

JONATHAN J. STRAW

PARTNER



Professional Accolades

Best Lawyers® in America, Construction Law & Litigation – Construction Category, 2020 – 2025

Super Lawyers™ Virginia and Washington, D.C., 2016 – 2024 (Construction Litigation and Government Contracts)

Education

Western State University College of Law (J.D., 2010) Law Review and Moot Court
Missouri State University (M.A., 2003)
Missouri State University (B.A., 2001)

Licenses & Admissions

Commonwealth of Virginia
State of Arizona
District of Columbia
State of Maryland
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Virginia
U.S. Court of Federal Claims
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland

Professional Affiliations

Past Chair, Virginia State Bar, Construction Law & Public Contracts Section
Board of Governors, 2014 – 2024
American Bar Association, Forum on the Construction Industry
American Road and Transportation Builders Association



Jon Straw focuses on construction law and government contracts with experience in claims, litigation, arbitration, mediation and negotiation arising from changes, delays, and payment disputes. Jon has successfully represented prime contractors, subcontractors and owners on public and private projects in various forums throughout the United States. Jon blogs at


HeavyConstructionLaw.com and regularly writes for *Roads & Bridges* magazine.

Recent types of projects and locations:

- Enhanced Perimeter Security Project, Washington, D.C.
- Veterans Administration National Cemetery, Omaha, Nebraska
- Flood Control Project, New Orleans, Louisiana
- New State Court Complex, Norfolk, Virginia
- Several Highway Transportation Improvement Projects through the Commonwealth of Virginia
- U.S. Department of Commerce, Office and Research Facility, Hawaii
- U.S. Department of Transportation, Air Traffic Control Tower and Office Building, Nevada
- U.S. Department of Defense Projects, OCONUS
- U.S. General Services Administration, Building Security Improvements, D.C. and Maryland
- Several Underground Cabling and Pipeline Projects, Virginia
- Electric Substation and Switchyard, Manitoba
- Hydro-Electric Power Generation Plant, Pennsylvania
- 12-mile Highway Connector, North Carolina
- Hydro-Electric Pumped-Storage Plant, California
- Wastewater Treatment Plant, Virginia
- U.S. Air Force Base Housing Development, Missouri
- Transcontinental Oil Pipeline, Midwestern United States
- U.S. Army Base Housing Development, Georgia
- IDIQ U.S. Department of Defense Contract, South Carolina

Jon has a concrete foundation in advocacy with a proven ability to use all available means of persuasion to solve problems for clients. Before practicing law, he worked on several political fundraising and grassroots issue campaigns for corporate and association clients. His training and experience help to simplify complex construction matters while understanding the interests of all parties involved to effectively and efficiently advocate for clients.





Some of Jon's recent construction and government contracts experience includes:

- Several appeals of claims before the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals and General Services Board of Contract Appeals;
- Delay and damages claim preparation for a U.S.-based contractor constructing a 230 kV switchyard near Winnipeg, Manitoba;
- Co-counsel for an ENR Top 10 civil contractor in litigation over changes and delays arising from construction of a new 130 MW hydroelectric facility valued at over \$500 million;
- Defending a large, multi-state prime contractor against several claims by subcontractors for payment, delay, acceleration, and defective work;
- Representing a general contractor in litigation over the upgrade of a wastewater treatment plant serving a population of more than 22,000 in Virginia;
- Defending an ENR Top 10 civil contractor in a claim for extra work from a housing redevelopment at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri;
- Representing a prime contractor in an International Chamber of Commerce arbitration involving a \$100 million dispute arising from a cost reimbursable contract for the construction of a portion of a transcontinental oil pipeline;
- Representing a general contractor in business formation and contractor licensure in the Commonwealth of Virginia;

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

CONSTRUCTION LAW
TIER 1
2025

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WASHINGTON, D.C.

LITIGATION -
CONSTRUCTION • TIER 1
2025

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UNITED STATES

2025

- Co-counsel for an ENR Top 10 civil contractor in a \$21.5 million claim against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a design-build project in the Southeast U.S.;
- Representing a pipeline contractor in claims by and against a subcontractor for defective work and extra work in litigation in Fairfax County, Virginia;
- Co-counsel for one of the five largest U.S. defense contractors in resolving a procurement dispute arising from the pursuit of a multi-million dollar IDIQ contract from the U.S. Department of Defense;
- Co-counsel for an ENR Top 10 civil contractor in the construction of a \$90 million hydro-electric power pumped-storage facility and related claims by and against a public entity in the Southwestern United States;
- Counsel for an ENR Top 10 design-build contractor in the construction of a \$120 million technologically complex office building in Virginia;
- Assisting a subcontractor in the successful arbitration of a claim for extra work arising from the construction of a commercial office building;
- Assisting in the successful appeal of a contracting officer's denial of a claim by an ENR Top 10 Contractor involving over \$7 million before the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals;
- Representing several general contractors and subcontractors in Miller Act bond claims for public infrastructure and building projects throughout the Mid-Atlantic region; and
- Representing a non-profit organization in the successful completion of a major building project managing both the contractors and the financing process for the owner.

Publications & Presentations

Author, Construction & Government Contracts Law Blog, www.HeavyConstructionLaw.com (2015 – Present).

Author of a monthly column for *Roads & Bridges Magazine*.

Federal and State Construction Contracts: Notable Recent Federal Decisions, Federal Infrastructure Developments, and Claims Against the Commonwealth, 43rd Annual Virginia State Bar Construction & Public Contracts Law Section CLE, Charlottesville, Virginia, November 2022.

Navigating Disputes in Public Contracts and Transportation Projects, Infrastructure Insider. Attended Conference With Roads & Bridges Magazine, October 21, 2021.

That's Not My Job: Or Is It? The Breadth and Limits of Scope and Incorporation Clauses, 37th Annual Virginia State Bar Construction & Public Contracts Law Section CLE, Charlottesville, Virginia, November 2016.

Got Paid? – The Federal and State “Little” Miller Acts, ARTBA Webinar, July 28, 2015.

Fauquier County 2015 Construction Law Seminar, Warrenton, Virginia, May 6, 2015.

Fairfax County 2014 Construction Law Seminar, Fairfax, Virginia, December 4, 2014.

ARTBA 2014 Transportation Construction Law and Regulatory Forum: DBE Compliance and Case Law, ARTBA Headquarters, Washington, D.C., June 11, 2014.

Design-Build Contracting: Risks & Rewards for the Public Owner, City of Springfield, Missouri, April 17, 2014.

County of Fairfax Virginia 2012 Construction Law Seminar: Changes, Scheduling, A/E Liability, and Surety Issues, Fairfax, Virginia, March 2012.

When is Arbitration a Tribunal under 28 U.S.C. § 1782?, American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee Newsletter, Fall 2011.

Co-Author, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Impact to the Commonwealth and Virginia Construction Lawyers, 31st Annual Virginia State Bar Construction & Public Contracts Law Section CLE, Charlottesville, Virginia, November 2010.

Contractor Licensure is Unnecessary for Certain Construction Managers Under California Business & Professions Code Sections 7026 and 7031: *Fifth Day, LLC v. Bolotin*, 172 Cal. App. 4th 939 (2009), 38 W. St. U. L. Rev. 121 (2010).



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