



Karen S. D. Grande

Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP

Partner

Providence

+1 401 455 7608

kgrande@edwardswildman.com

Areas of Practice

Debt Finance & Capital Markets

Public Finance

Municipal Insolvency and

Chapter 9 Bankruptcy

Industries

Educational Institutions

Energy & Cleantech

Government

Healthcare

Education

Suffolk University Law School,

J.D.

cum laude

Managing Editor, *Suffolk*

University Law Review

Syracuse University, A.B.

Bar Admissions

Rhode Island

Massachusetts

Memberships

National Association of Bond
Lawyers

Rhode Island Government

Financial Officers Association

Rhode Island Bar Association

Rhode Island Bar Foundation

Fellow

Ms. Grande has concentrated her practice in the area of revenue bonds and general obligation bonds, and regularly handles state law issues relating to the issuance of bonds.

Ms. Grande represents government agencies and instrumentalities and has substantial experience working with first-time issuers. She often counsels clients with unusual problems and special situations, and provides broad-based municipal law advice to municipal clients relating to application and amendment of their charters and the drafting and passage of legislation. Most recently, she has developed expertise relating to finances of distressed communities, focusing on powers of municipalities in proceedings under Chapter 9 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

Ms. Grande has served as bond counsel to cities and towns as well as to many state, regional and municipal agencies which finance public projects including school projects, student loans, health care facilities, public water supply and wastewater projects, recreational facilities and economic development projects. She has been listed in both *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Public Finance Law as well as a Rhode Island Super Lawyer by *Thomson Reuters*.

Notable Experience

- Serves as counsel advising institutions of higher education and health care providers on bond financings for educational and health care facilities.
- Serves as underwriter's counsel to various investment banking firms, both locally and in New York.
- Developed a wealth of experience on wastewater issues, having served as bond counsel for sewer utility financings and as borrower's counsel to various cities and towns in connection with wastewater financings.
- Has worked with public water supply systems on infrastructure projects for safe drinking water.
- Provides advice and renders opinions in connection with the issuance of general obligation bonds by governmental issuers at all levels and has significant experience advising governmental entities regarding creative financing solutions.

Recent Speaking Engagements and Publications

- "Municipal Rebound: Lessons for State Officials from Rhode Island's Central Fall's Chapter 9 Bankruptcy," *speaker, Edwards Wildman Webinar*, July 25, 2013.
- *Co-Author*, "When Worlds Collide: A Closer Look at the Intersection of Public Finance and Bankruptcy Law," *The Bankruptcy Strategist*, an ALM Publication, Vol. 30, No. 7, May 2013.
- *Speaker*, "Out of the Darkness: Lessons Learned by Communities Emerging from Distress and Bankruptcy," Bond Buyer's 2nd Annual Symposium on Distressed Municipalities, Providence, RI, March 18-19, 2013.
- *Speaker*, "Primer on Financing Issues for Municipalities," American Bankruptcy Institute's Valcon 2013 Conference, February 22, 2013.
- *Speaker*, "Unraveling the Mysteries of Chapter 9: The Impact of Bankruptcy on the Enforceability of Bondholders Rights and Remedies," National Association of Bond Lawyers Tax and Securities Law Institute, Savannah, Georgia, March 2012.
- *Speaker*, "Surviving Financial Meltdown: State Oversight Legislation and Legal Aspects of Municipal Bankruptcy," American Water Summit 2011, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2011.
- *Speaker*, "Economic Crisis-Driven Transactions: Defaults, Workouts and Bankruptcy Issues in Public Finance," National Association of Bond Lawyers Bond Attorneys' Workshop, San Antonio, Texas, October 2011.
- *Speaker*, "Everything you wanted to know about municipal bankruptcy but are afraid to ask," Donald J. Milkus 9th Annual Spring Training Seminar, Waltham, Massachusetts, April 1, 2011.
- *Speaker*, "Current Developments in Public Finance," Providence, Rhode Island, June 3, 2008.
- Ms. Grande was a speaker at a seminar sponsored by Rhode Island Department of Health and Rhode Island Clean Water Finance Agency on Legal Issues involved in Borrowing through the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, 2003.
- *Speaker* regarding Tax Increment Financing at the "Power of Place Summit" sponsored by Grow Smart RI in Providence, Rhode Island, May 2, 2008.
- Ms. Grande was a presenter at a seminar sponsored by the Atlantic States Rural Water & Wastewater Association on June 8, 2006.

Before Edwards Wildman

Prior to joining the Firm's Public Finance Group, Karen spent 18 years in the public finance group at another Rhode Island law firm.

Karen S. D. Grande

Besides Edwards Wildman

Karen is on the Board of Directors of the Greenwood Credit Union. She is a graduate of Leadership Rhode Island, a program designed to educate leaders to serve as catalysts for positive change. Karen has served on the Board of Trustees/Elders of the Greenwood Community Church and serves as Chairperson of the Church's Investment Committee. As a double major in English and Music in college, Karen particularly enjoys reading and choral music.