



**ALFA International**  
THE GLOBAL LEGAL NETWORK



# RIDING THE LEGAL WAVE

**Mastering the Tides of Construction Law**

**2025 CONSTRUCTION LAW SEMINAR**

**JULY 23-25, 2025 | RANCHO BERNARDO INN | SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

[www.ALFAInternational.com](http://www.ALFAInternational.com)

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 Austin, Texas

# RIDING THE LEGAL WAVE

## Mastering the Tides of Construction Law



### 2025 CONSTRUCTION LAW SEMINAR

**JULY 23-25, 2025 | RANCHO BERNARDO INN | SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

Just like the Pacific swells that roll onto San Diego's shores, the construction industry is constantly shifting and changing, bringing both new opportunities and unexpected challenges. To navigate these turbulent waters, construction lawyers and clients must be prepared to ride the legal waves—balancing litigation, risk management, compliance, regulatory and transactional strategies to keep their businesses afloat. At this year's ALFA International Construction Law Seminar, we're diving deep into the waters of construction law, from the courtroom to the jobsite, to the contract negotiating table, ensuring that every attendee leaves with the tools to navigate the currents and tides.

In one track of the seminar, we'll tackle the rough waters of litigation, exploring the latest trends in construction disputes, liability issues and risk mitigation. Whether you're dealing with contract breaches, liability claims, construction defects, or regulatory enforcement, we'll equip you with strategies to avoid wipeouts and turn potential tsunamis into manageable swells. Our panel presentations will help you sharpen your litigation skills and strategies, ensuring that when the big waves come, you're ready to ride them with confidence.

The second track of the seminar shifts to smoother waters of transactions and regulatory law, including contract drafting, environmental, health and safety matters and project planning—because even the best surfers know that preparation is key. From structuring favorable agreements to navigating regulatory compliance, we'll explore how proactive legal strategies can prevent disputes before they ever break. Think of this as perfecting your stance before you paddle out—getting everything in place so that when challenges arise, you're already positioned to glide through smoothly.

Whether you're an experienced lawyer, claims manager, or construction executive, or looking to expand your knowledge and experience into new areas, this seminar will help you stay balanced, avoid riptides and carve the perfect line for your company. So grab your board (or briefcase) and join us in San Diego for a seminar that's as engaging as the city itself. The tides are changing in construction law—are you ready to ride the legal wave?

**Spencer Wiegard**  
*Program Chair, 2025 Construction Seminar*  
 GENTRY LOCKE  
 Roanoke, Virginia

**Ryan Casteix**  
*Program Vice-Chair, 2025 Construction Seminar*  
 LEAKE ANDERSSON  
 New Orleans, Louisiana



### WELCOME TO THE RANCHO BERNARDO INN

Capturing the serene beauty of Southern California's wine country, Rancho Bernardo Inn welcomes guests to a 288-acre sanctuary nestled in the rolling hills of North County San Diego. The resort offers a sophisticated escape just a short drive from the region's most celebrated attractions. From the property, guests can easily explore the vibrant San Diego landscape, whether venturing to the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, discovering the nearby Temecula Valley wineries, or experiencing the cultural richness of local museums and outdoor venues. With its blend of luxurious accommodations and breathtaking natural surroundings, Rancho Bernardo Inn provides an unparalleled Southern California experience. The hotel is 28 miles (~35-minute drive) from the San Diego International Airport.

### WHAT IS ALFA INTERNATIONAL?

ALFA International is the premier network of independent law firms. Founded in 1980, ALFA International was the first and continues to be one of the largest and strongest legal networks. We have 140 member firms throughout the world. Our 70 U.S. firms represent 95 of the 100 largest metropolitan areas. Our 70 international firms are located throughout Europe, Asia, Australia/New Zealand, Africa, Canada, Mexico and South America.

ALFA International's mission is to provide high quality, cost-efficient legal services wherever our clients need them. The ALFA International model enables our members to use their local expertise to deliver highly effective legal solutions, often drawing upon the collective wisdom and experience of other member firms. ALFA International clients benefit from a geographically comprehensive network of exceptional law firms and accomplished trial and business counsel. Our member firms meet high standards to be part of the ALFA International network and are well respected by their peers in the legal and business community.

**2:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**FACULTY REHEARSAL**

Aragon Ballroom I-II

**2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

**REGISTRATION & HOSPITALITY**

Aragon Ballroom Pre-Function

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**CLIENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

El Biz



**4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**  
**WOMEN'S INITIATIVE RECEPTION**

**Tides & Tastings:  
A Coastal Wine &  
Trivia Experience**

Granada Lawn

Tides & Tastings combines vineyard selections with friendly competition. Test your trivia and wine knowledge while sampling distinctive coastal wines, discovering how proximity to waves influences each vintage's character. Tides & Tastings, where learning and libations flow together like tide and shore.



**Melissa Morton**  
Women's Initiative Liaison  
GIBSON, MCASKILL & CROSBY, LLP  
Buffalo, New York

**5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**TALK AMONGST YOURSELVES: CLIENT ONLY SOCIAL**

North Lawn

This event allows client attendees the opportunity to exchange ideas and share best practices in a social setting without ALFA International lawyers present.

**6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

**ALFA INTERNATIONAL: ALL ATTORNEY MEETING**

Aragon Ballroom I-II

All attending ALFA International attorneys are required to attend.

**6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

**Spanish Splendor**

**WELCOME RECEPTION, BUFFET DINNER, & REGISTRATION**  
*Bernardo & Patio*

Experience an extraordinary evening at Rancho Bernardo Inn, where vibrant culinary traditions come alive accompanied by live guitar music. Spend the evening reconnecting with old friends and networking with new acquaintances. The night will begin with a cocktail hour, followed by a buffet dinner. We look forward to welcoming you to the 2025 Construction Law Seminar!

**Suggested Attire:** Come as you are.



**THURSDAY, JULY 24**

**7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.**

**ATTENDEE BREAKFAST BUFFET**

Aragon Lawn

**7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.**

**FIRST-TIME ATTENDEE BREAKFAST**

Aragon West Terrace

This breakfast is open to all first-time attendees.

