R. Zachary Torres-Fowler

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Zach is a partner in the firm's Construction Practice Group. He concentrates his practice on construction-related disputes, and specializes in complex domestic and international arbitration proceedings. He has experience before arbitral panels and tribunals under a wide variety of U.S. domestic and international arbitration rules including the AAA, JAMS, ICDR, ICC, LCIA, and ICSID.

His experience includes advising clients in connection with construction and infrastructure projects in the U.S., Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. He has significant experience representing owners, contractors, and suppliers/subcontractors in connection with disputes arising from a wide variety of construction projects including power plants, airports, commercial buildings, and other civil infrastructure works.

In addition to his disputes practice, Zach regularly advises clients on contract drafting and negotiation, contract administration, and dispute avoidance. While many of these engagements involve bespoke EPC and other construction contracts, Zach has significant experience with a large number of industry standard agreements, including FIDIC.

Zach is a regular author and speaker in the field of construction and international arbitration and has been published in multiple academic and professional journals. He has also taught courses as an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and Charles Widger School of Law at Villanova University.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented a U.S.-based manufacturer in connection with a Beijing seated arbitration pursuant to the CIETAC Arbitration Rules.
- Represented a multinational tunneling contractor involved in an international arbitration pursuant to the ICC Rules of Arbitration in connection with a multimillion-dollar construction payment dispute.
- Represented a U.S.-based construction management firm in connection with a complex multiparty arbitration pursuant to the AAA Construction Industry Arbitration Rules over the construction of $1.5 billion skyscraper in Philadelphia, PA.
- Represented a North American construction firm in an arbitration under the AAA Construction Industry Arbitration Rules concerning a multibillion-dollar subcontract dispute over the execution of switchyard and substation facilities on a natural-gas fired power plant in Prince George's County, MD.

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- Represented a U.S.-based general contractor in an ICDR arbitration against its joint venture partner arising out of a military construction project in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- Represented Strabag SpA, an international construction company, in connection with a construction contract to execute approximately 73 kilometers of tunnels through the Chilean Andes to support of the completion of the multibillion-dollar 531 MW Alto Maipo Hydroelectric Power Project near Santiago, Chile.
- Represented SolarReserve LLC, a developer of utility-scale solar power, in connection with the Crescent Dunes Project in Tonopah, NV.
- Represented a multinational rail and transportation corporation in connection with a multimillion-dollar dispute over a rail car refurbishment contract for a major rail line in the Philadelphia, PA area.
- Represented a South American state-owned oil company in connection with a multimillion-dollar ICC international arbitration seated in the Hague concerning the execution of an oil refinery expansion project.
- Represented a multinational consortium of construction contractors in an ICC international arbitration concerning the execution of a multibillion-dollar airport project in the Middle East.
- Represented a state-owned project development entity in connection with multiple disputes over a series of road, water treatment, and other infrastructure projects in northern Mozambique.
- Represented a Kuwaiti businessman in a multibillion-dollar international arbitration under the ICC Arbitration Rules over dissolution of a family partnership.
- Represented a multinational software corporation in connection with multiple investigations conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice and Securities and Exchange Commission over potential violations of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.
- Represented a South American state-owned oil and gas company in receivership proceedings in the District of Connecticut.

AWARDS

- Recognized as a “Future Leader” in International Arbitration by Lexology Index (2025)
- Honored as Young Attorney of the Year at the Pennsylvania Legal Awards by *The Legal Intelligencer* (2024)
- Named as one of the Lawyers on the Fast Track (Large Firm) at the Pennsylvania Legal Awards by *The Legal Intelligencer* (2024)
- *Benchmark Litigation*: “40 & Under List” in Pennsylvania (2024-2025)
- *Legal 500 United States* for Real Estate: Construction (including Construction Litigation) (2022)
- Awarded “Top Author” in *JD Supra* Readers’ Choice Awards for thought leadership in construction (2020)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Construction
- Construction Litigation
- Energy Construction
- International
- International Arbitration
- International Construction Projects

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Construction
- Construction Litigation
- Energy Construction

- International
- International Arbitration
- International Construction Projects
- Litigation + Trial

