



# NCCFRG UPDATE

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## NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL FISHERIES REFORM GROUP, LLC RETAINS LEGAL COUNSEL

The North Carolina Coastal Fisheries Reform Group, an organization dedicated to changing how North Carolina manages its public trust marine resources, has announced today that they have retained Mr. James L. Conner, II, partner in Calhoun, Bhella & Sechrest.

With offices located in Durham, NC, New York, Washington, and Dallas, Calhoun, Bhella & Sechrest provides quality representation to clients in many areas of law, ranging from commercial litigation to intellectual property and environmental law.

Mr. Conner is one of North Carolina's most experienced environmental lawyers. He served as an Administrative Law Judge and was certified as a Superior Court mediator in 1994. The depth of his representative experience includes successful resolution of dozens of high-stakes environmental issues. In addition to being selected to both Superlawyers and N.C. Legal Elite on many occasions, for 2020 Mr. Conner was selected by Superlawyers as one of the top 100 lawyers in the state of North Carolina.

According to Mr. Joe Albea, a renowned outdoor television producer from Greenville, NC, and key member of NCCFRG, the legal retainer is a necessary step as the group continues to press forward with their Mission and agenda. *“North Carolina’s public trust marine resources have been **undeniably neglected**. We, at NCCFRG have a clear Mission and a common-sense path forward. Yet our message has been **ignored** by the politicians in Raleigh. We’ve gone to great lengths to reach out repeatedly to our General Assembly, State Agencies and to the duly elected Governor of North Carolina, yet our requests for reasonable dialog have fallen on deaf ears. Without access to political representation, we are left with no choice but to look to legal remedies at this juncture”*, said Albea.

As NCCFRG prepares for the next phase of their campaign for change, they will continue the public narrative with their far-reaching digital media messages.

*“Our digital media campaign has been remarkably received. In 40 short days we’ve managed to **engage** what I believe to be a vast silent (until now) majority of eager voters that are receptive to organizing their voice as one, come November,”* says Robert Crone, Sr., media specialist and member of NCCFRG. *“We just started the digital side of our messaging, and already **we’ve been viewed over 200,000 times** on Facebook alone. It’s my job to convert this public energy and frustration into a **significant block of votes that will be hard to ignore**”*.

As NCCFRG enters into this next phase, they will continue to push their message through their website, social media and speaking engagements.

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