**8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**PROGRAM SESSIONS**

Aragon Ballroom

**8:00 a.m. – 8:20 a.m.**

**Introductory Remarks**



**Grace Garcia**  
Chair, ALFA International  
Board of Directors  
MORRISON MAHONEY LLP  
Boston, Massachusetts



**Ryan Casteix**  
Program Vice-Chair, 2025  
Construction Seminar  
LEAKE ANDERSSON  
New Orleans, Louisiana



**Chris Mueller**  
Practice Group Chair  
TAYLOR, DAY,  
GRIMM & BOYD  
Jacksonville, Florida



**Jessica Zaroski Bauer**  
Chief Executive Officer  
ALFA INTERNATIONAL  
Chicago, Illinois



**Spencer Wiegard**  
Program Chair, 2025  
Construction Seminar  
GENTRY LOCKE  
Roanoke, Virginia

**8:20 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.**

**PLENARY SESSION:**

**Surfing the Wave of Transformation:  
Navigating Risk Allocation in Green  
Building & Sustainable Projects**

Buzzwords like "green building" and "sustainability" get thrown around the construction industry as a matter of course. From developers playing lip service to environmental concerns to contractors, architects and engineers in seeming despair when key sustainable/resilient components become omitted as time or costs get tight, to changing government priorities, this area remains challenging to navigate. In addition, given the diverse range of project stakeholders, there is often confusion over who bears the responsibility and risks related to various environmental concerns. From project funders all the way down to specialist manufacturers, there is both confusion and a failure to properly allocate project risk at the front end of a building project. Join us for a session exploring the front-end and back-end risks with a view to achieving more sustainable and resilient projects, including:

- Sector regulation and de-regulation
- Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Water efficiency
- Environmentally preferable building materials and specifications
- Waste and toxic material reduction
- Indoor air quality
- Smart growth
- Resilient and sustainable developments



**Jessica Mederson**  
Moderator  
STAFFORD ROSENBAUM LLP  
Madison, Wisconsin



**Rosa Meeks**  
Senior Excess Casualty  
NAC Underwriter  
CNA INSURANCE  
Kansas City, Missouri



**Paula Boast**  
CHARLES RUSSELL SPEECHLYS  
Manama, Bahrain

9:20 a.m. – 9:35 a.m.

BREAK

9:35 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 1

**TRACK ONE: SURFING THE ROUGH WATERS PRESENTED BY WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE IN CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS**

This panel will explore the turbulent tides of personal injury claims and the various ways to defend against them in construction cases that also involve matters of waste, fraud and abuse. Panelists will discuss how the operation of sophisticated and fraudulent construction accident schemes has led to the exploitation of the legal and insurance systems by focusing on cases pulled from the headlines in the news and court filings. Panelists will dive deep into the undertow discussing reports of corrupt runner-claimants, attorneys, medical providers and litigation funders which has led to the orchestration of a wide-ranging criminal enterprise staging construction accidents. From these staged accidents, fraudulent lawsuits are filed and the crew of fraudsters reap millions of dollars in settlements, workers' compensation benefits and litigation funding.

**Alfredo Alvarado**  
*Moderator*  
 LESTER SCHWAB KATZ & DWYER, LLP  
 New York, New York

**Lori-Ann Russo-Green**  
*Senior Claims Manager*  
 NAUTILUS INSURANCE GROUP  
 Scottsdale, Arizona

**Derrick Mullen**  
*Vice President and Litigation Manager*  
 SENECA INSURANCE COMPANY, INC.  
 New York, New York

**Rett Kendall**  
 MURPHY & GRANTLAND, P.A.  
 Columbia, South Carolina

**TRACK TWO: NAVIGATING THE MAELSTROM: CREATING A CULTURE OF SAFETY AND EHS COMPLIANCE**

To prevent workplace incidents and resulting injuries or fatalities, employers must create and support a culture of safety. Leadership must be committed to leading from the top, while also seeking employee involvement and engagement. This panel will discuss steps to create a culture of safety, including hazard assessments, compliance audits and reviews of EHS policies, programs and procedures, establishing robust training programs and enforcing EHS rules, policies and procedures. The panel will also discuss what do you do when a workplace injury or fatality incident occurs, and what do you do if OSHA knocks on your door.

**Spencer Wiegard**  
*Moderator*  
 GENTRY LOCKE  
 Roanoke, Virginia

**Doug Cole**  
*Vice President and General Counsel*  
 ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES, LTD.  
 Chantilly, Virginia

**Britney Prince**  
*Head of Litigation and Labor & Employment*  
 COMMERCIAL METALS COMPANY  
 Irving, Texas

**Wally Irvin**  
 LEWIS THOMASON  
 Nashville, Tennessee

10:35 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

BREAK

10:50 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 2

**TRACK ONE: NAVIGATING THE TIDES OF CONSTRUCTION DISPUTE RESOLUTION – LITIGATION VS. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

When it comes to dispute resolution in construction contracts, the tide has favored alternative dispute resolution over more traditional adjudication in the state or federal courts, but have we seen the high water mark? This session will explore the positive and negative aspects of alternative dispute resolution over litigation, as well as the various forums and approaches to alternative dispute resolutions. Whether you are deciding what approach is best for your company or providing direction to your clients as to how to navigate the rough seas of dispute resolution, this session will help you steer the course.

**Jason Patton**  
*Moderator*  
 BUTT THORNTON & BAEHR PC  
 Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Brian Haviland**  
*Claims Professional*  
 Atlanta, Georgia

**Michael Bauer**  
*General Counsel*  
 VERSAR GLOBAL SOLUTIONS  
 Atlanta, Georgia

**Adam Cooke**  
 FOWLER WHITE BURNETT P.A.  
 Fort Lauderdale, Florida

**TRACK TWO: BUILDING GREEN – NAVIGATING ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE & LITIGATION IN CONSTRUCTION**

There is a saying "as the crow flies," meaning taking the most direct route somewhere, but when that crow's annual roosting habits become a nuisance in urban areas, damaging roofing materials, buildings and equipment, can you make the crow fly somewhere else? In an ever-evolving regulatory landscape, construction professionals must navigate complex legal requirements and guidelines while striving for sustainability and compliance. This panel brings together legal experts, policymakers and industry leaders to discuss key environmental challenges in construction, including compliance with local, state and federal regulations, sustainable building practices and the impact of climate change on construction law. Panelists will also explore green building standards, biodiversity preservation and emerging litigation trends related to environmental liability. Attendees will gain valuable insights into best practices for mitigating risks and ensuring regulatory adherence in construction projects.

**Garrett Boehm**  
*Moderator*  
 JOHNSON & BELL, LTD.  
 Chicago, Illinois

**Tina McPhail**  
*CFO and Executive Vice President*  
 PRAY CONSTRUCTION  
 Scott Depot, West Virginia

**Jennifer Goodwin**  
*Senior Counsel*  
 VICTAULIC COMPANY  
 Center Valley, Pennsylvania

**Anne Blankenship**  
 ROBINSON & MCELWEE  
 Charleston, West Virginia

11:50 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

BREAK

12:05 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**PLENARY SESSION:**

## Riding the Waves of Changing Economic Realities: Tariffs and Joint Ventures

This panel will discuss tariff impacts, including lessons learned from the past and how to contract for the future. The panel will also discuss joint ventures as a tool to team up to handle mega projects, including different methods of combination, critical issues and solutions.

  
**Marc Sanchez**  
*Moderator*  
 FRANZ WARD LLP  
 Cleveland, Ohio

  
**Caryn Maxfield**  
*Senior Vice President*  
 AMERICAN GLOBAL  
 Chicago, Illinois

  
**Scott Sherman**  
*Vice President and General Counsel*  
 DBM GLOBAL INC.  
 Phoenix, Arizona

  
**Terry Salazar**  
 QUILLING, SELANDER, LOWNDS, WINSLETT AND MOSER, P.C.  
 Dallas, Texas

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**BUFFET LUNCH**

Aragon Lawn

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**AFTERNOON NETWORKING:  
POOL DAY**

Granada Lawn &amp; Adult Pool

Enjoy this time to relax and unwind with fellow attendees.