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Advisory Board, Institute for Transnational Arbitration

- Member, Board of Directors, Society of Construction Law, North America
- Member, Board of Directors, Atlanta International Arbitration Society
- Member, Young Lawyer Editorial Board for *The Legal Intelligencer*
- Member, Global Advisory Board of the International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR) Young & International (2020-2023)
- Member, International Construction ABA Forum on Construction Law – Division 8
- Officer, International Construction Projects and Arbitration Committees of the International Bar Association
- Member, International Arbitration Committee of the ABA Section on International Law
- Member, Young ITA of the Institute for Transnational Arbitration
- Member, Young Arbitrators Forum of the International Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Hispanic National Bar Association, International Law Section
- Member, LCIA Young International Arbitration Group
- Member, Rising Arbitrators Initiative
- Member, Young SIAC (Singapore International Arbitration Centre)
- Former regional director, Society of Construction Law, North America

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- University of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 2012, managing editor, Research and Projects, *Virginia Journal of International Law*; recipient *Virginia Journal of International Law*, Hardy Cross Dillard Award
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, B.A., *with honors and distinction*, 2007, political science

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Pennsylvania
- New York

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

LANGUAGES

- Spanish (intermediate)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Speaker, "The Efficiency Problem in International Construction Arbitration: Perception, Reality, and the Path Forward," Society of Construction Law North America Conference, July 24, 2026.
- Speaker, "Business Development and Practical Responses in the U.S. Construction Market," Overseas Construction Association of Japan, Inc., May 19, 2026.
- Speaker, "Speed and Substance: Rethinking Efficiency in International Arbitration," Troutman Pepper Locke International Arbitration Forum, May 14, 2026.
- Speaker, "Division 8 – International Construction Roundtable," ABA Forum on Construction Law 2026 Midwinter Conference, February 5, 2026.
- Speaker, "Decarbonisation, Climate Change Resilience, and Adaptation Goals as Drivers of Regulatory Changes for Designing, Building, and Operating Infrastructure Projects," IBA Annual Conference 2025, November 6, 2025.
- Speaker, "Hot Topics in Construction Law," 11th International Society of Construction Law Conference, October 22, 2025.
- Speaker, "Insights on Domestic and International Arbitration Proceedings Regional Workshop," Society of Construction Law North America, September 10, 2025.
- Speaker, "Insights Into Energy and Construction," Troutman Pepper Locke International Arbitration Forum, May 15, 2025.
- Panelist, "Resolving Disputes in Emerging Industries: Renewable Energy Sector," 7th Annual Penn Carey Law International Arbitration Conference, March 21, 2025.
- Speaker, "New York Convention – Amended or Extended," Penn Carey Law International Arbitration Association Annual Conference 2024, March 29, 2024.
- Speaker, "International Arbitration Practice Across Practices: How Different Sectors Use International Arbitration to Efficiently Resolve Disputes," The Art of International Arbitration CLE: Practical Advice in International Arbitration, November 2, 2023.
- Speaker, "International Arbitration Considerations: What Parties and Corporate Counsel Should Know About International Arbitration," The Art of International Arbitration CLE: Practical Advice in International Arbitration, November 2, 2023.
- Panelist, "Public Construction Contracts and Construction Arbitration," American Arbitration Association and the International Centre for Dispute Resolution, November 16, 2023.
- Panelist, "Recent Developments in Construction Arbitration," AtlAS Tertulia Sessions, October 2, 2023.
- Moderator, "Impartiality, Transparency, and Diversity in International Arbitration: What's Next," Atlanta International Arbitration Society, May 11, 2023.
- Speaker, "AtlAS November Plenary Meeting," Atlanta International Arbitration Society, November 10, 2022.
- Speaker, "Division 1 & Division 8: The Invisible Divide: Domestic and International Arbitration Compared ," American Bar Association's Forum on Construction Law, November 10, 2022.
- Moderator, "Webinar 2: Effectively Managing Your 200 Claim Construction Arbitration," International Construction Arbitration: Core Concepts for Arbitration Practitioners, September 8, 2022.
- Speaker, "Third-Party Discovery in Arbitration: Judicial and Arbitral Perspectives," University of Pittsburgh School of Law Center for International Legal Education, April 21, 2022.
- Moderator, "Webinar 2: Project Counseling and Dispute Avoidance, International Construction Arbitration: Core Concepts for Arbitration Practitioners," July 27, 2021.
- Moderator, "Webinar 1: Front-End Project Delivery Issues, International Construction Arbitration: Core Concepts for Arbitration Practitioners," June 29, 2021.
- Moderator, "COVID-19 and Construction: How COVID-19 Has Affected the Construction Sector in the

Americas," International Centre for Dispute Resolution® Young & International, May 27, 2020.

