

# The 5 Critical Things You Need to Know on Every Project

## WHAT?

## WHY?

### The contractual Standard of Care

As long as the standard of care is noted as what's considered standard in your industry, it's almost a given that in at least one email, you're going to want to note that your company has performed or will perform in accordance with the standard of care.

Pro tip: cite the paragraph or section number in your email.

### What = Notice

"Notice" is a defined term. Sometimes "notice" can mean an email. Other times, the contract provides that "notice" is only deemed given if hand delivered to the company HQ in Wyoming. Either way, you will be responsible for giving Notice, as defined, for significant developments.

Knowing how to give it, when to give it, and who to give it to often means the difference between getting paid and getting backcharged...or worse.

### What is included in the "Contract Documents"

Your company will live or die based upon what's included in the definition of "Contract Documents." There are few terms more important in construction. More to the point, I've seen companies put millions of dollars at risk because no one actually put eyes on every page.

Is your bid included or did it become irrelevant? Has the Prime overruled your hard-won negotiated points?

If you haven't read every single document included under the umbrella of "Contract Documents," you may as well be wandering through a minefield without a map.

### Changes in the Work

You might be surprised to learn how many Project Manager's inadvertently waive their company's right to be paid for changes in the work just by missing a step or blowing through a deadline. What's more, sometimes that deadline isn't even in the subcontract the company actually signed. Sometimes it's in the Prime.

Change is a fact of life. The only way to make sure your company is ready is to map out every step necessary to take advantage of it.

### Warranties - the long goodbye

Warranties offer you and your company the opportunity to work for free. Your job is to make sure you've limited those opportunities as much as possible. Sure, you need to do great work, but you also need to make sure that the warranty in your contract is exactly the warranty you intended to provide...and not one day longer.