7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Relax & Unwine****COCKTAIL RECEPTION & BUFFET DINNER**

Santiago Lawn &amp; Courtyard

After a fun day poolside, enjoy a night of lively music over cocktails and a buffet dinner in this idyllic setting.

*Suggested Attire:* Come as you are.



## FRIDAY, JULY 25

6:15 a.m. – 7:00 a.m.

**WELLNESS WORLDWIDE** *Front Drive*

Join ALFA International CEO, Jessica Zaroski Bauer for a morning jog around the beautiful Rancho Bernardo Inn property.

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 3**

### TRACK ONE: BUT DID YOU DIE? DETERMINING RESPONSIBILITY AND NEGOTIATING DAMAGES IN CONSTRUCTION DISPUTES

Navigating damages in and arising from any construction projects can be challenging, especially when dealing with contractual limitations, non-contractual liabilities and delays. Join our esteemed panel of construction law experts as they break down the critical legal aspects of damages, including a deep dive into the AIA contract provisions and their impact on claims and disputes.

This informative and interactive panel will provide expert insight and discussion into:

- Contractual Damages – Liquidated damages, consequential damage waivers, and limitation of liability.
- Non-Contractual (Tort & Statutory) Damages – Claims for negligence, misrepresentation, and third-party liabilities.
- Damages for Delay – Enforceability of liquidated damages, actual damages claims and common disputes.
- AIA Contract Provisions – Understanding key damage-related clauses, including waivers of consequential damages and delay provisions.
- Risk Mitigation Strategies – Best practices for protecting your interests and minimizing financial exposure.

  
**John Watt**  
*Moderator*  
 BAKER STERCHI COWDEN & RICE LLC  
 Kansas City, Missouri

  
**Jeff Brannen**  
*Senior Vice President/Chief Legal Officer*  
 BALFOUR BEATTY CONSTRUCTION, LLC  
 Dallas, Texas

  
**Karen Rice**  
*Head of Global Claim Success Initiatives*  
 PROACTIVE  
 Lake Forest, California

  
**Gibby Wright**  
 MCCANDLISH HOLTON, PC  
 Richmond, Virginia

### TRACK TWO: THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS MAKING WAVES

The new administration continues to make waves that are impacting the construction industry. This panel will discuss the impact of new tariffs, changes and cuts to federal agencies, funding cuts, regulatory changes and shifts in enforcement priorities that are affecting the industry. The panel includes the perspective of those with state and federal government contracts, those affected by tariffs and those with an international presence who are dealing with trade barriers.

  
**Bob DeRosset**  
*Moderator*  
 YOUNG MOORE AND HENDERSON, P.A.  
 Raleigh, North Carolina

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

BREAK

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS – GROUP 4

**TRACK ONE: EXPERT DISCOVERY FROM COAST TO COAST**

This panel will discuss expert discovery practices under different jurisdictions. The panel will compare expert discovery practices in Oregon, which does not have any formal expert discovery, with the discovery practices of other jurisdictions. The goal of the panel is to provide insights into possible alternative ways of approaching discovery and tips to manage expert discovery from pre-litigation through verdict.



**Josh Kennedy**  
*Moderator*  
 COSGRAVE VERGEER  
 KESTER LLP  
 Portland, Oregon



**Jon Beling**  
*Associate General Counsel*  
 CLAYTON HOMES  
 Maryville, Tennessee



**Peter Wilcox-Jones**  
*General Counsel*  
 WILSON CONSTRUCTION CO.  
 Canby, Oregon



**Steve Troiano**  
 MORRISON MAHONEY LLP  
 Boston, Massachusetts

**TRACK TWO: AN UPDATE ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT IN 2025**

This panel will discuss where we stand on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA") including funds spent so far, the projects funded, and the funds that remain unallocated. The panel will also discuss the impact of new administration's executive orders and enforcement priorities on existing and future projects.



**Nathaniel Martinez**  
*Moderator*  
 MAYER LLP  
 Houston, Texas



**Ron Peppe**  
*Vice President & General Counsel*  
 FABSOULTH LLC  
 Frederick, Maryland



**Cody Webb**  
*VP and General Counsel*  
 ZACHRY CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION  
 San Antonio, Texas



**Jeremy Ward**  
 FRANDEN | FARRIS | QUILLIN | GOODNIGHT | ROBERTS + WARD  
 Tulsa, Oklahoma

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

BREAK

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

**ALFA International Headquarters Update**

This session will provide an overview of many new and some improved offerings available at ALFAI as well as resources and opportunities available to our clients.



**Jessica Zaroski Bauer**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
 ALFA INTERNATIONAL  
 Chicago, Illinois

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**PLENARY SESSION****Come Fly Away: Undertaking a \$3.8 Billion Expansion of an Operating Airport**

From the Spirit of St. Louis and Charles Lindbergh to Top Gun and UAVs, San Diego has been at the center of aviation for over 100 years. Part of that history includes the San Diego International Airport. Over the past several years, the airport has undergone unprecedented expansion. Currently, the Terminal 1 expansion is nearing completion of its first phase. This panel will discuss the many facets that go into a project of this magnitude, from design and construction to partnering and claim resolution. Put your tray tables up, strap in and enjoy the ride!



**Michael Gibson**  
*Moderator*  
 HIGGS FLETCHER & MACK, LLP  
 San Diego, California



**Lauren Racanelli**  
*Regional Counsel*  
 GENSLER  
 Los Angeles, California



**Mark Furuya**  
*Associate General Counsel*  
 TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY  
 New York, New York



**Chris Mueller**  
 TAYLOR, DAY, GRIMM & BOYD  
 Jacksonville, Florida



**Jeff Miller**  
*Vice President and General Counsel*  
 THE HASKELL COMPANY  
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

12:15 p.m. – 12:20 p.m.

**Closing Remarks**

12:20 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

**BUFFET LUNCH**

Aragon Lawn

1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

See Optional Activities Brochure

Advance registration is required.

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**OPTIONAL FAREWELL COCKTAILS & DINNER**

See Optional Activities Brochure

Advance registration is required.



## 2025 CONSTRUCTION SPEAKER BIOS



**ALFREDO ALVARADO** is a Partner at Lester Schwab Katz& Dwyer, LLP, the ALFAI International member firm in New York City. His practice concentrates on complex cases, products liability, professional liability, construction/labor law cases, general liability and motor carrier and automobile liability. He has 26 years of extensive experience in the representation of companies and individuals in high exposure cases in both State and Federal Courts in both New York and New Jersey. Mr. Alvarado has lectured extensively on trial preparation, defending traumatic brain injury cases, Frye and Daubert standards in New York, role of excess monitoring counsel, defending Labor Law Claims and jury selection. Mr. Alvarado is a 1987 graduate from Tulane University where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree with Honors, and a 1990 graduate of the Tulane University Law School where he received Order of the Barristers Award for his skills in oral advocacy. Mr. Alvarado has been selected for inclusion in the 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 New York Super Lawyers.

