



**Carol E. Dinkins**

Carol E. Dinkins is a partner with Vinson & Elkins, where she is co-chair of the environmental practice and a former member of the Firm's Management Committee (1990-96). She received her baccalaureate degree in 1968 from The University of Texas at Austin, and her law degree in 1971 from the University of Houston Law Center. Ms. Dinkins joined Vinson & Elkins in 1973 and was admitted to the partnership in 1980. In 1981 she was appointed Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Environment and Natural Resources Division in the U.S. Department of Justice. In 1984 she was appointed Deputy Attorney General of the United States, the second-ranking official in the Department of Justice, responsible for the day-to-day management of its 60,000+ employees. While Assistant Attorney General, Ms. Dinkins supervised the government's litigation in federal environmental, natural resources, and public lands matters. During her tenure, the Division implemented the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (also known as Superfund) and created the Environmental Crimes Section. She rejoined the Firm in April 1985.

Ms. Dinkins chairs the Board of Governors of The Nature Conservancy, an international conservation organization. Previously, she chaired the Texas Chapter Board for three years. In 1997, Governor George W. Bush appointed her as a Commissioner on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, of which she served as Vice Chair. She is the only Commissioner ever to have visited all of Texas' State Parks. In February of 2000 when he signed Executive Order 001 creating the Governor's Task Force on Conservation, Governor Bush appointed her to chair the Task Force. She is past Chair of the ABA Section on Environment, Energy and Resources Law and of the Section on State and Local Government Law. She is a member of the ABA House of Delegates, for which she has chaired the Rules and Calendar Committee, and she chairs the Board of Editors of the ABA Journal. She serves on the ABA Nominating Committee. In 2002-03, she chaired the ABA Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary, which rates all nominees for Article III courts. She has served in three positions of Presidential appointment with Senate confirmation and has chaired one Presidential and three Gubernatorial task forces.

In her practice, Ms. Dinkins represents clients in administrative proceedings before various federal agencies and in state and federal litigation. She has obtained requisite governmental approvals of major new facilities as well as defended challenges under NEPA, the Endangered Species Act, the Historic Preservation Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act to construction of such projects for clients including industries, developers, and governmental entities. She has negotiated consent decrees and administrative consent orders under CERCLA, RCRA, TSCA, the Clean Water Act, and the Clean Air Act, conducted internal inquiries and represented clients in criminal investigations. She advises clients on corporate policy, particularly environmental compliance, environmental audits and due diligence.

In 1982, Ms. Dinkins was a delegate to the Japanese-American Environmental Conference in Osaka, Japan. In 1985, she participated in the first Anglo-American Successor Generation Program at Oxford, England, organized by Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. In 1986 she was the Distinguished Environmental Visiting Lecturer at the University of Colorado College of Law. From 1993 to 1995 Ms. Dinkins chaired the committee that selects Rhodes Scholars to represent the Southeastern United States. She has chaired the planning committees and served as conference moderator for various programs, serves on the faculty of the ALI/ABA Annual Course of Study on Environmental Litigation, and co-chairs the ALI/ABA advanced course on Toxic Torts and Environmental Litigation. She is a frequent lecturer on environmental law issues, co-author of a book on environmental crimes, and a contributing author to a multi-volume treatise on business litigation.

In 1999, the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession awarded Ms. Dinkins the Margaret Brent Award for Women Lawyers of Achievement. Earlier that year, the National Law Journal recognized her as one of the nation's fifty most influential women lawyers. Ms. Dinkins was named YWCA Outstanding Houston Woman of the Year for Business in 1989, and in 1984 outstanding alumna of the University of Houston Law Center. The National Law Journal in 1990 recognized her as one of the nation's leading practitioners of environmental law and in 1982 The

American Lawyer named her the best Justice Department litigating division chief to serve under U.S. Attorney General William French Smith. The Houston City Magazine in 1982 named her one of Houston's 20 most powerful women. She was featured in the June 1994 issue of International Corporate Law.

In May of 2000, because of her volunteer activities on behalf of conservation, Ms. Dinkins was recognized during the nationally-televised Wonders of Wildlife: A Concert for Conservation, with Kenny Rogers presenting her the award for Outstanding Outdoors Woman of 2000, the first time presented. In October, Ms. Dinkins was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in recognition of her government service and conservation work.

In October of 2001, the Women's Council on Energy and the Environment (WCEE) recognized Ms. Dinkins as the 2001 WCEE Woman of the Year because of her distinguished service in the highest levels in the Department of Justice, with The Nature Conservancy, as a key leader in the American Bar Association, and her contributions to the field of environment and energy.