



## Joseph G. Donahue

Partner

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207.623.5300

Joe brings over three decades of experience in all facets of utility law, including seven years as General Counsel to the Maine Public Utilities Commission, to his work as a senior Partner of the firm's Energy and Telecommunications Group. Joe has developed the firm's strength in the area of telecommunications. He specializes in regulatory, transactional and business issues relating to public utilities, with a concentration in the area of telecommunications providers.

Joe represents small incumbent telephone utilities and competitive telecommunications providers, as well as energy and water utilities, in regulatory, legislative and business matters in a dynamic regulatory and business environment. As a practitioner of utility law, he has been involved in many public utility regulatory and policy matters affecting Maine citizens and businesses. He has successfully litigated numerous regulatory cases, from rate cases to restructurings, on behalf of public utilities, competitive providers and consumers.

Joe has spoken before the Maine State Bar Association, and at the annual conferences of the Telecommunications Association of Maine. In addition, He is the author of an article titled "An Argument for a Prudent Approach to Alternative Forms of Regulation," published in *Maine Policy Review*.

Joe served as law clerk to both the Honorable Charles A. Pomeroy and Honorable Edward S. Godfrey of the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine before working ten years as an attorney for the Maine Public Utilities Commission, the last seven as General Counsel. He joined Preti Flaherty in 1989.

### Admissions

- Maine
- Massachusetts
- U.S. District Court, District of Maine
- U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

### Services

- [Energy & Telecommunications](#)
- [Business Law](#)
- [Maine Legislative Team](#)
- [Municipal Broadband](#)

## Education

- Boston University School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*, 1977)
- Bowdoin College (A.B., *magna cum laude*, 1974)

## Professional Activities

- Federal Communications Bar Association

## Honors & Recognition

- Listed in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*
- Listed in *Best Lawyers in America*
  - Lawyer of the Year (2022) for Administrative/Regulatory Law
- Rated AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale Hubbell

## Civic and Charitable Activities

- Kennebec Land Trust, Member
- Kennebec Historical Society, Member
- Third Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment, President
- American Battlefield Trust, Member

## News

August 19, 2021

**46 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected by Peers for Inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2022, Including 3 “Lawyers of the Year”**

August 19, 2021

**Attorney Joseph Donahue Selected by Peers as “Lawyer of the Year” in Best Lawyers in America 2022**

August 4, 2021

**Preti Flaherty Announces Municipal Broadband Practice Group**

May 20, 2021

**Fifteen Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in Their Field**

August 20, 2020

**46 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected by Peers for Inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2021, Including 4 “Lawyers of the Year”**

April 24, 2020

**Seventeen Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in Their Field**

August 15, 2019

**45 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected by Peers for Inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2020, Including 3 “Lawyers of the Year”**

May 16, 2019

**Twenty Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in Their Field**

August 24, 2018

**Piscataquis County Commissioners Move to Intervene in State Lawsuit Seeking to Restore Moosehead Mountain Resort**

August 15, 2018

**45 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected by Peers for Inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2019, Including 3 “Lawyers of the Year”**

May 3, 2018

**Twenty-two Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in Their Field**

August 15, 2017

**41 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected by Peers for Inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2018**

May 26, 2017

**Twenty-three Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in Their Field**

April 14, 2017

**Maine Superior Court Justice Denies Wind Power Companies’ Motions to Overturn \$13.6 Million Jury Verdict in Favor of Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative**

November 22, 2016

**Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative Wins \$13.6 Million Jury Verdict**

August 15, 2016

**36 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected by Peers for Inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2017**

May 27, 2016

**Nineteen Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in their Field**

August 17, 2015

**35 Attorneys Selected by Peers for Inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® 2016**

May 28, 2015

**Twenty Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in their Field**

August 22, 2014

**35 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Named to Best Lawyers 2015**

May 23, 2014

**Twenty Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in their Field**

February 17, 2014

**Twenty Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected as Chambers USA Leaders in Their Field**

August 28, 2013

**36 Preti Flaherty Attorneys Selected for Inclusion in Best Lawyers 2014**

May 29, 2013

**Preti Flaherty Earns Top Rankings by Chambers USA**

June 14, 2010

**Preti Flaherty Local Telephone Clients Win Important Maine PUC Case**

## **Press Coverage**

June 21, 2019

**CLECs Urge Maine to Mandate Pole-Attachment Rates Using FCC Cable Formula**

April 18, 2017

**Superior Court Justice Upholds \$13.6M Verdict Against Wind Power Firms**

November 22, 2016

**Jury awards co-op \$13.6M in breach of contract lawsuit with wind power firms**