**JESSICA ZAROSKI BAUER** joined ALFA International (ALFAI) in 2004 as a Coordinator of Events & Member Services. She then worked for several years as a Marketing Manager, Chief Events Officer and Chief Operating Officer. After 17 years with the association, she accepted her current role as Chief Executive Officer. In this position she is the strategic thought leader of the organization, working closely with the Board of Directors and the various ALFAI committees. She manages headquarters staff and maintains constant communication with association members. Jessica oversees the member recruitment, development and retention programs as well as the marketing and business development initiatives for the organization. Prior to joining ALFA International, she worked in the marketing department of the Chicago-based law firm of Gardner, Carton & Douglas, LLP (now Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath). She is a graduate of the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business (Go Hawkeyes!) and is an avid college football fan. In her spare time Jessica can be found enjoying family time with her husband Harry and her two young daughters, Greta and Vivian. She also enjoys swimming in Lake Michigan, playing beach volleyball and watching Oscar nominated movies.

**MICHAEL BAUER** is a Vice President and Deputy General Counsel for WSP in Atlanta, Georgia. In his current role, he focuses primarily on government contracts and handles some of the company's US-based litigation. Prior to joining WSP, he was a Senior Legal Counsel for Golder Associates (which was acquired by WSP). Prior to joining Golder, Michael served as a Region Legal Counsel at AECOM (via its acquisition of URS) and as a litigation attorney at Seyfarth Shaw and Watt, Tieder, Hoffar & Fitzgerald during his time in private practice. Michael has extensive experience with complex construction litigation and during his career has worked on cases ranging from pipeline pulls under the Tigris River in Iraq to domestic litigation involving multimillion-dollar condominium projects. Michael received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and his J.D. from the Washington and Lee University School of Law.

**JON BELING** serves as Associate General Counsel for Clayton Homes and its subsidiaries. Jon has been with Clayton Homes since 2019 and manages the Company's litigation throughout the United States. Prior to joining Clayton Homes, he was in private practice in Birmingham, Alabama, defending manufacturers and retailers in the factory-built home industry. He is experienced in defending claims in various forums, including arbitration, state and federal courts throughout the country and he has argued before the Eleventh and Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

**ANNE BLANKENSHIP** has worked in West Virginia's energy industry in various capacities for over a decade. She has nearly 20 years of experience as an attorney in the environmental, regulatory, and utility sectors, in addition to her time serving as the West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association's Executive Director. Ms. Blankenship's practice at the ALFAI member firm Robinson & McElwee PLLC in Charleston, WV, includes the representation of public utilities in West Virginia, including oil and gas distribution companies and electric companies. She provides consultation on regulatory and legislative matters for utilities and representation of her clients before the West Virginia Public

Service Commission. She also represents clients in the development of electric power generation, including solar and other renewable energy, and assists in lease negotiations and navigating regulatory and permitting requirements. In the energy and environmental law arena, Ms. Blankenship has over 15 years of experience, primarily in the area of clean air law, in addition to water, waste and emergency response matters. Her clients include manufacturers, oil and gas companies, major state trade associations, and other industrial and commercial businesses. She provides consulting to her clients regarding regulatory and legislative developments in the area of environmental law and representation before agencies and courts regarding compliance, permitting and enforcement issues. She was designated Special Environmental Counsel in the wake of a large chemical spill in West Virginia in which she played a key role in the remediation of the site and managing negotiations with various state and federal agencies. In her role as Executive Director of the West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association, Ms. Blankenship led and managed one of the oldest and prominent trade associations in West Virginia that represents all sectors of the oil and natural gas industry. She has undergraduate and graduate degrees in biological sciences from Marshall University and a J.D. from Capital University Law School in Columbus, Ohio. She returned to West Virginia after law school and has built her career and raised her family in Charleston.

**PAULA BOAST** is head of Construction Engineering & Projects at Charles Russell Speechlys, the ALFA International member firm in Bahrain. She has been based in the Middle East region since 2006 and specializes in construction projects including Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, Kuwait, Oman, and Saudi Arabia. Her extensive experience includes Real Estate and Development, Regeneration, Infrastructure and Utilities, Energy and Renewables, Oil and Gas, Hotels, Leisure and Tourism, Residential, Industrial and Commercial, Education, Sports and Healthcare. She works across both the private and public sectors. Paula acts on behalf of government and regulatory clients, including Governmental Ministries of Public Works, project funders, employers and developers, lenders and investors, contractors, subcontractors and consultants. Iconic projects that Paula has worked on include Al, Dur PWP, BapCo Modernization Project, Saadiyat Island, Bid Bid Sur Highway, King Abdullah Financial District Riyadh, Shangri-La Oman, Bahrain National Assembly, Durrat Al Bahrain, Doha Convention Center, Bahrain Bay to include Four Seasons Hotel, Riffa Views, Diyar Al Muharraq, Bahrain International Airport, King Abdullah Medical City, Education City Doha, Lusail Doha, Investment Gateway Bahrain, California Land Dubai. Paula also assisted the Bahrain Ministry of Works in the drafting and publication to market of its first ever Standard Suite of Construction Contracts (2009 Edition) based on FIDIC forms. She is a faculty advocacy member for ROAP DELOS, a Singapore-accredited mediator with the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution, as well as the vice chair of the British Chamber of Commerce Bahrain.

**GARRETT L. BOEHM, JR.**, is a Shareholder and General Counsel for Johnson & Bell, Ltd., the ALFAI member firm based in Chicago, Illinois. Garrett co-chairs Johnson & Bell's environmental and appellate practice groups. As to construction law matters, primarily on appeal, Garrett has represented clients in disputes related to high rise construction and highway construction. In addition, Garrett serves as the chair of ALFAI's environmental practice group. Garrett is a lifelong Chicagoan and now lives northwest of Chicago with his wife, three kids, and two dogs.

**JEFF BRANNEN** is Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer with Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC in Dallas, Texas. He joined Balfour Beatty in 2011. He currently supports the legal and compliance needs of the Texas operations related to construction contracts and negotiations. As a member of the Texas leadership team, Jeff functions as a strategic business partner to the business leadership. Prior to working at Balfour Beatty, Jeff obtained extensive experience representing contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, sureties and owners in construction-related matters. In addition to his construction practice, Jeff is an experienced transactional attorney and commercial litigator who has represented many clients in sales of businesses, contract negotiations, and

commercial and employment related litigation. The negotiations have included construction contracts, real estate acquisitions, asset purchase agreements, easement negotiations and insurance negotiations.

**RYAN CASTEIX** is a partner with the ALFA International member firm of Leake Andersson in New Orleans, Louisiana. Ryan regularly represents local and national clients across the construction industry, including contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, owners, and material suppliers. His litigation practice focuses on design and professional liability, construction defect, breach of contract, and disaster mitigation across a wide variety of projects. Beyond litigation, his transactional and commercial practice includes contract drafting and negotiation, pre-claim disputes, contractor licensing, collections, and lien claims arising under the Louisiana Private and Public Works Act. Ryan also maintains a general and premise liability practice, most commonly involving commercial and multifamily residential properties. Ryan has been named to New Orleans Magazine Top Lawyers List in Construction Law since 2021 and has been recognized as a Rising Star in the field of Construction Litigation by Louisiana Super Lawyers (2016- 2018). Ryan received his B.A. from the University of Georgia and his J.D. from Tulane University.

