Construction Team Out + About

Team members of Robinson+Cole’s Construction Group have been speaking and publishing on various construction related topics, being recognized in the community, and participating in programs in high-profile industry groups throughout the country. We hope to see you while we are “Out and About.”

Even when we’re out and about, we continue to follow developments and trends in all areas of construction law and to share our insights on those changes in our Construction Law Zone blog. If you haven’t, we encourage you to check it out and to sign up to receive e-mails when new content is posted. We welcome your feedback and input on topics you’d like us to cover.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Joseph Barra moderated the Construction Management Association of America’s panel discussion titled “Public Construction Projects – What Now?” at the Wentworth Institute of Technology. The program brought together professionals to discuss various legal, accounting, and regulatory risks that affect the work and risk of the construction manager performing work under publicly funded projects.

CONNECTICUT BUILDING CONGRESS

Rob Barrack planned and moderated the Connecticut Building Congress’s program “Bare the Truth. Are you really covered? Insurance--You never know what you have until you need it.”

THE CONSTRUCTION INSTITUTE

Dennis Cavanaugh was recently appointed to the Board of Advisors for the Construction Institute. The Construction Institute - University of Hartford is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association of diverse professionals working to improve the industry by sharing experiences and knowledge, advancing relationships, and developing business leaders.

The board reflects the varied interests of the Institute’s membership and the construction and related industries. It advises and assists the Institute’s Board of Directors in developing and planning
policies and programs consistent with the purposes of the Institute and consults with and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors in administering such policies and programs.

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION 2015 FORUM ON CONSTRUCTION LAW FALL MEETING

Mr. Cavanaugh recently attended the ABA’s 2015 Forum on Construction Law Fall Meeting: The Construction ADR Summit in Austin, Texas. The program convened renowned construction law practitioners, top service providers, leading academics, and major stakeholders in construction alternative dispute resolution (ADR) for an in-depth look at the past, present, and future of ADR in the construction industry.

CONNECTICUT BAR ASSOCIATION CONSTRUCTION LAW SECTION AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Cavanaugh was the keynote speaker at the CBA Construction Law Section and Executive Committee Meeting. He discussed the 2015 Connecticut Supreme Court decision in Old Colony Construction, LLC v. Town of Southington, a case of apparent first impression, holding that a public owner’s election to terminate a construction contract for convenience does not preclude it from recovering liquidated damages. Robinson+Cole defended the owners at trial on the merits and on the appeal.

MANAGING LEGAL EXPOSURES

Gregory Faulkner and Roy Cooper of ARCADIS reprised their popular “Managing Legal Exposures” program for the Construction Institute, this time taking it on the road to Stamford, Connecticut. This is the fourth time that Mr. Faulkner and Mr. Cooper were asked to present the program, which addresses a comprehensive list of potential legal issues that can result from missteps of project participants.

13TH ANNUAL HIGHER EDUCATION REAL ESTATE LAWYERS CONFERENCE

Gregory Faulkner and Martin Onorato attended the annual meeting of the Higher Education Real Estate Lawyers (HEREL) in Seattle, Washington, hosted by the University of Washington. HEREL is an organization committed to providing peer-to-peer legal education and networking for lawyers who practice real estate and construction law at institutions of higher education.

REAL ESTATE BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

Jonathan Hausner presented on “Construction Law for the Uninitiated” at the REBA Annual Meeting & Conference in Norwood, Massachusetts. Mr. Hausner discussed construction law and construction contracts and their nuances, with a focus on tips and traps for unwary owners and developers.

REAL ESTATE BAR ASSOCIATION CONSTRUCTION LAW COMMITTEE

Mr. Hausner, and co-chair John Connelly of Hinckley Allen & Snyder, co-hosted the kickoff meeting for the REBA Construction
Law Committee in Boston. The committee discussed the new Massachusetts Earned Sick Time Law and its impact on the construction industry, particularly contractors and construction managers.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS CONNECTICUT, PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Martin Onorato co-chaired a joint meeting of the Professional Practice and Small Firms Roundtables on the subject of contracts at the offices of AIA Connecticut in New Haven.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS NEW ENGLAND ANNUAL MEETING

Mr. Onorato, a member of the AIA Connecticut Board of Directors, attended the AIA New England Annual Meeting, hosted by the University of Hartford. The keynote speaker was Steven Chung, AIA, host of PBS’s Cool Spaces, and the meeting included presentations of the AIA New England Design Awards.

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HARTFORD BUSINESS JOURNAL – 40 UNDER FORTY

Todd Regan has been selected as one of the Hartford Business Journal’s “40 Under Forty” for 2015.

Members of the 2015 class of 40 Under Forty were recognized at an awards celebration on September 30 and profiled in a special supplement of the Hartford Business Journal on July 20. A panel of judges chose the honorees for their extraordinary leadership qualities, their ongoing commitment to personal and professional development, and their outstanding accomplishments that have made an impact in their various business sectors.

CONNECTICUT LANDMARK’S “COCKTAILS AT THE HOMESTEAD”

Mr. Regan served on the host committee for Connecticut Landmark’s “Cocktails at the Homestead” event at the Nathan Hale Homestead.

SURETY BOND QUARTERLY (SUMMER 2015)

Mr. Regan published “Can Public Owners Be Held Liable to Subcontractors and Suppliers for Failure to Require General Contractors to Obtain Required Payment Bonds?”

CONNECTICUT LAW TRIBUNE’s NEW LEADERS IN THE LAW

Mr. Regan was selected as one of the Connecticut Law Tribune’s “New Leaders of the Law” for 2015. Mr. Regan was recognized at
an awards dinner on November 4 at The Bond Ballroom in downtown Hartford with the other honorees. The class of 50 honorees was also recognized in the New Leaders in the Law 2015 Yearbook, published on November 2. New Leaders of the Law recognizes lawyers under the age of 40 for achievements in their legal work, pro bono efforts, and community involvement.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SURETY BOND PRODUCERS’ REGIONAL MEETING

Construction partners Todd Regan and Peter Strniste presented “Deciphering and Navigating the Terms and Conditions of Industry and Modified Bond Forms” at the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP) Regional Meeting on September 28, 2015, in Amelia Island, Florida.

HARTFORD BUSINESS JOURNAL

In the article “Construction brings excitement, risk to Hartford,” published in the Hartford Business Journal on October 19, 2015, Mr. Strniste comments on the many new construction projects in the works throughout Hartford. In this context, he discusses the inherent costs associated with project delays and how to allocate and transfer associated risks within a construction contract.

ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF CONNECTICUT SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Mr. Strniste was nominated as a finalist by the Associated General Contractors of Connecticut for the Service Provider of the Year Award as part of its 2015 Industry Recognition Awards. Individuals nominated for this award demonstrate leadership and professionalism, and display working practices that reflect skill, integrity, and responsibility in service to the construction industry. This year’s winner was announced at the October 15, 2015, Awards Dinner.

The AGC of Connecticut is a chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America, the leading association for the construction industry, representing more than 26,000 firms, including over 6,500 of America’s leading general contractors and over 9,000 specialty contracting firms.

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Robinson+Cole’s Construction Law Group:

Lisa B. Andrzejewski | Keane E. Aures | Joseph A. Barra | Robert M. Barrack
Dennis C. Cavanaugh | Gregory R. Faulkner | Jonathan R. Hausner | Martin A. Onorato
Todd R. Regan | Peter E. Strniste Jr. | Elizabeth K. Wright

For insights on legal issues affecting various industries, please visit our Thought Leadership page and subscribe to any of our newsletters or blogs.