



David G. Wanhatalo

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Paralegal

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Services

Commercial / Corporate Litigation, Construction and Project Development, International Contract Arbitration,

David is a member of the firm's Construction and Project Development practice group where he represents various owners, general contractors, subcontractors, and designers in connection with the design and construction of projects.

David assists clients throughout the construction process, including the drafting and negotiating of contracts, claims resolution during the project, and litigation and arbitration arising after the project. David has extensive experience drafting and negotiating construction contracts, design contracts, design-build contracts, transportation and logistics contracts, material purchase agreements, equipment purchase and installation contracts, as well as equipment leases. David has been involved in several large and complex lawsuits and arbitrations involving various design, construction, and equipment related issues. David also assists clients with lien and bond claims and compliance with Alabama's general contractor licensing requirements.

Before attending law school, David worked in the construction industry for several years. His most recent position was as a project manager, where he oversaw the construction of several bridge projects. He has also worked as an engineer on various heavy construction projects, including the Central Artery Tunnel (the "Big Dig") in Boston, as well as the Central Expressway Project in Dallas. David's construction experience includes estimating, scheduling, interpreting plans and specifications, design, subcontract management, change orders, claims, safety and cost engineering. He is also a licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) in the State of Virginia.

He is a member of the American Bar Association and its Forum on the Construction Industry, the Alabama State Bar, and the Birmingham Bar Association. David is also a member of the Associated General Contractors and the Design-Build Institute of America. He is admitted to practice in the State courts of Alabama, as well as the U.S. District Court for the Northern and Middle Districts of Alabama.

In college he was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (A.S.C.E.) and during college, he supplemented his education with practical experience by working as an Engineering Assistant for

both a tunneling and a site development contractor.

Publications

- Burr Alert: Procedure for Perfecting a Mechanic's Lien Claim in Alabama
- *Dixie Contractor*: Ten Key Construction Contract Clauses

Education

J.D. *magna cum laude*, University of Alabama School of Law, (2004)

B.S. *with honors*, Civil Engineering Technology, Rochester Institute of Technology

Licensed In

Alabama

Admitted In

U.S. District Court – Middle District of Alabama

U.S. District Court – Northern District of Alabama

Honors & Awards

- *Alabama Super Lawyers* "Rising Star," Construction Litigation (2011-2012)
- Order of the Coif
- Senior Editor of the Journal of the Legal Profession in law school and received the Best Paper Award for Trademarks and Unfair Competition
- C.S.I. Scholarship
- Cooperative education program
- Claude Harris Endowed Scholarship
- Lanny S. Vines Endowed Scholarship
- Williams G. West Jr. Scholarship
- American Society of Civil Engineer's Outstanding Senior Award
- Former officer in the Tau Alpha Pi National Honor Society

Professional Associations

Associated General Contractors of America, Alabama Section, Birmingham Chapter

American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry

Alabama State Bar

Birmingham Bar Association

Experience

- Draft and negotiate various contracts related to construction projects, including owner-contractor agreements, design-build agreements, architect/engineering agreements, equipment installation and supply agreements, and purchase orders.
- Assist contractors, subcontractors, and engineers assert lien and bond claims.

- Assist owners with defending lien claims.
- Assist contractors with defending bond claims.
- Assist contractors, subcontractors, owners, and engineers with all aspects of construction disputes, including change orders, claims, arbitration, and litigation.
- Assist contractors, subcontractors, and owners with issues involving Alabama's general contractor licensing requirements.

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