**ADAM COOKE** is a Shareholder of Fowler White Burnett, P.A., ALFA International's member firm in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He is active in the firm's Aviation and Maritime practice groups. He has a background in different areas of Maritime & Admiralty, including maritime lien claims, commercial yacht disputes, ship mortgage foreclosure, cargo claims, collision claims, salvage claims, limitation of liability claims, and Jones Act personal injury actions. He also has experience in insurance defense work, construction litigation, complex commercial litigation and has represented various lenders in litigation and collection matters. Additionally, Adam's practice includes the representation of domestic and international airlines related to claims and litigation for property damage, personal injury and cargo claims.

**BOB DEROSET** is a shareholder of ALFA International member firm Young Moore and Henderson P.A. in Raleigh, North Carolina. Bob serves clients primarily in the fields of construction, business and product liability law. He tries cases at the state and federal levels in North and South Carolina. He is certified by the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission to conduct mediated settlement conferences in Superior Court cases and uses his perspective as a seasoned litigator to assist parties to voluntarily resolve their disputes through mediation. Bob has also completed collaborative law training and advanced collaborative law training. He is part of the effort in North Carolina to expand collaborative law into construction and business law. He is an active member of ALFA International's Construction and Product Liability & Complex Torts Practice Groups. He is recognized in North Carolina Super Lawyers in the area of Construction Litigation and holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Before joining Young Moore in 2001, Bob practiced law for two years in Columbia, South Carolina and served as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer in León, Nicaragua. When he is not working for his clients, Bob enjoys trail running or running on the streets and greenways of Raleigh. He is a novice ultra-marathoner who has not yet run one too many races. Bob is a fan of the Raleigh area, as well as North Carolina in general, and enjoys showing visitors what the region has to offer.

**MARK J. FURUYA** is a Vice President of Legal for Turner Construction Company, the largest general contractor in the U.S. and serves as the North American flagship of HOCHTIEF and ACS Group, two of the world's leading infrastructure firms. In his role, Mark oversees all legal matters for the Western part of the United States and Canada, covering a wide range of iconic projects, including SoFi Stadium, Intuit Dome, and the San Diego Airport. Mark is also part of Turner's Major Claims Group and serves as the head of legal for SourceBlue, LLC, a subsidiary of Turner and logistics company that provides construction equipment to projects across the world. Prior to joining Turner, Mark was Deputy General Counsel for Clark Construction Group, LLC. Mark received his JD from the USC Gould School of Law and BA from Claremont McKenna College.

**GRACE V.B. GARCIA**, a Partner in the Boston office of ALFA International member firm Morrison Mahoney LLP, concentrates her practice in the areas of product liability, construction law – including personal injury, construction defect, and contractual - OSHA, commercial litigation, employment litigation, premises liability and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) cases. Grace currently serves as Chair of ALFA International's Board of Directors, and is a former Chair of both ALFA International's Construction Practice Group and Women's Initiative Practice Group. Grace has an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale Hubbell and in 2020 she was honored by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly with its "Circle of Excellence" after being honored in 2013 as a "Top Women of Law." Grace has over 25 years of trial practice and litigation experience and has obtained successful outcomes on behalf of her clients in both state and Federal Court trials. She also has successfully argued before the Appeals Court. Beyond ALFA, she is actively involved in many professional groups, and is the Immediate Past-President of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Grace is also a past President of the Massachusetts Defense Lawyers Association and past DRI State Representative for Massachusetts. She is a routine lecturer on defending brain injuries, risk transfer and indemnity issues, best discovery practices and deposition techniques, and OSHA.

**MICHAEL R. GIBSON**, a partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, LLP, the ALFA International member firm in San Diego, California, focuses his practice on commercial litigation in the construction, real estate and hospitality industries. Outside of the courtroom, Michael provides advice and counsel to his clients on risk management and liability prevention, as well as guidance pre-litigation when disputes arise in real time. Utilizing his 27 years of experience litigating, Michael serves as a mediator helping parties find solutions to resolve their disputes. A graduate of the University of Southern California and the University of San Diego School of Law, he is a frequent speaker on current legal topics and trends. Outside of the office, Michael devotes time to local non-profits supporting youth sports and affordable senior housing in his community.

**JENNIFER GOODWIN** is Senior Counsel at Victaulic Company, the leading producer of mechanical pipe joining solutions with over 50 global facilities and 4,000 employees worldwide. Jennifer is responsible for management of the global environmental group and global real estate portfolio, international business transactions, including distribution relationships and employee matters, commercial transactions and select international and domestic product liability litigation. Prior to joining Victaulic, Jennifer served as Senior Section Counsel at Olympus Corporation of the Americas. She received a B.A. in political science from Bloomsburg University, and her J.D. from Villanova University.

**BRIAN HAVILAND** is a claims professional who has 18 years' experience managing complex and high severity claims at multiple insurance carriers. Brian has managed primary and excess claims stemming from construction accidents, auto / trucking liability, commercial property management, and sexual abuse and molestation claims. Brian actively monitors the various RICO lawsuits being litigated against plaintiff firms, doctors, providers and runners in NY which stem from alleged fraudulent claims asserting violations of NY Labor Law. Brian has a M.S. Degree in Negotiation and Conflict Resolution from Columbia University. He is a licensed claims adjuster in 20 states. Brian was a long-time New Yorker who recently relocated to Atlanta and currently lives in Alpharetta, GA.

**J. WALLACE IRVIN** is a shareholder in ALFAI member firm Lewis Thomason's Nashville office where he focuses his practice on construction law. Mr. Irvin represents contractors, architects, engineers, and surveyors in a wide variety of business matters including contract negotiations, project administration/closeout, construction defect defense and payment disputes, including the assertion and enforcement of lien and bond claims. Additionally, Mr. Irvin advises clients in administrative matters before the Tennessee Occupational Health and Safety Administration (TOSHA), the Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners, and Tennessee Board

for Licensing Contractors. In 2019-2020, Mr. Irvin helped lead an industry coalition to amend Tennessee's construction statutes to provide additional protections and remedies for contractors and design professionals to ensure timely payments are made on construction projects. Mr. Irvin is an active member of the Associated General Contractors, Associated Builders and Contractors, American Council of Engineering Companies, and the Nashville, Tennessee, and American Bar Associations. Mr. Irvin is also a member of the 2023 Tennessee Bar Association Leadership Law program and is a graduate of Leadership Middle Tennessee (2019), the Nashville Bar Foundation's Leadership Forum (2016), and the AGC Construction Leadership Program (2015). Mr. Irvin also contributes to numerous industry publications, such as the 2017 A201 Desk book (ABA/AIA 2017), the Tennessee Construction Law Handbook (HLK 2017), the Annotated Construction Law Glossary (ABA 2011), and the Law of Payment Bonds (ABA 2011) and is a frequently lecturer for construction industry trade organizations and seminar providers. Mr. Irvin is rated "AV Preeminent" by Martindale Hubbell. He is licensed to practice in Tennessee and Alabama and is a Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 31 listed Civil Mediator.