- Moderator, "International Arbitration Survey – Driving Efficiency in International Construction Disputes," ABA Forum on Construction Law | Division 8, March 18, 2020.
- Panelist, "Taking of Evidence in International Arbitration: Document Disclosure and Examinations," Art of International Arbitration, Pepper Hamilton LLP, October 11, 2019.
- Panelist, "Transparency: How Much Is Enough and Can We Achieve It?," Penn Law, Third Annual International Arbitration Conference, March 22, 2019.

PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, "The Drive To Decarbonize: Regulatory Shifts and Their Impact on Energy Infrastructure Projects," *Construction Law International*, October 9, 2026.
- Co-author, "After Twin Cert Denials, D.C. Courts Cement Path for Enforcing Arbitral Awards Against Sovereign States," *Troutman Pepper Locke*, August 25, 2026.
- Co-author, "The 2026 ICC Arbitration Rules: Faster Front Ends, Fewer Formalities, and a New Toolkit for Expedited Resolution," *Troutman Pepper Locke*, July 14, 2026.
- Co-author, "International Arbitration at an Inflection Point," *Troutman Pepper Locke*, May 6, 2026.
- Co-author, "International Arbitration Experts Discuss The Major Challenges For Arbitration In 2026," *MEALEY'S® International Arbitration Report*, March 2026.
- Co-author, "Statutory Adjudication and New York's Construction Industry: A Potential Supplement to New York's Prompt Payment Rules," *New York Law Journal's Alternative Dispute Resolution Special Report*, March 16, 2026.
- Co-author, "The AI Arbitrator: What It Is, What It Isn't And Where It's Going," *Law360*, December 15, 2025.
- Co-author, "Defending a Construction Arbitration," *Thomson Reuters*, October 21, 2025. Republished in *Practical Law The Journal* in April 2026.
- Co-author, "Contractor's Claims, Remedies and Reliefs," *Global Arbitration Review*, August 12, 2025.
- Co-author, "International Arbitration Experts Discuss the Efficiency of Artificial Intelligence Tools in International Arbitration," *Mealey's® International Arbitration Report*, June 2025.
- Co-author, "Arbitrating Construction Disputes," *Reuters Practical Law: The Journal*, April 2025.
- Co-author, "Investor-State Arbitration and the International Construction Sector," *Hospitality & Construction Disputes Post-COVID, International and Comparative Business Law and Public Policy: Volume 6*, 2024.
- Co-author, "Discovery (Disclosure) in US Construction Arbitration," *Thomson Reuters Practical Law*, March 2024.
- Co-author, "GAR Know How Construction Arbitration: USA," *Global Arbitration Review (GAR) Know-How Series*, August 2023.
- Co-author, "Eleventh Circuit Joins Others on Applicability of Domestic FAA Grounds to Vacate Nondomestic Arbitration Awards," *Troutman Pepper*, August 4, 2023.
- Co-author, "International Arbitration Experts Discuss the Impact of Artificial Intelligence on International Arbitration," *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, June 2023.
- Co-author, "Construction Arbitration," *Practical Law The Journal*, May 2023.
- Co-author, "Troutman Pepper Guide to International Arbitration," *Troutman Pepper*, April 17, 2023.
- Co-author, "A Change in Course? The Eleventh Circuit May Soon Join Most Circuits on the Applicability of FAA Grounds to Vacate Nondomestic Arbitration Awards," *Troutman Pepper*, December 14, 2022.
- Co-author, "Standard Arbitration Clause for Construction Contract," *Thomas Reuters Practical Law*, December 2022.
- Co-author, "Federal Court Further Narrows 28 U.S.C. § 1782 Application Following Landmark SCOTUS Decision," *Troutman Pepper*, November 17, 2022.

