

# About the Authors

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**Anthony C. Alfonso** is an attorney in the Holland & Knight's Real Estate practice group with a focus on commercial real estate. He is experienced in representing developers and investors in connection with acquiring, financing, developing, and selling of various types of real estate assets, including single and multifamily residential and master planned communities, office buildings and complexes, industrial properties, mixed-use projects, shopping centers, and other types of commercial projects. Mr. Alfonso represents landlords and tenants in connection with leasing industrial, office, and retail properties. Mr. Alfonso also assists clients in financing the acquisition and construction of real estate projects through traditional mortgage backed financing as well as joint venture arrangements. Mr. Alfonso has been designated as a LEED AP (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional) by the U.S. Green Building Council and is involved with sustainable development and green building issues, including assisting clients to develop projects that are designed and constructed to maximize profitability while having a reduced impact on the environment. While in law school, Mr. Alfonso was a member of the law review, where he served as the administrative editor. Upon graduation, Mr. Alfonso was elected to the Order of the Coif.

**Cathy L. Altman** is a partner in the Dallas, Texas, law firm of Carrington Coleman. Ms. Altman heads Carrington Coleman's Business Litigation practice, but focuses her practice on the construction and real estate industry. A fifth-generation farmer, Ms. Altman is not afraid to get her hands dirty, to dig in, go on-site, and work through what may seem to be the smallest details of complicated cases. If there's one key thing that will move the project or case toward resolution, she'll often spot it. Whether a controversy arises out of contract disputes, project performance, or business torts, clients trust Ms. Altman to guide them through the project, across discovery, and to the trial or arbitration hearing. Ms. Altman is hands-on with business issues in the real world, serving on boards that promote commercial and economic development in her hometown of Midlothian and elsewhere in North Texas, as well as in a leadership position with a national construction law organization. She'll tell you that being connected to the business community and to industry leaders makes her a better attorney. It helps her grasp what businesses want and need.

**William R. Broz**, P.E., LEED AP, is a Senior Managing Engineer at Exponent, a scientific and engineering consulting firm. A licensed mechanical engineer in six states, Mr. Broz has served as a testifying expert in a broad range of cases including construction defect, engineering standard-of-care, construction defect, and others. He also performs proactive work in reliability analysis for engineered systems, and lifecycle cost analysis for capital projects. Mr. Broz is a LEED AP and has designed LEED projects up to the Gold certification level, one of which earned the White House's "Closing the Circle" award for environmental stewardship. A long-time advocate for sustainability in the built environment, Mr. Broz has provided continuing education to his fellow design professions on green building design, and to attorneys on risk management considerations of sustainable development. Mr. Broz previously served as Associate Vice President at the Los Angeles office of ARCADIS, an international consulting, engineering, and management firm, and as Vice President and General Manager of CTG Forensics, an Irvine, California-based forensic engineering concern. Prior to that, he was co-founder and Vice President of McGowan Broz Engineers, Inc., a Seattle-based mechanical and electrical design engineering firm. Mr. Broz also served as a nuclear-trained submarine officer in the U.S. Navy, and as an Engineering Duty Officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve, retiring in 1999 at the rank of Commander. Mr. Broz's professional affiliations include the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, where he served on the Power Piping Section Committee; the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers; the National Society of Professional Engineers; the National Academy of Forensic Engineers (as correspondent); the American Bar Association (as associate member); and the Forensic Expert Witness Association. Mr. Broz earned his BS in engineering from the University of Washington, and an MBA (economics) from Seattle University. He resides in Santa Monica, California.

**Jason L. Cagle** is a director of Griffith Davison & Shurtleff, P.C., a law firm in Dallas, Texas. He represents commercial general contractors, real estate developers, and subcontractors on a wide range of matters involving construction law and complex commercial litigation. A member of the ABA's Forum on the Construction Industry, Mr. Cagle is a co-editor of the *Dispute Resolver* newsletter and blog for the Forum's Dispute Avoidance & Resolution Division. He graduated from Vanderbilt University Law School, where he served as an articles editor of the law review and was a member of the Order of the Coif.

**Rhonda R. Caviedes** is Associate General Counsel for CB&I's Oil & Gas business unit. Prior to Ms. Caviedes's position at CB&I, she was

counsel at Reed Smith LLP, where her practice focused on complex commercial matters with a concentration in construction and environmental litigation and transactions. A member of the ABA Forum on Construction Law, she is active in many divisions and serves on numerous committees, including the Division 10 (Legislation and Environment) Steering Committee. Ms. Caviedes has extensive experience in the construction industry as a practicing mechanical engineer and attorney. Ms. Caviedes has over 25 years of experience in project management, mechanical engineering, and energy-related construction and environmental law. She received her BSME degree cum laude from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and her JD degree magna cum laude from the University of Alabama Law School, where she was the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of the Legal Profession*.