**RETT KENDALL** is a shareholder with the ALFA International firm, Murphy & Grantland, P.A. in Columbia, South Carolina. For more than 23 years, Rett's practice has focused on construction defect and products litigation, representing both contractors and building component manufacturers.

**JOSHUA R. KENNEDY** is a partner at Cosgrave Vergeer Kester LLP, the ALFA International member firm in Portland, Oregon. Josh focuses his law practice on construction services, construction litigation, product liability, and real estate litigation and has represented contractors, developers, design professionals, manufacturers, distributors, and property owners in a wide variety of circumstances. He has spent significant time in the courtroom and has tried dozens of jury trials through verdict. He also has a proven track record of negotiating favorable results for clients in contract and settlement negotiations, often involving high stakes and numerous interested parties.

**CARYN MAXFIELD** serves as a key member of American Global's Infrastructure Team, leveraging her experience and expertise to support our clients as their risk and insurance advisor on P3 and Alternative Project Delivery pursuits. Caryn is an experienced attorney and former construction company executive with 17 years in the construction and surety industries. Given her extensive experience in project pursuits and alternative project delivery, Caryn also provides assistance and strategic guidance to American Global's clients related to complex project pursuits, construction and design partner relationships, risk transfer and mitigation strategies, as well as developing solutions to clients' disputes and project issues. Before joining American Global, Caryn spent over nine years at The Walsh Group where she served as Vice President of Strategic Projects, leading the transactional legal team. Caryn and her team were responsible for all alternative project delivery pursuits, as well as the analysis, underwriting and negotiation of complex construction and development contracts, including public-private partnerships, and various related partnership agreements, major subcontracts and design agreements. Caryn's experience in the construction industry began with Liberty Mutual Surety as Senior Surety Counsel in the Chicago office, handling surety claims. Caryn also brings years of commercial litigation experience gained at two prominent law firms in New York and Chicago, focusing on contracts, business and insurance law. This diverse legal background enhances her ability to support and connect with clients and the insurance and surety markets globally. Caryn holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Illinois University and a Juris Doctorate from Notre Dame Law School.

**TINA MCPHAIL** is an Owner and Director at Pray Construction, a 41 year-old premier Design-Builder in West Virginia and its surrounding states, with more than 24 years experience in the A/E/C industry. Tina oversees Finance and Accounting, Information Technology, and Human Resources at Pray. She also participates in business strategy and risk management for the Board of Directors. Tina is a CPA and, graduated from Concord University Summa Cum Laude

with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, including dual concentrations in Accounting and Computer Science. Tina also holds a Master of Business Administration degree from West Virginia University's College of Business and Economics. An active member of the community and church, Tina is also the Chairperson for the Board of Advisors for Concord University's School of Business. She has also served periodically as an adjunct professor or guest lecturer at three colleges and universities in southern WV and is an outspoken proponent of employee-owned companies as a business structure.

**JESSICA MEDERSON** is a partner and member of the Board of Directors with Stafford Rosenbaum LLP, the ALFA International member law firm in Madison and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Jessica litigates business and construction matters in state and federal courts across the United States, focusing her practice on construction and manufacturing defect disputes, Uniform Commercial Code litigation, contract disputes, director/officer and shareholder litigation, employer-side employment litigation and dealership litigation. A commercial litigator for over 20 years, Jessica spent her first decade practicing law in Texas at Vinson & Elkins and Bracewell before making the move to Wisconsin. She also advises corporate clients on contractual negotiation issues and employment law and has extensive experience with both e-discovery issues, including cross-border discovery and attorney-client privilege issues. She writes, presents and advises businesses nationally on addressing resiliency in construction projects and business operations and is certified for entry into OSHA Permit-Required Confined Spaces.

**ROSA MEEKS** is a Senior Excess & Surplus Casualty Underwriter with over 15 years of experience in the insurance industry. She has held key underwriting roles at Zurich, State Auto and IAT Insurance, and is currently based at CNA Insurance in Kansas City, MO. Rosa is known for her expertise in complex casualty risk, strong broker relationships, and strategic approach to underwriting in the evolving E&S market.

**JEFF MILLER** is Vice President and General Counsel for The Haskell Company. Jeff has 31 years of legal experience representing insurers, manufacturers, business owners, design and construction professionals, general contractors, construction managers, and subcontractors of all types and sizes. As head of the Legal Department at Haskell, Jeff leads a team of highly competent legal and contract professionals. He serves as the lead negotiator of all Design-Build/EPC contracts for Haskell and its subsidiaries, advises the Board of Directors and company management on all aspects of commercial risk, and leads the company in management of construction litigation, including claims for breach of contract, defective design drawings and specifications, construction defect claims, Miller Act claims and those involving similar state and federal statutes, and mechanic's lien claims. Jeff is an Oklahoma native and works in Haskell's Oklahoma City office, traveling frequently to Haskell's headquarters in Jacksonville, Florida. He earned his Law degree from the University of Oklahoma and his undergraduate degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology from Oklahoma State University.

**CHRISTOPHER J. MUELLER** is a shareholder with the ALFA International member firm Taylor, Day, Grimm & Boyd in Jacksonville, Florida and Board Certified as a specialist in construction law by the Florida Bar. Chris graduated cum laude from Florida State University and then received his juris doctor from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University. His practice primarily includes the representation of developers, general contractors, subcontractors, designers, and material suppliers in construction matters. He also represents insurance carriers on coverage matters and has litigated commercial and general liability disputes throughout his career. Chris is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, has been named by Super Lawyers magazine in construction law, has been listed among Jacksonville's best lawyers in 904 Magazine and Jacksonville Magazine, is a fellow of the Construction Lawyers Society of America and is a frequent writer and lecturer on a variety of construction law topics.

**DERRICK MULLEN** is a Vice President, Litigation manager and Director of Casualty Claims with the responsibility for managing and handling complex and high exposure litigated claims involving major coverage issues, coordinating mediation days, manages a plaintiff doctors spreadsheet as well as managing defense and coverage law firms at Seneca Insurance Company, Inc. Since 1991, he has also worked for Hartford Insurance Company and Crum & Forster Insurance Company as an inside claims representative and an auto claims supervisor. Derrick studied in the field of computer engineering field at Gardner Webb University, where he received his B.S. In his current role, Derrick specializes in commercial general liability insurance claims, as well as first party property litigation filed against the company. Derrick's success in this area is supported by excellent negotiation and communication skills, high claim technical ability, leadership, organizational skills combined with a special interest in coverage, habitability, products defect as well as construction defect claims. Derrick also carries an insurance adjusting license in 17-States and has a designation as a Master Certified Special Arbitrator (MCSA) as well as an Advanced Claims Professional (ACP) designation. Derrick is currently a faculty member of CLM Claims College. Derrick is an active member of NAAIA, JINLAW and SERMA as well as a Fellow of the CLM.

