

Stephanie L. Jonaitis

Counsel

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Construction industry clients and other businesses rely on Stephanie's experience in resolving complex disputes, including contract claims, construction liens, bid protests, commercial disputes, and other litigation, including class actions.

OVERVIEW

Stephanie concentrates her practice in commercial litigation and has extensive experience in construction litigation.

Stephanie's construction practice also includes drafting, reviewing and negotiating various contracts for construction-related services, including design professional services agreements, construction management agreements, construction services agreements, material procurement agreements and site improvement agreements in connection with energy supply agreements.

Her construction litigation experience includes prosecuting claims on behalf of contractors for unpaid construction contract balances and change order work, defending against construction defect claims, defending contractors and owners in construction lien claim matters, and prosecution and defense of pre-bid and post-bid protests for public construction projects.

In her general commercial litigation practice, Stephanie has resolved dealer termination and Petroleum Marketing Practices Act disputes, represented commercial property owners in real property tax appeal matters, and has handled extensive discovery work for various federal and state court actions, including class actions.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Commercial Litigation

- Representing a large petroleum marketing company in dealer termination and Petroleum Marketing Practices Act disputes.
- Obtaining an injunction against enforcement of an unlawful ordinance.
- Representing commercial property owners in real property tax appeal matters.
- Obtaining a temporary restraining order and negotiating a subsequent settlement preventing a national manufacturer from terminating a client's franchise.

- Engaging in extensive discovery for various federal and state court actions including a class action arsenic contamination litigation.
- Representing clients in pursuing enforcement of binding arbitration agreements.

Construction

- Prosecuting claims on behalf of contractors for unpaid construction contract balances and change order work against private and public entities, including bi-state agencies.
- Assisting in the defense of construction defect claims involving both personal injury and commercial claims.
- Defending contractors and owners in construction lien claim matters.
- Defending and prosecuting construction delay claims and constructive change claims for contractors and owners in court and arbitration.
- Representing developers and homeowner associations in association transition litigation.
- Handling extensive paper and electronic discovery in complex construction matters involving multiple parties, including private and public entities.
- Representing clients in the prosecution and defense of pre-bid and post-bid protests for publicly bid construction projects.

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Business Litigation
- Construction
- International Construction Projects

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Business Litigation
- Class Action
- Construction
- Construction Litigation
- International Construction Projects
- Litigation + Trial

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Co-chair, Construction Litigation Subcommittee for the American Bar Association's Section of Litigation, Commercial and Business Litigation Committee
- Member, New Jersey Bar Association
- Recipient, Mercer County Bar Association Young Lawyer of Year award (2011)
- Trustee, Mercer County Bar Foundation
- Princeton office team captain for fundraising efforts, March of Dimes

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- Seton Hall University School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2002, staff writer, *Journal of Sport Law*; member; Appellate Advocacy Moot Court Board; participant, Center for Social Justice Family Law Clinic; Order of the Coif (2004)
- University of Massachusetts Amherst, B.A., *cum laude*, 1999, Communications
- University of Massachusetts Amherst, B.S., *cum laude*, 1999, Communication Disorders

BAR ADMISSIONS

- New York
- New Jersey

COURT ADMISSIONS

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