

Agenda

Understanding Construction Contract Essentials *N. Bajwa*
Examining contract terminology: parties, consideration, term, performance, substantial performance, breach, remedies, damages
Studying roles and relationships of project participants: owners, architects/engineers, construction managers, contractors, subs and suppliers
Understanding the project delivery system: traditional design-bid-build, design-build, construction manager at risk, multiple prime contractor, owner control
Understanding types of construction contracts: lump sum, cost plus, time and materials, unit pricing
Choosing the right delivery system and contract for the project
Exploring the law of construction contract interpretation

Participating in the Competitive Bidding Process *T. McMahon*
Invitation Bid form
Instructions Bid bond
Information Addenda

Reviewing Common Project Documents *D. Oles*
Use of standard forms or custom documents
Agreement
Performance bond
Payment bond
Contract conditions (general and supplementary)
Specifications (Format, CSI 1995 and 2004)
Shop drawings
Contract modifications (change orders, directives, etc.)

Making Changes to Construction Contracts (the Right Way) *A. Tavella*
What types of changes require a change order?
Preparing a change order
Communicating the change
Constructive changes: what they are and how to prevent them
Best practices for managing changes

Preventing Legal Issues and Contract Disputes *B. Hill*
Changed conditions
Delays, acceleration
Handling payment claims and final payments

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Alaska Construction Contract Workshop

Live, Interactive Webinar - Monday, February 24, 2025

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Alaska Construction Contract Workshop

Live, Interactive Webinar - Monday, February 24, 2025



This webinar covers the basics of construction contracts, including key terms, project roles, contract types, and delivery methods. It also provides guidance on managing contract changes, handling payment and legal issues, and preventing disputes, with a focus on Alaska-specific rules and best practices.

Continuing Education Credits

Professional Engineers	International Code Council
6.5 PDHs	.65 CEUs (Administration)
Architects	
6.5 CE Hours	
6.5 AIA LUs	



Webinar Information

Online - Monday, February 24, 2025

Log into Webinar

8:30 - 9:00 am AKST

Break

11:45 am - 12:15 pm AKST

Morning Session

9:00 - 11:45 am AKST

Afternoon Session

12:15 - 4:30 pm AKST

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Faculty

Nick Bajwa is of counsel with Dillon Findley & Simonian, P.C, in Anchorage. He handles complex commercial transactions and civil litigation matters. Mr. Bajwa has a wide array of experience working for and on behalf of corporate clients with a presence in Alaska, including ConocoPhillips and JL Properties. His clients range from large corporations to small local businesses and individuals. In this capacity, Mr. Bajwa has handled multiple forms of complex real estate transactions both in Alaska and worldwide, including major construction projects and dispositions. His practice is focused primarily on transaction real estate, including acquisitions and divestitures, development, land assemblage, financing, construction, commercial leasing, taxation, surface use and damage claims. In addition, Mr. Bajwa regularly advises clients on strategy, risk mitigation, and portfolio optimization. He also has significant experience in property tax matters, with a practice that includes litigation and administrative appeals. Mr. Bajwa also serves as general counsel for a number of small businesses and advises them on corporate governance, employment disputes, and contract formation, implementation, and disputes. He earned his B.A. degree from the University of Michigan and his J.D. degree from the University of Minnesota Law School.

Taylor McMahon is a senior attorney at Jermain, Dunnagan & Owens, P.C., in Anchorage. She has been practicing law in Alaska for over 15 years, with a primary focus on construction disputes. Ms. McMahon advises public and private owners, contractors, subcontractors, and material suppliers on a broad range of construction-related claims and disputes including bidding and procurement, differing site conditions, changes, delays, terminations, lien rights, defective specifications, payment issues, and bond claims. In addition to her construction-related work, Ms. McMahon maintains a transactional practice, which includes drafting and reviewing construction contracts and procurement documents. She also represents surety companies against contractor license bond claims.

Douglas Oles is an attorney with Smith Currie Oles LLP, in Seattle. He helps his clients avoid and resolve disputes on a wide variety of complex public and private contracts in the construction, supply, energy and real estate development industries. Mr. Oles also works as neutral mediator and arbitrator in contract-based disputes. With more than three decades of transactional, litigation and arbitration experience, he is committed to helping his clients solve problems promptly and cost-efficiently. Mr. Oles has represented both claimants and respondents in resolving multiple disputes over \$100,000,000 and in a wide variety of smaller cases. Representing construction clients across the United States, he has participated in a number of high profile infrastructure projects. Mr. Oles has also worked on various commercial contracts in Europe, Asia and South America. He is a leader in a variety of construction industry groups that keep him at the forefront of new developments in contracting and claim resolution. Mr. Oles earned his A.B. degree, with distinction, from Stanford University and his J.D. degree, with honors, from the University of Washington.

Anne Marie Tavella is a partner with David Wright Tremaine LLP, in Anchorage. She helps clients work through commercial litigation cases, as well as government contracts disputes and regulatory compliance. Whether the cases involve construction disputes, wrongful termination, small business contracting compliance, or other contract-based disputes, Ms. Tavella assists clients in navigating these issues while minimizing business disruptions. Her focus is to help clients—including Alaska Native corporations—continue to focus on project or contract performance while ensuring the steps are met for federal bid protests, litigation under the Contract Disputes Act, 8(a), and compliance with federal regulations. Ms. Tavella also assists prime contractors and subcontractors with drafting construction contracts that maximize protections to limit litigation. She earned her B.S. degree from Southern Illinois University, her M.A. degree from University of Illinois, and her J.D. degree from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.

Brett M. Hill is a member at Ahlers Cressman & Sleight PLLC, in Seattle. He concentrates his practice on representation of the construction industry in a variety of matters. He has over 20 years of construction litigation experience where he has handled numerous complex construction disputes for national and multi-national construction companies. He also regularly handles transactional/contract drafting matters for construction industry clients and has drafted and negotiated contracts totaling more \$500M in the last five years. Mr. Hill is also an advocate for the construction industry in Olympia. He is the current chair of the Legislative Committee for the National Utility Contractors Association of Washington (NUCA) and is also a current member of the NUCA Board of Directors. Mr. Hill was voted Associate of the Year for NUCA of Washington. He is also a member of the AGC Legal Affairs Committee and regularly testifies in Olympia on behalf of AGC and NUCA. He was voted Associate of the Year for AGC in 2023. He is also a former chair for the Construction Law Section of the Washington State Bar Association and is a frequent seminar presenter on construction law topics.

Credit Information

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