- Co-author, "GAR Know How Construction Arbitration: USA," *Global Arbitration Review (GAR) Know-How Series*, September 2022.
- Co-author, "Can You Enforce an International Arbitration Award That's Been Set Aside?" *Troutman Pepper*, August 10, 2022.
- Co-author, "Construction Arbitration in the U.S.," *Practical Law Arbitration*, January 2022.
- Co-author, "Arbitrating Construction Disputes in the U.S.," *Practical Law Arbitration*, January 2022.
- Co-author, "SCOTUS to Resolve Circuit Split After All — Can Federal Courts Order Discovery For Use in Private, Commercial International Arbitrations?," *Troutman Pepper*, December 15, 2021.
- Co-author, *Representing the Foreign Owner*, in Construction Litigation: Representing the Owner, August 10, 2021.
- Co-author, "Society of Construction Law Establishes Delaware Valley Regional Division," *The Legal Intelligencer*, August 31, 2021.
- Co-author, "Arbitration Update – The 2021 ICDR Arbitration Rules: A Welcome Update for International Construction Arbitration," *Construction Law International*, June 25, 2021.
- Co-author, "*Servotronics, Inc. v. Rolls-Royce PLC*: What the U.S. Supreme Court's Upcoming Decision on 28 U.S.C § 1782 Means for International Construction Arbitration," *The Dispute Resolver*, April 1, 2021.
- Co-author, "2020 Updated to the IBA Rules: Modest Changes for Challenges New and Old," *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, March 2021.
- Co-author, "Int'l Arbitration Rules Revision Reflects Flexible Approach," *Law360*, February 25, 2021.
- Co-author, "International Arbitration Experts Discuss the New LCIA Rules," *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, February 2021.
- Author, "S. Supreme Court Concludes That Non-Signatories to Arbitration Agreements Can Compel International Arbitration," *International Bar Association*, November 26, 2020.
- Co-author, "Dispute Boards: An Approach to the Efficient Resolution of Disputes in the Construction Sector," *Dispute Resolution Magazine*, American Bar Association, October 9, 2020.
- Author, "Not So Severable After All: Third Circuit Lets Courts Determine Arbitration Agreement Existence When Underlying Contract's Validity Is Challenged," *ConstructLaw*®, September 29, 2020.
- Co-author, "GAR Know How Construction Arbitration: USA," *Global Arbitration Review (GAR) Know-How Series*, July 2020.
- Co-author, "What the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Means for International Construction Disputes," *Under Construction*, Summer 2020.
- Co-author, "Internationalizing Domestic Arbitration: How International Arbitration Practices Can Improve Domestic Construction Arbitration," *Dispute Resolution Journal*, June 2020.
- Co-author, "Supreme Court Interprets New York Convention to Allow Arbitration Agreement Nonsignatories to Invoke International Arbitration," *Client Alert*, June 2, 2020.
- Co-author, "ADR for Construction Disputes During COVID-19: How to Manage Dispute Resolution Before and After the Dust Settles," *ConsensusDocs*, April 14, 2020.
- Co-author, "The Intersection of International Arbitration and Construction Disputes: A Review of the 2019 Queen Mary University of London International Arbitration Survey," *The Construction Lawyer*, Spring 2020.
- Co-author, "The Seoul Protocol: Guidelines for Remote Arbitration Hearings During the COVID-19 Outbreak," *ConstructLaw*®, April 6, 2020.
- Co-author, "Dispute Boards: A Different Approach to Dispute Resolution," Chapter From *International Mediation: The Comparative Law Yearbook of International Business*, April 1, 2020.
- Co-author, "New Int'l Arbitration Study Offers Construction Dispute Insight," *Law360*, December 4, 2019.
- Co-author, "Expanding Disclosure in International Arbitration: Sixth Circuit Rules That 28 U.S.C. § 1782 Permits Parties to Pursue Discovery in Support of Private Commercial International Arbitrations," *ConstructLaw*®, October 3, 2019.

