

Name: David Sive

Years: 1922 - Present

Residence: Hudson Valley, New York

Brief Biography: Starting in 1962, Attorney David Sive and his law firms opened the door to and pioneered the discipline of environmental litigation and its judicial review in the federal and state courts in the United States. His law firm's litigation activities created the legal requirement that environmental impact studies had to be conducted first before any government agency could be licensed for a project that could potentially alter or harm the environment. This translates to a broad and powerful tool for citizens. Noted cases that Attorney Sive participated in include the Con Edison Storm King Mountain proposal, construction of the Trident Nuclear Submarine, and bomb testing at Amchitka Island, Alaska. His extensive legal publishing activities include a column on environmental litigation in the *National Law Journal*. After retiring from his law practice, David Sive taught at Pace University Law School's Environmental Studies Program. His papers and archives can be found in the Archives and Special Collections departments of Marist College and Pace University.

Major Achievements: "Father of Environmental Law": Attorney David Sive is credited with creating the practice of environmental law in the United States. His representation of Scenic Hudson in the landmark Storm King Mountain case established the legal precedent of the right of private citizens and municipalities, as aggrieved parties, to challenge government activities that would impact the beauty of the environment.

More Information: [Scenic Hudson Preservation Conference v. Federal Power Commission](#), 354 F. 2d 608 (1965); Marist Environmental History Project at: <http://library.marist.edu/archives/mehp/index.html>

Sources: Pace Law School Biography and Collections of David Sive:

http://www.pace.edu/page.cfm?doc_id=29838 ;
http://www.pace.edu/page.cfm?doc_id=29839 ;
http://www.pace.edu/page.cfm?doc_id=29837 ; and

Sive, Paget, and Riesel, PC: <http://www.sprlaw.com/> .

By Steve Grim