



Peter C. Vilmos

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Services

Construction and Project Development, Commercial / Corporate Litigation, Insurance, Appellate, Arbitration & Mediation,

A commercial litigator, Peter handles a wide variety of complex litigation and appeals related to construction projects, first-party insurance matters, business disputes, and real estate litigation. Board Certified in Construction, Peter represents owners/developers, contractors, sub-contractors and lenders on construction and project development and related insurance issues.

Peter began his law career in Chicago working on high-exposure corporate litigation claims and contingency-fee business litigation that included class actions on issues from securities to product liability. Since 1996, Peter has focused on similar issues based out of Orlando, Florida. As it has for over a decade, the Florida Bar recognizes Peter as a Board Certified Specialist in Construction. Multi-billion dollar REITs, owners/developers of all sizes, general contractors and sub-contractors seek and receive legal advice on issues ranging from construction contract negotiation, disputes arising during construction, lien issues, licensure issues, land use issues, and construction defects. Because insurance plays such a key role in business—and particularly in the construction business—the practice includes substantial advice and representation on first-party insurance matters, bad faith disputes, and litigation.

Peter understands his clients' businesses and their goals, allowing him to bring to his practice a New York-bred street-smart approach his clients appreciate. In one instance, Peter orchestrated a stay of multi-million dollar litigation to allow his client to inspect/repair a four-diamond hotel. The resulting renovation not only resolved the litigation, it yielded the client-owner a multi-million dollar profit upon sale. Peter represented an energy company with litigation related to a brown field, a nursing home owner in a trial against its management company, engineering companies (and a variety of other companies) in non-compete claims, and a wide array of businesses with unique problems that demanded a focused and issue-specific resolution.

A frequent speaker on construction and litigation topics, he also routinely contributes to the Firm's Non-Compete and Trade Secrets blog. Reviews from Peter's peers, the judiciary, and clients resulted

in recognition in Best Lawyers in America, Florida Super Lawyers, Florida Trend's "Legal Elite", an AV rating from Martindale Hubbell and an invitation to join the inaugural class of the Construction Law Society of America.

Publications

- *Scotsman Guide: Capitalize on Construction: Declines in Residential Purchases Can Boost Multifamily Construction-Investment Efforts*
- *Building Central Florida: President Trump's Infrastructure Investment: A Work in Progress*
- *Burr Alert: Trump's Trillion Dollar Infrastructure Investment Promise*
- *CFMA Building Profits: Are Non-Compete Agreements Right for Your Construction Company?*
- *Construction Executive: The Best Kept Secret for Financing Construction Projects*

Education

J.D., Washington University School of Law, (1990)

B.A., Duke University, (1987)

Licensed In

Florida, Illinois, New York

Admitted In

U.S. District Court – Northern District of Florida

U.S. District Court – Middle District of Florida

U.S. District Court – Southern District of Florida

U.S. District Court – Northern District of Illinois

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Honors & Awards

- *Best Lawyers in America*, Commercial Litigation (2017-2020), Construction Law (2018-2020)
- Orange County Bar Association, Outstanding Committee Chair
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, Construction Litigation (2010-2019)
- Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Court Mediator
- Florida Bar Board Certified Construction Attorney
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent™ Peer Review Rating
- *Florida Trend*, "Legal Elite," Construction (2015-2016, 2018)
- Nation's Top One Percent, National Association of Distinguished Counsel (2016)
- Fellows of the Construction Lawyers Society of America (2017); CLSA Community Service Award (2019)

Professional Associations

Orange County Bar Association

Florida Bar Association
Illinois Bar Association
New York Bar Association
Florida Bar
George C. Young First Central Florida Inns of Court
March of Dimes, Central Florida Division
Rotary Club of Orlando Breakfast
The New York Bar

Community Involvement

Rotary District 6980, President of the Year
Leadership Orlando, Class 39
Florida Supreme Court Certificate of Recognition, Pro Bono Guardian Ad Litem
Junior Achievement, Volunteer
March of Dimes, Central Florida Division, Board of Directors, Past-President
Rotary District 6980, Assistant District Governor (2004-2005), Leadership Council (2005-2006);
Rotary Club of Orlando Breakfast, Past President (2001-2003)
Orange County Bar Association, Pro Bono Guardian Ad Litem (1996-Present)
Volunteer Swim Instructor to underprivileged youth, Central Florida YMCA

Experience

- Represented shareholders in a derivative class action seeking the enforcement of a \$250 Million poison pill stock-swap agreement.
- Represented general contractor in appeal of issue regarding increase in allocation of sales proceeds to court registry to properly secure contractor's claim of lien.
- Represented bank in contested prevailing party fee dispute.
- Represented Assignee in a series of litigation matters relating to professional engineering services.
- Represented developer in multi-million dollar dispute over constructive collapse resulting from improper use of steel reinforcement bars.
- Represented insurance carrier in coverage dispute over issue of contractual collapse language regarding a roof.
- Represented insurance agent in defense of non-compete claim from former employer.
- Represented general contractor in arbitration proceedings concerning construction of a multi-story residence.
- Represented general contractor in lien litigation/delay damages litigation involving multi-million dollar dispute over beachside condominium complex.
- Represented engineering firm in action against water utility concerning the design and installation of a remote water monitoring system.
- Represented insurance carrier in coverage dispute concerning trademark and copyright policy exclusions.
- Represented owner of nursing homes in a contractual dispute concerning nursing home management, including a successful appeal.

- Represented a roofer in an alleged construction defect claim.
- Represented business owners and former employees in a non-compete and trade secrets matter.
- Represented Assignee for the Benefit of Creditors in action to maximize estate of assignor/limestone material supplier.
- Represented insurance carrier in appeal of summary judgment on issue of whether or not insured submitted properly detailed bankruptcy disclosures.
- Represented simulation industry contractor in litigation regarding an acquisition from a defense contractor.
- Represented provider of institutional pharmacy services in an appeal from a successful jury trial on a contractual dispute.
- Represented pool subcontractor in enforcement of lien issues and is dispute over the validity of a contractual pay-when-paid clause.
- Represented insurance carrier in defense of first-party claim involving theft.
- Represented insurance carrier in first-party hurricane claims.
- Represented insurance carrier in first party claims from Assignee's of Benefits for water extraction services.
- Represented general contractor in alleged construction defect litigation concerning lakeside mansion.
- Represented lender in water intrusion litigation concerning a large commercial condominium project.

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