**Steven M. Charney** is the Chairman of Peckar & Abramson, P.C. and is widely regarded as one of the nation's foremost construction attorneys. He has successfully resolved numerous construction-related disputes in litigation, arbitration, and alternative dispute forums and has represented *Engineering News Record*-ranked Top 10 contractors in many of the most prominent construction projects in the United States and abroad. In addition to his practice at Peckar & Abramson, Mr. Charney currently serves as general counsel to the Building Trades Employers' Association of New York and is actively involved in the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC). Other examples of his leadership include having co-chaired the effort that led to the ConsensusDOCS Green Building Addendum, the first industry standard agreement addressing "green" construction, and serving as vice chair on the team that developed the Guidelines for Addressing Mold in Construction, also a first-of-its-kind publication. Prior to joining Peckar & Abramson in 1990, Mr. Charney spent nearly a decade with Turner Construction Company. He earned an MS from the School of Civil Engineering at New Jersey Institute of Technology and a law degree from Seton Hall University School of Law.

**Kimberly A. Davison** is a shareholder of Griffith Davison & Shurtleff, P.C. in Dallas, Texas. She specializes in construction and commercial real estate law. She is certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Commercial Real Estate, and is a past Council Member of the Construction Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. Ms. Davison frequently speaks at business organizations such as TEXO (North Texas Association of General Contractors) and Associated Builders & Contractors. She graduated from Baylor University Law School, where she served as a research editor of the law review.

**Stephen Del Percio** is an in-house attorney at URS Corporation and is a frequent author and lecturer on topics related to construction, real estate, and green building. He is a 2000 graduate of Columbia's School of Engineering and Applied Science and spent two years with Morse Diesel/AMEC as a construction project manager on a high-rise office building in Times Square prior to attending William & Mary Law School, where he earned his JD in 2005 and served as the Managing Editor of the *Environmental Law & Policy Review*. He is also a LEED AP and serves on the Board of Directors of the Green Building Initiative.

**Daniel Dorfman** is a construction lawyer in Chicago, Illinois, with the law firm of Harris Winick Harris LLP. In his construction practice, Mr. Dorfman represents owners, developers, engineers, architects, designers, general contractors, subcontractors, specialty trades, and construction suppliers in all types of construction disputes. In particular, Mr. Dorfman, a LEED Green Associate, has a focus in sustainable building and the renewable energy markets. Mr. Dorfman is a frequent guest lecturer on the subject of construction law at academic institutions, such as Chicago-Kent College of Law, J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Illinois Institute of Technology School of Architecture, and Northwestern School of Law. In addition, Mr. Dorfman routinely lectures at privately held companies, publicly held companies, and prominent trade organizations on a variety of legal issues affecting the construction industry. Mr. Dorfman is a member of the U.S. Green Building Counsel—Illinois Chapter, and is also an appointed member of the Sustainability Commission for the Village of Deerfield, Illinois. He also sits as a member of the Government Relations Committee for the Builders' Association, a Charter Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America. Mr. Dorfman is licensed to practice in the State of Illinois, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Mr. Dorfman received his JD, cum laude, from Northwestern University School of Law in 2005, and his BA, cum laude, from the University of Maryland in 2002.

**Asha Echeverria** is an attorney with one of northern New England's largest law firms, Bernstein Shur, in Portland, Maine. Her practice focuses on resolution of insurance and construction disputes, and negotiation and drafting of construction and energy contracts for her contractor and power generator clients. Ms. Echeverria received her BS in civil engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to law school, she employed her engineering degree on civil, transportation, and traffic design projects for Parsons Brinckerhoff in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Ms. Echeverria is a registered Professional

Engineer in Maine and Pennsylvania, a LEED AP and currently serves on the Maine USGBC Board of Directors.

**Ian M. Forshner** is a LEED AP and an associate at Troutman Sanders, LLP, practicing in the firm's Construction and Business Litigation practice groups. Mr. Forshner is responsible for handling and preparing contracts from the commencement of a project through its completion. His knowledge of the construction industry has aided his work with owners, developers, engineers, general contractors, and architects, granting his clients the benefit of his forward-looking perspective. Mr. Forshner graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 2001, with a BSBA in finance and international business, and earned his law degree from Washington University in St. Louis in 2006 where he served as a senior editor for the law review.

