



DAVIS GRAHAM

MAKENNA X. JOHNSON ASSOCIATE

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303.892.7241

EXPERTISE

Property Rights, Real Estate
Litigation

EDUCATION

William & Mary Law School, J.D., 2021
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs,
B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2018

ADMITTED IN

Colorado

Makenna X. Johnson is an associate in the Property Rights Group at Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP. Her practice focuses on eminent domain, land use, and other real estate-related dispute resolution and litigation.

Makenna has spent her entire career working on eminent domain and real estate litigation matters. She represents both property owners and condemning authorities in eminent domain proceedings, as well as counsels developers, utility companies, and government entities in land use matters. She has experience working with experts regarding real property valuation, litigating possession and valuation in condemnation cases, and pursuing Rule 106 litigation for clients. She also advises clients before litigation arises, guiding them through municipal and county development processes — including rezoning, location and extent review, and 1041 permit applications, among others.

Makenna received her J.D. from William & Mary Law School. While in law school, she was a Property Rights Fellow for the William & Mary Property Rights Project, the Membership and Alumni Coordinator for the *William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal*, and a recipient of the American Bar Association State and Local Government Law Award. Makenna earned her B.A. in Political

Science with minors in Communication and Pre-Law from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

Outside her practice, Makenna enjoys hiking, running, and serving as a volunteer judge for high school speech and debate tournaments.

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association
 - o State, Local, & Tribal Government Law Section
 - Committee Coordinator (August 2026 – Present), Land Use Committee Chair (August 2024 – August 2026), Native American Tribal Law Committee Vice-Chair (August 2023 – Present)
 - o Young Lawyers Division
 - District Representative for District 28 (September 2025 – Present), State & Local Government Law Committee Chair (August 2022 – August 2025), and

MAKENNA X. JOHNSON
ASSOCIATE

Liaison to the State & Local
Government Law Section (August
2023 – August 2025)

- Colorado Bar Association
 - Young Lawyers Division
 - Executive Council Member
(July 2023 – Present)
 - Real Estate Section
 - Liaison to the Young
Lawyers Division add
(September 2026 –
Present)

RECOGNITION

- Law Week Colorado Leading Young Lawyer
(2026)
- Davis Graham Pro Bono Attorney of the Year
(2024)
- American Bar Association Section of State
and Local Government Law, Jefferson B.
Fordham Up & Comers Award (2023)

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Moderator, "Disaster and Resilience Legal
Careers," ABA State & Local Govt Law Section,
Civil Right & Social Justice Section, and Young
Lawyers Division Fall CLE Conference (2024)
 - Presenter, "What is Eminent Domain? An
Introduction for Law Students, Young
Lawyers, and Non-Eminent Domain Lawyers,"
CBA YLD CLE (2024)
 - Moderator, "Hot Topics Out of the Supreme
Court," ABA State & Local Govt Law Section,
Civil Right & Social Justice Section, and Young
Lawyers Division Fall Conference (2022)
 - Presenter, "What's New in Colorado in 2022?
Colorado Case Law and Legislative Update,"
CLE International Colorado Eminent Domain
Conference (2022)
- Moderator, "Hot Topics in Land Use and
Eminent Domain," ABA State, Local, and
Tribal Government Law Section Land Use
Committee CLE (2026)
 - Author, "Keeping the Surplus? Examining
Colorado's Real Property Tax Lien System in
Light of *Tyler v. Hennepin County*," *Colorado
Lawyer* (2024)
 - Presenter, "Snapshots of Eminent Domain
Issues," CLE International Colorado Eminent
Domain Conference (2024)
 - Moderator, "*Sheetz* and the Future of Takings
Jurisprudence," ABA Annual Meeting (2024)