**JASON PATTON** is a shareholder and director of Butt, Thornton & Baehr PC, ALFA International's member firm in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Jason represents contractors and design professionals in construction related litigation and general business matters. Prior to becoming an attorney, Jason was himself a contractor, and worked for one of New Mexico's largest commercial contractors.

**RON PEPPE** is the Vice President and General Counsel for FabSouth, LLC, FabSouth is part of Canam Group, based in Montreal Canada. Canam operates 22 plants in Canada and the United States, as well as engineering offices in Canada, Romania, India, and the Philippines, and designs, manufactures and installs steel construction components. Previously, Ron served as Executive Vice President of Shared Services for Canam Steel Corporation and VP Law and Technology for the Association of Corporate Counsel. Ron recently served on the Frederick City Charter Review Commission and has served as a member of the City Council and as Chairman of the School Board of Falls Church, Virginia. Prior to that, he was President of the Board of Education of Frederick County, Maryland. He holds a BA from Johns Hopkins University, an MA from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, and a JD from the University of MD School of Law.

**BRITNEY PRINCE** is Head of Litigation and Labor & Employment at Commercial Metals Company, a publicly traded metals recycling, manufacturing, and fabricating company. She oversees the company's state and federal litigation, labor and employment matters, and safety compliance. She also supports the company's Board of Directors and assists with corporate governance and corporate recordkeeping. Prior to this role, she worked as an associate in the Dallas offices of two global law firms and was a judicial extern for the Honorable Judge Wanda Bryant (Ret.), North Carolina Court of Appeals. She also worked for Teach for America as a high school math teacher in Dallas and is a current Board Member for the City of Irving's Housing and Human Services Board. She received her undergraduate degree from Duke University and her J.D. From the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**LAUREN RACANELLI** is an experienced attorney with over thirteen years of practice, spanning both in-house counsel and commercial litigation. She currently serves as Regional Counsel at Gensler, a global architecture and design firm known for its large-scale work on international airports, stadiums, luxury hotels, and public infrastructure. In this role, Lauren leads contract negotiations and risk management for projects across Southern California, Nevada, Arizona, and Colorado, which included the San Diego International Airport Terminal 1 project, for which Gensler is the lead architect and design partner to the Turner-Flatiron Joint Venture. Before Gensler, she was Senior Counsel at a national

firm, where she represented developers and landlords in complex construction and leasing disputes. Her background in litigation and her practical approach to legal strategy have earned her a reputation as a trusted partner within the architecture and design community.

**KAREN RICE** is the Head of Global Claim Success Initiatives at Proactive, a construction claims partner to carriers worldwide, providing a collaborative, non-adversarial approach to enhance the complex claims experience for carriers and insureds. Prior to her current role, Karen was the Head of Construction Claims, North America, for AXA XL. Prior to joining XL, she was the National Construction Defect Claim Manager for OneBeacon Insurance (OBI), and the AVP of National Construction Defect claims and Western States ACE Risk Management claims with ACE USA. Ms. Rice is the co-chair of the Construction Advisory Board for CLM. She is also on the Advisory Board for ALFA International Construction Committee and the Advisory Board for USLAW Construction Committee and has been a frequent lecturer at various Construction and Insurance Law seminars throughout the country. Ms. Rice earned her Bachelors degree from University of California at Santa Barbara and her Masters in Business Administration from the University of LaVerne.

**LORI-ANN RUSSO-GREEN** is a Senior Claims Manager responsible for overseeing complex E&S Claims at Nautilus Insurance Group. With a combined twenty-nine years in the Insurance industry, Lori-Ann brings a diversity of experience and a wealth of knowledge to Nautilus. Starting her career in the Property and Casualty space in 1996, she garnered experience across the country in both Auto and Homeowners claims. As her career progressed, she transitioned into Commercial claims specializing in SBLL, Construction Defect, Hospitality, Contractors, NYLL and IP claims. She excels in litigation management, coverage analysis, risk transfer as well as regulatory and compliance audits. Lori-Ann has claims experience in all 50 states and is well versed in pressing jurisdictional issues. Lori-Ann actively volunteers her time on behalf of the Autism Society of North Carolina. She teaches cooking courses for disabled teens and adults in Wake Forest, NC and offers her assistance as an IEP advocate for families within Wake County.

**TERRY L. SALAZAR** is with the ALFA International member firm of Quilling, Selander, Lownds, Winslett & Moser, P.C. in Dallas, Texas. His law practice for the past 39 years has focused exclusively on construction law and government contracting. He has represented owners, contractors, subcontractors and surety companies in all phases of the construction contracting process on private and public works projects, including drafting and negotiating complex construction agreements, contract award controversies, performance related disputes and contract claims. Terry has successfully represented clients in litigation in state and federal courts, boards of contract appeals, arbitrations, and both formal and informal proceedings before administrative agencies. A substantial portion of his practice has specialized in matters related to the fabrication and erection of steel on construction projects. Terry graduated with a B.A. degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1976 and earned a J.D. degree from the University of Texas School of Law in 1979. He is a former U.S. Army JAGC officer and procurement law attorney in the Office of General Counsel, National Security Agency. He is a member of the Construction Law Sections of the State Bar of Texas and the Dallas Bar Association. In 1999, Terry was the chairman of the Dallas Bar Association's Construction Law Section. He is a former chairman of the City of Dallas Building Code Advisory and Appeals Board. Terry is a frequent lecturer on competitive bidding, contract provisions, disputes and claims, and other construction-related topics, and has served as an instructor for the AGC of America at seminars throughout the United States.

**MARC SANCHEZ** is a partner with the Cleveland, Ohio ALFA International firm Frantz Ward LLP. Marc devotes his entire practice to construction law, representing contractors, specialty contractors, subcontractors, owners, developers, design professionals and sureties. He has extensive experience with construction-related litigation, mediation, arbitration, claims management, claims avoidance, insurance coverage and contract

negotiation. Marc serves as an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association and is a Charter Fellow in the Construction Lawyers Society of America. He is named to the Ohio Super Lawyers list, The Best Lawyers in America, and is voted AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. Marc earned his undergraduate degree, an A.B., with Honors, from Duke University and his J.D. from Stanford Law School. Marc is a partner with Frantz Ward LLP, a full-service litigation law firm. Frantz Ward was founded in Cleveland by partners who left a large national law firm to provide high-quality legal services with a shared vision of excellent client service, a caring team that valued time for family, and a mission to help the community at large. Their founding principles continue to guide the firm today, fostering a culture of integrity, respect, and commitment to making a positive impact both within the firm and in the wider community.

**STEVE TROIANO** is a partner in the Boston ALFA International member firm of Morrison Mahoney LLP. He is a civil litigator with experience handling matters in all phases of litigation through trial and appeal. Steve represents clients in the areas of construction law and litigation, product liability, transportation and general liability. He also represents and advises clients with respect to mechanic's liens, payment claims, construction defect disputes, and contract drafting and negotiation.

