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Robinson+Cole

Construction



June 2015

R+C Out and About

Team members of Robinson+Cole's Construction Group have been speaking and publishing on topics from construction contracting to suretyship, serving 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."

When we aren't "Out and About," we are still following developments and trends in all areas of construction law and sharing our insights on those changes on our [Construction Law Zone](#) blog. We encourage you to check it out if you haven't yet and sign up to receive emails when new content goes up. We welcome your feedback and input on topics you'd like us to cover.



JUNE 24–25, 2015 **Surety Claims Institute's Annual Meeting**

Dennis Cavanaugh and Todd Regan will attend the Surety Claims Institute's Annual Meeting & Seminars in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.



JUNE 28–July 1, 2015 **National Association of College and University Attorneys 2015 Annual Conference**

Gregory Faulkner will attend the NACUA 2015 Annual Conference at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C. This year's event will feature over 200 moderators, speakers, and session leaders discussing nine different topical tracks. Membership in NACUA is by invitation only. Outside counsel are required to attest that they actively represent higher education clients and must have a letter of recommendation from a higher education institution with whom they do business.

FEBRUARY 26, 2015 **Management of Legal Exposures**

Mr. Faulkner taught a professional development workshop entitled "Management of Legal Exposures" for the Construction Institute (CI) at the University of Hartford. This is the CI's third presentation of this highly successful program over the past three years.



**OCTOBER 14, 2014–May 19, 2015
United Way Readers Program**

Todd Regan participated in the United Way Readers Program at the Wish School in Hartford Connecticut's North End. The program was created to mobilize volunteers across our community as one way to help children read at the appropriate grade level by the end of third grade.

**APRIL 2015
Differing Court Views on the Surety's Non-Response to a Claim
within the Payment Bond's Prescribed Time Period**

Mr. Regan's article "Differing Court Views on the Surety's Non-Response to a Claim within the Payment Bond's Prescribed Time Period" was published in *Surety Bond Quarterly's* spring newsletter. The article discusses a recent Connecticut Supreme Court decision that rejected a payment bond claimant's efforts to read an implied default provision into language of the state's Little Miller Act.

**FEBRUARY 2015
Attorney Advisory Council of the National Association of Surety
Bond Producers**

Mr. Regan was selected to serve on the Attorney Advisory Council of the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP). The role of NASBP is to engage decision makers and strategic partners; advocate for access to surety bonding, preservation of bonding requirements, and nondiscriminatory practices; advance the role of surety professionals; and empower surety professionals with grassroots efforts. The NASBP Attorney Advisory Council comprises eight lawyers with knowledge in various sectors of the industry, including, but not limited to, construction, government contracts, and surety.



**MAY 15, 2015
Defense Research Institute's Fidelity and Surety Roundtable**

Peter Strniste attended the Defense Research Institute's Fidelity and Surety Roundtable in Chicago, Illinois. Participants at this year's event included many surety company representatives and construction consultants. The Roundtable provides a forum for a lively and informative discussion on various aspects of surety and fidelity bonds. Mr. Strniste has been a member of the Roundtable for several years and is a past speaker at the annual event.

MARCH 14, 2015

Retail Contractor Association's Annual Meeting

Mr. Strniste was selected as the keynote speaker for a group of over 100 contractors and retail owners at the Retail Contractor Association's Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Mr. Strniste presented on strategies for avoiding and minimizing subcontractor defaults. He also reviewed best practices for selecting subcontractors, essential subcontract terms, and the proper procedure for defaulting and terminating a subcontractor.

FEBRUARY 2015

Owners and Contractors Are Wise To Be Covered

Mr. Strniste's article entitled "Owners and Contractors Are Wise To Be Covered" was published in Caldwell & Walsh Building Construction, Inc.'s Spring 2015 newsletter. The article focused on the importance of verifying subcontractor and contractor certificates of insurance and the risks associated with failing to do so.



MAY 11, 2015

Connecticut General Assembly's Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Martin Onorato presented testimony before the Senate and House members of the Connecticut General Assembly's Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee regarding a plan to enact sales taxes on architecture, engineering, and other professional services. The new taxes appear as part of the tax package accompanying Governor Malloy's proposed biennial budget. Mr. Onorato serves on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.



MAY 5, 2015

The Real Estate Bar Association for Massachusetts' new Construction Law Committee

Jonathan Hausner was selected to co-chair the Real Estate Bar Association for Massachusetts' (REBA) new Construction Law Committee. The committee will "serve as both a resource and a discussion forum for lawyers concentrating in the areas of construction law, including the representation of public and private owners, developers, general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers and construction sureties."

MAY 4, 2015

Economics of Construction: Understanding the New Retainage Law and Revising the Economic Loss Rule

Mr. Hausner and real estate litigation lawyer Kendra Berardi presented at this year's 2015 REBA Spring Conference in Norwood, Massachusetts. Mr. Hausner presented the session "Economics of Construction: Understanding the New Retainage Law and Revising

the Economic Loss Rule.”

APRIL 27, 2015
**Construction Management Association of America's
Certified Construction Manager Exam**

Mr. Hausner taught a contract administration course at the Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Massachusetts. The session was a prep course for the Construction Management Association of America's (CMAA) Certified Construction Manager (CCM) Exam. About 25 construction managers, general contractors, design professionals, and project managers from states across the country attended the course to prepare for the upcoming exam.

JANUARY 2015
**Massachusetts Construction Law Game-Changer: A Breakdown
of the New Retainage Act**

Mr. Hausner's article "Massachusetts Construction Law Game-Changer: A Breakdown of the New Retainage Act" was published on the front page of *REBAnews*, the newspaper of the Real Estate Bar Association. The article discusses the new Massachusetts Retainage Law, which applies to certain private construction contracts executed after November 2014, affects the amount of retainage withheld by a construction stakeholder, and mandates a specific process related to project completion.



APRIL 29, 2015
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The R+C Construction Group participated in a Habitat for Humanity Team Build in East Hartford, Connecticut. In addition to giving team members the opportunity to use power tools and to spend a day out of the confines of our offices, we learned much more about the good work that Habitat for Humanity does for families all over the country.



APRIL 6, 2015
Board of Directors for Hartford Performs

Lisa Andrzejewski was elected to the Board of Directors of Hartford Performs. Hartford Performs is a collaborative network of Connecticut's Hartford Public Schools, arts providers, community organizations, funders, and other supporters working together to deliver quality arts education programs to Hartford Public School students. As of the 2014–2015 school year, Hartford Performs supports arts integration programming for students in 28 Hartford Public Elementary Schools.

FEBRUARY 25, 2015
University of Connecticut: Inland Wetlands and Watercourses

Ms. Andrzejewski taught a class to third-year law students at the

University of Connecticut on the topic of inland wetlands and watercourses. The program covered how and why wetlands and watercourses affect development projects, the ins and outs of the permitting process, and how to effectively present an argument before a board.



MARCH 3, 2015
The Basics of Construction Litigation & Arbitration

Joseph Barra and Jonathan Hausner taught the class “The Basics of Construction Litigation & Arbitration” at the Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Massachusetts. The presentation was designed for graduate school students pursuing a masters degree in construction management.

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](#)

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