- Co-author, "New York Appellate Court Affirms Decision to Deny Motion to Compel Arbitration in Multi-Billion Dollar Construction Dispute," *ConstructLaw*®, August 29, 2019.
- Co-author, "'Walmart' Puts Spotlight on Foreign Construction Compliance Risks," *The Legal Intelligencer*, August 16, 2019.
- Author, "New Conventions, New Problems?: A Pair of Recently Announced International Conventions Aim to Replicate the Success of the New York Convention," *ConstructLaw*®, August 8, 2019.
- Co-author, "GAR Know-How Construction Arbitration – United States," *Global Arbitration Review (GAR) Know-How Series*, July 3, 2019.
- Author, "UPDATE: *GE Energy Power Conversion France SAS v. Outokumpu Stainless USA, LLC*: U.S. Supreme Court Grants Write of Certiorari to Decide the Question of Whether the New York Convention Permits Non-Signatories to Compel Arbitration Under the Doctrine of Equitable Estoppel," *ConstructLaw*®, July 2, 2019.
- Author, "The Prague Rules: What U.S. Practitioners Need to Know About the Civil Law World's Answer to the IBA Rules on the Taking of Evidence in International Arbitration," *The Construction Lawyer*, Winter 2019.
- Co-author, "A Pivotal Ruling for Appellate Arbitration Award Enforcement," *Law360*, March 11, 2019.
- Co-author, "Kavanaugh's First Opinion: In Arbitration Agreements, Delegation Means Delegation," *Client Alert*, January 11, 2019.
- Author, "Boring Through the Details: U.S. District Court Declaring Boring Company Dispute Not Covered by Insurance Policies," *ConstructLaw*®, January 8, 2019.
- Author, "Deciding Arbitrability and Arbitration Agreements: Eleventh Circuit Refines its Interpretation of the Federal Arbitration Act and United Nations Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards," *ConstructLaw*®, November 8, 2018.
- Author, "When a Flow Down Provision Doesn't Flow Up: Oregon Appellate Court Holds that a Flow Down Provision From a Prime Contract With an Arbitration Clause Does Not Grant Subcontractors a Right to Compel Arbitration With Owner," *ConstructLaw*®, September 27, 2018.
- Co-author, "2nd Circ. Issues Problematic Opinion on Role of Party-appointed Arbitrators," *The Legal Intelligencer*, July 12, 2018.
- Co-author, "Shedding Light on the AAA's Streamlined Three-arbitrator Panel Option," *AGC Law in Brief*, July 2018.
- Author, "Are Consent Awards Under the New York Convention Enforceable in U.S. Courts? Federal Court in Texas Says Yes," *ConstructLaw*®, April 26, 2018
- Co-author, "The 2018 Update to the CPR's Non-Administered Arbitration Rules: A Reflection of Current Trends in Arbitration," *ConsensusDocs*, April 2018.
- Co-author, "Expectations and Practices Concerning Examinations in International Arbitration," *The Legal Intelligencer*, January 15, 2018.
- Co-author, "Abuse of Due Process in International Arbitration: Is Due Process Paranoia Irrational?," *American Journal for Construction Arbitration & ADR*, December 2017.
- Author, "Federal District Court in South Dakota Compels Arbitration Despite Defendant's Failure to First Submit the Dispute to the Project Engineer as Required by the Disputes Clause," *ConstructLaw*®, September 14, 2017.

MEDIA COMMENTARY

- Quoted, "Excitement, Tinged With Skepticism, Over AAA's AI Arbitrator," *Law360*, March 16, 2026.
- Interviewed, "Albert Bates Jr. and R. Zachary Torres-Fowler of Troutman Pepper Locke LLP Discuss the 'Industry Unto Itself' of International Construction Arbitration," *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, September 2025.
- Quoted, "4 International Arbitration Trends To Watch: Midyear Report," *Law360*, August 18, 2025.
- Quoted, "3 International Arbitration Trends to Watch in 2025," *Law360*, January 1, 2025.
-

Quoted, “Justices’ Narrow Approach to Arbitration Likely to Continue,” *Law360*, March 17, 2023.

- Quoted, “6 International Arbitration Cases to Watch in 2023,” *Law360*, January 2, 2023.