**JEREMY WARD** is an ALFA International (ALFAI) Construction Practice Group member with the ALFAI firm in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Franden | Farris | Quillin | Goodnight | Roberts + Ward. He routinely defends construction defect claims, product liability claims relating to construction products, catastrophic incidents and accidents, and professional negligence claims defending design professionals. Jeremy is Special Outside Counsel for the Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority, the Tulsa Utility Board, and the Regional Metropolitan Utility Authority. He is an Oklahoma Super Lawyer in Construction Litigation. Jeremy is AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell admitted to practice before all state and federal courts in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kansas, the Northern and Western District of Oklahoma Bankruptcy Courts, the 8th and 10th Circuit Courts of Appeal, and the United States Supreme Court.

**JOHN WATT**, member of the ALFA International Kansas City firm, Baker Sterchi Cowden & Rice LLC, graduated with honors from Boston University School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts. He has twice been selected as a Super Lawyer "Rising Star" for both Missouri and Kansas in litigation and defense work. He has extensive experience in defending businesses in multi-million dollar litigation. His practice includes product liability defense, construction litigation, and toxic torts. John has been the primary attorney for the defense of such litigation from filing the responsive pleading through jury trial. He has both taken and defended expert, corporate representative, and fact witness deposition in hundreds of cases across the country. John has argued in front of the appellate courts for Missouri and Kansas on multiple occasions. He also has extensive experience in arbitrating and mediating matters to successful conclusion for his clients. In the past year, he has prevailed in both a jury and bench trial for construction surety clients. As an active member of the local bar, he provides pro bono legal services for indigent clients through the Volunteer Attorney Project. He is currently on the Steering Committee for the ALFA Construction Law Practice Group.

**CODY WEBB** has been with Zachry Construction Corporation since October 2006, and he currently serves as the General Counsel for Zachry Construction as well as its affiliates, Capitol Aggregates and Zachry Hospitality. As General Counsel, he has represented the Company in the negotiation of contracts for its pursuit of large design build projects such as the California High Speed Rail project and reconstruction of the LaGuardia Airport Terminal B. Before joining Zachry, Cody spent 10 years in private practice advising clients primarily in the areas of construction law, independent power projects and corporate

law. Cody graduated cum laude from Texas Tech University with a Bachelor's of Science in Mechanical Engineering and he graduated magna cum laude from Texas Tech University School of Law.

**SPENCER WIEGARD** is a Partner with ALFA International member firm Gentry Locke Attorneys. He is the Chair of both the firm's Construction Law practice group and the firm's Commercial Litigation practice group. Spencer focuses his practice in the areas of construction law, construction litigation, business litigation, occupational health and safety matters, government contracts, administrative law, and regulatory matters. He represents general contractors, subcontractors, trade contractors, suppliers, manufacturers, developers, and design professionals. Spencer is currently the Chair of the Construction Law and Public Contracts Section of the Virginia State Bar, and previously served multiple terms on the section's Board of Governors. Spencer is a former member of the Board of Directors for the Associated General Contractors of Virginia ("AGCVA"). He serves on the Executive Committee for the Roanoke District of the AGCVA and served as the AGCVA Roanoke District President from 2017-2019. Spencer counsels and advises his clients concerning a range of legal issues, including contract drafting and negotiation, mechanic's liens, surety bond claims, professional and occupational licensing issues, and OSHA issues and claims. Spencer's construction litigation practice involves breach of contract disputes, payment disputes, claims, construction defect disputes, design defect disputes, mechanic's lien enforcement actions, payment bond claims, OSHA enforcement actions, professional licensure, and regulatory matters. Spencer's occupational health and safety practice involves overseeing health and safety audits and gap analysis, reviewing health and safety programs, policies, and procedures, assisting with OSHA inspections and investigations, health and safety incident response, and representing clients in response to OSHA citations. Spencer's clients include employers from the construction industry, manufacturing industry, and general industry. Spencer also represents retailers and manufacturers of manufactured homes in litigation, alternative dispute resolution, licensing, and regulatory matters. Spencer serves as counsel to the Board of Directors for the Virginia Manufactured and Modular Housing Association. Spencer also serves as counsel for the Roanoke Regional Home Builders Association.

**PETER WILLCOX-JONES** is General Counsel at Wilson Construction Company. Founded in 1952, and headquartered in Canby, Oregon, Wilson Construction Company specializes in the design and construction of vital electric utility infrastructure needed by power providers across the United States and beyond.

**PATRICK D. WILSON** is a partner in the law firm of Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP, the ALFAI member firm in Little Rock, Arkansas. His practice is focused on all aspects of construction law, from construction contract drafting through all types of litigation related to construction. Patrick assists owners, general contractors, subcontractors, materials suppliers, architects, engineers, and homeowners with lien issues, contract formation and disputes, alleged building defects and other negligence, personal injury claims related to construction activity, securing payment on projects, surety matters, and other related issues. He regularly files and defends against construction liens on large commercial projects in Arkansas. Patrick is a member of the American Bar Association's Forum on the Construction Industry and the Arkansas chapter of Associated Builders & Contractors. Mr. Wilson is a graduate of Hendrix College (B.A., cum laude, with distinction) and the University of Arkansas (J.D., magna cum laude).

**GIBBY WRIGHT** is a Director at the ALFA International firm McCandlish Holton PC in Richmond, Virginia where he devotes his practice to commercial and real estate litigation, construction law, and other civil litigation. He has been recognized as a Virginia Super Lawyers Rising Star in Civil Litigation: Defense since 2016 and a member of the Virginia Business Legal Elite in Construction since 2019. He received his A.B. from Princeton University and J.D. from Washington & Lee University.

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**MEETING LOCATION**

Rancho Bernardo Inn  
17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive  
San Diego, California  
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**REGISTRATION**

Please contact ALFA International Headquarters to register.

ATTENDANCE IS OPEN ONLY TO MEMBERS OF ALFA INTERNATIONAL AND THEIR INVITED GUESTS AND IS LIMITED TO AGES 21+.

**ATTIRE**

The attire for the educational sessions throughout the conference is "business casual." The dinners on Wednesday and Thursday evening are "resort casual" attire. Khaki pants and polo shirts are acceptable for men and dresses, skirts or pants for women. No jackets are necessary at any evening events, but all dinners are outdoors, and it may get chilly, so a sweater or light jacket is recommended. The optional Friday dinner is "safari chic" and will be an outdoor event at the San Diego Safari Park.

**CLE CREDIT**

ALFA International is an approved CLE provider in Illinois, California & Pennsylvania and certifies this program has been approved for 7 hours of general CLE in these states. However, seminars are designed to meet CLE requirements, regardless of jurisdiction. To receive CLE credit outside of these states, attorneys should apply directly to their state's governing CLE board. Helpful links and information on how to apply for course credit are available on the ALFA International website and staff are available to assist with any concerns.

**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION**

If you need any special accommodations, including a nursing room, special dietary meals, ADA access or other needs, please reach out to ALFA International staff in advance of the meeting and we will ensure that necessary accommodations are provided.

**SEMINAR CONTACT**

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