agriculture, health care, housing, telecommunications, hospitality, infrastructure, digital assets, and distributed leger technology. He supports his clients throughout the entire regulatory process, ensuring their interests are met in federal agency rulemaking (including public solicitations such as agency requests for comment/information) and program administration.

Stephen also counsels his clients on federal program requirements, funding opportunities, eligibility, and compliance standards. He has helped his clients advocate for and effectuate change on regulatory matters concerning the Department of the Treasury, Department of Defense, Department of Commerce, Internal

Revenue Service, Securities and Exchange Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Department of Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, and Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Digital Assets and Distributed Ledger Technology
Stephen advises on digital assets and distributed ledger technology regulation, development, compliance, legislation, and administration, as well as related topics. He also founded and leads the Kilpatrick Artificial Intelligence, Digital Assets, & Distributed Ledger Technology Regulation Blog.

Energy
Stephen counsels his clients on regulatory, tax incentive, and grant programs across the energy sphere. He represents and supports his clients on broad energy development and financing initiatives concerning various sectors, including energy storage, chemicals, carbon, capture and sequestration, biofuels, sustainable aviation fuels, solar, wind, hydropower, and hydrogen.

Native American Affairs
Stephen represents his Tribal clients on a broad range of legal and regulatory issues. His litigation experience includes cases concerning rights-of-way, energy, water rights, contract disputes, and treaty rights. He has represented clients before federal courts throughout the country, including the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. He has also represented clients before federal agency adjudicatory bodies like the Interior Board of Indian Appeals. Additionally, Stephen counsels his clients on federal grant and financing initiatives. He has helped his clients secure significant federal funding and navigate issues related to climate change, broadband and technology, energy, agriculture, infrastructure, water, hospitality, disaster and crisis response, and Tribal government services.

Education and Acknowledgments
Stephen earned his LL.M. from Harvard Law School and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School. Prior to receiving his LL.M., he was one of approximately 20 law school graduates from around the world accepted into the Harvard Law School Graduate Program as a Visiting Researcher.

Stephen was recognized as one of the “Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch” in 2025 and the three years immediately preceding by *The Best Lawyers in America*®. He was also recognized as a Washington D.C. “Rising Star” from 2019-2025 by *Super Lawyers* magazine. Stephen received a 2024 *JD Supra* Readers' Choice Award as a Top Author in Finance and Banking.

Education

Harvard Law School LL.M. (2016)

University of Michigan Law School J.D. (2013)

University of Connecticut B.A. (2010) Political Science

Admissions

District of Columbia

Court Admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (2021)

U.S. Court of Federal Claims (2018)

U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (2017)

U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota (2019)

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas (2018)

Insights

Alert

Supreme Court Invalidates IEEPA Tariffs – Initial Takeaways and Actions

February 20, 2026

Alert

Executive Order Seeks to Preempt Certain State AI Laws and Establish a National AI Framework - Initial Takeaways

December 12, 2025

Alert

Genesis Mission Artificial Intelligence Executive Order – President Trump Establishes National AI Platform and Objectives for Issues of National Significance

November 25, 2025

News Releases

Kilpatrick Elevates Nine Attorneys to Counsel for 2026

November 11, 2025

Perspectives

Takeaways From Supreme Court Hearing on Tariffs

November 6, 2025