**Monica Freeman** is an associate at Woods & Aitken LLP, focusing on construction law and commercial litigation. Ms. Freeman's construction practice involves litigating construction cases on behalf of her clients, including contractors, subcontractors, owners, design professionals, and sureties. Representative cases include construction delay and/or acceleration claims; claims involving differing site conditions, extra work, and construction defects; professional negligence; and construction lien and bond claims. Ms. Freeman also counsels her clients on contract formation including drafting and review of standard and proprietary contracts. In addition to litigation, she has experience in mediation and appellate advocacy. She is a member of the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry. Ms. Freeman received her BS in business administration and JD with high distinction from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she was an executive editor of the law review. She is admitted to practice in Nebraska and Iowa, and before the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

**Kevin Garrison** is an associate in Baker Donelson's Birmingham office. He concentrates his practice in construction litigation, and is one of only two attorneys in Alabama accredited by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) as a LEED AP for Building Design & Construction. This credential allows Mr. Garrison to help clients proactively examine and prepare for the unique qualifications and risks that are involved in green construction projects. As a construction attorney, Mr. Garrison represents owners, contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers in all aspects of construction disputes, from construction contract drafting and negotiation to mechanics' liens, contractor licensing issues, insurance claims, payment and performance bond claims, retainage issues, litigation, and arbitration. In addition to his construction practice, Mr. Garrison is also experienced in appellate work and

general business litigation involving noncompete agreements, obtaining temporary restraining orders and other injunctive relief, receivership cases, employment discrimination cases, contract disputes, and personal injury defense. Before joining Baker Donelson, Mr. Garrison worked in the office of the Governor of Alabama and was a law clerk to the Honorable W. Keith Watkins, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama.

**Rachael Green**, RID, GGP, LEED AP BD+C, was the Sustainability Program Manager for Huitt-Zollars until her untimely death in December 2013. She was influential in the review and recommendation for updates and had a successful history in creating and implementing corporate sustainability programs. She provided commitment to broader sustainability topics and their impact on public and private sector. Ms. Green served as the liaison for corporate sustainable policy questions, implementation, and follow-through for all Huitt-Zollars offices. She coordinated efforts for office recycling activities; recommended Renewable Energy Credits; and influenced sustainable design principles in office renovations, relocations, and new construction projects utilizing energy, water, materials, and air quality (both exterior and interior) components. She reviewed and recommended updates and integration for the sustainable purchasing policy and corporate sustainable elements created for internal employee use. As LEED AP Consultant for Huitt-Zollars, Ms. Green also led the planning efforts for the integrative design process, coordinated the development of LEED templates, and monitored the design team's progress toward achievement of certification. Prior to submittal to the USGBC/GBCI, Ms. Green assisted the internal auditing and review of design and construction LEED submittal efforts. She had a creative and enthusiastic approach to successfully educating and implementing new sustainability programs for clients and vendors.

**Joyce K. Hackenbrach** is a partner in the law firm of Pepper Hamilton LLP. Since 1985, Ms. Hackenbrach has concentrated her practice on the full range of legal matters arising from design and construction of public and private facilities, both public and private. She has extensive experience in helping clients decide what project delivery methods to use for their projects; negotiating and drafting all of the necessary design, construction, construction management, design-build, and engineering, procurement, and construction management contracts; providing "real time" claims avoidance and mitigation advice during projects; and representing owners, developers, design-builders, constructors, and engineers in major litigation, arbitration, mediation, and other design and construction-related dispute resolution, both

domestic and international. The types of project on which Ms. Hackenbrach has worked span the full range of industrial, institutional, and commercial projects, including major biopharmaceutical and pharmaceutical facilities, hospital facilities, oil and gas processing plants, food processing plants, other chemical and industrial process plants, commercial office buildings, embassy facilities, and hotel and hospitality facilities. Ms. Hackenbrach has spoken and written extensively on design and construction-related subjects, including green, sustainable, and high-performance projects.

**Sean Hanlon** is an attorney with Holland & Hart and he helps construction firms, real estate companies, and financial institutions resolve complex litigation in alignment with client strategies and goals. Whether through jury or bench trials, summary adjudication (or other dispositive relief), alternative dispute resolution, or favorable settlement, Mr. Hanlon consistently achieves positive outcomes for clients. In the courtroom, Mr. Hanlon has first-chaired 28 trials, six for Holland & Hart clients and another 22 during his secondment as a special prosecutor with the Denver City Attorney's office, including 12 jury and ten bench trials. In addition to counseling prime contractors, lenders, and loan servicers, Mr. Hanlon handles a variety of general commercial litigation matters. He has also represented clients in appellate matters in Colorado at the state and federal levels. Prior to joining Holland & Hart, Mr. Hanlon was a litigation associate with GableGotwals in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Before that, he clerked for the Honorable Sam A. Joyner of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. Mr. Hanlon is admitted to practice in Colorado and in the U.S. District Courts for the District of Colorado and the Northern District of Oklahoma.

