



# BIOGRAPHY



## GERARD J. ONORATA

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## PARTNER

Gerard J. Onorata has been with Peckar & Abramson since 1992 in the construction practice. He concentrates primarily on representing general contractors. He has authored a number of articles related to ERISA preemption of the New York Lien Law, the New Jersey Bond Act and the New Jersey Construction Lien Law for the *Construction and Public Contracts Law Section Newsletter* of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Gerard has worked on an array of cases arising out of projects being constructed within and outside the United States. He routinely handles multimillion-dollar litigations and arbitrations, some of which have resulted in several published decisions. To his credit, he has obtained a number of successful arbitration awards during his time at Peckar & Abramson and has developed a reputation as being a tough and aggressive adversary. His experience ranges from handling disputes that relate to large commercial projects to infrastructure projects to extremely high-end residential homes. He has been recognized by *New Jersey Super Lawyers*, *New York-Metro Super Lawyers* and *Best Lawyers* for his prominence in construction law. In 2019, Gerard was invited to become a member of the panel responsible for rating arbitrators on the American Arbitration Association's Construction Mega Projects panel. According to AAA, "the rating committee is a diverse group of advocates and in-house counsel representing owners, contractors, design professionals and insurers with experience in disputes arising out of significant construction and infrastructure projects".

# HIGHLIGHTS

## ADMISSIONS:

- State of New York
- State of New Jersey
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of New Jersey
- United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York

## EDUCATION:

- University of New Haven, B.A.
- Seton Hall University School of Law, J.D.

## PRACTICE AREAS:

- Construction and Infrastructure

## MEMBERSHIPS:

- New Jersey State Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- American Bar Association

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

- *Best Lawyers*, 2012-2023
- *Best Lawyers*, “Lawyer of the Year” in Litigation – Construction – Hackensack region, 2019
- *New York-Metro Super Lawyers*, 2012-2022
- *New Jersey Super Lawyers*, 2007, 2015-2023
- *ALM & Martindale-Hubbell* “New York Top-Rated Lawyers”, 2020
- *Bergen Magazine*, Top Lawyer – Construction, 2021-2022
- *New Jersey Law Journal* Professional Excellence Award, Mentor, 2021
- NJBIZ Leaders in the Law, 2021

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- “Navigating the NJDOT Claims Process,” P&A Webinar (speaker), June 2022.
- “A Brief Discussion – Liquidating Agreements,” *ConsensusDocs* Newsletter, June 2022.
- “Building Blocks for Handling Construction Law Cases,” New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education Webinar (speaker), April 2022.
- “The Basics of Subcontractor Defaults – Key Considerations,” *ConsensusDocs* Newsletter, February 2021.
- “Construction Disputes - Session 3: What Can We Do to Make the DRB Work for Us?,” P&A Webinar (speaker), January 2021.
- “Construction Disputes - Session 2: Contract Provisions,” P&A Webinar (speaker), October 2020.
- “Construction Disputes - Session 1: Tackling Subcontractor Disputes,” P&A Webinar (speaker), August 2020.
- “Construction Law Issues in the Age of Coronavirus (COVID-19),” P&A Webinar (speaker), April 2020.
- “Successful Strategies for Preparing and Putting Forward Claims for Additional Compensation and Time,” P&A Breakfast Seminar (speaker), January 2019.
- “Winning The Subcontractor Fight,” P&A Breakfast Club Seminar (speaker), January 2018.
- “It’s Complicated: Public-Private Relationships on Transformative Developments & Infrastructure,” Third Annual Anchin Construction & Development Forum (moderator), February 2017.
- “Ownership Rights of an Architect’s Work,” *New Jersey State Bar Association Construction and Public Contracts Law Section Newsletter*, June 2005.