**Christopher G. Hill**, LEED AP, is a Virginia Supreme Court-certified mediator, a construction lawyer, and the owner of The Law Office of Christopher G. Hill, PC, in Richmond, Virginia. Mr. Hill has been nominated and elected by his peers to Virginia's Legal Elite in the Construction Law category on multiple occasions (2007–2013) and is a member of the Virginia Super Lawyers "Rising Stars" for 2011 and 2012. He specializes in mechanic's liens, contract review and consulting, occupational safety issues (VOSH and OSHA), and risk management for construction professionals. Mr. Hill authors the Construction Law Musings blog where he discusses legal and policy issues relevant to construction professionals. Additionally, Mr. Hill is active in the Associated General Contractors of Virginia including membership on the AGC-VA Richmond District Executive Committee and the Board of Governors of Construction Law and Public Contracts Section of the Virginia State Bar.

**Julia M.I. Holden-Davis** is a partner with the law firm of Garvey Schubert Barer in Anchorage, Alaska. Ms. Holden-Davis has more than 15 years of legal experience with construction and government contracts. She counsels general contractors, subcontractors, and others in the construction industry initial contract analysis, bid protests and contract negotiations, changes and modifications, and claims or requests for equitable adjustments. Ms. Holden-Davis represents clients in commercial and construction litigation, including matters involving procurement contracts, government projects, mining claims, bond claims, and environmental issues. She also represents clients in negligence/professional malpractice, defective workmanship, and property damage claims. Ms. Holden-Davis is experienced in alternative dispute resolution and appeals. Ms. Holden-Davis has drafted procurement, design, and construction agreements for clients on pipeline, road, railroad, mining, and energy projects, as well as vertical construction. She also counsels clients on noncompete and nondisclosure agreements, and prepared corporate transactions, such as changes in ownership, lease agreements, and bonding and insurance.

**Logan A. Hollobaugh** is in-house counsel of the Environmental & Infrastructure Division for Chicago Bridge & Iron, N.V. (CB&I) in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His role as corporate counsel is allocated between contract preparation, review, and negotiation and litigation management for the various business lines within CB&I. He has experience drafting and negotiating contracts for various types of projects including methane landfill gas projects, environmental remediation, environmental and sustainability consulting, wastewater treatment, solid waste services, oil- and gas-related projects, coastal ports and marine projects, and mercury emissions systems in numerous states in the United States and internationally. Prior to joining CB&I, Mr. Hollobaugh was a member of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.'s Construction Industry Practice Group in Chicago, Illinois, where the core of his practice was representation of contractors, design-builders, and construction managers in private and public construction-related matters. Mr. Hollobaugh has been a LEED AP since 2009. Mr. Hollobaugh received his BA degree from Iowa State University and his JD degree from the John Marshall Law School.

**Jason Lien** is a partner with Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand, LLP in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He practices in a wide range of substantive areas with a special emphasis on litigation involving the construction, real estate, food, and healthcare industries. Prior to joining Maslon, Mr. Lien was an officer with the U.S. Navy JAG Corps. He lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota, with his wife and two daughters.

**Ryan M. Manies** is a shareholder in the Kansas City office of Polsinelli PC, where he practices in the firm's Construction, Energy, and Real Estate Litigation practice group. As a licensed architect in the state of Kansas and a member of the American Institute of Architects, Mr. Manies brings a valuable and unique perspective to those who develop, design, and construct. He is well versed in construction contract drafting and negotiations for contractors, designers, public/private owners, and other participants in the construction industry with respect to complex development projects, construction, design, and other project agreements, in addition to alternative dispute resolution and avoidance. Mr. Manies' project experience is both international and widely varied including professional sports facilities, health care, energy, commercial, educational, religious, and residential structures. Mr. Manies received his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Kansas and graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law where he was student editor-in-chief of *The Urban Lawyer*. Mr. Manies is a frequent writer and speaker on construction law topics.

**Deborah Bovarnick Mastin** is a construction attorney, arbitrator, and mediator. For more than 35 years she was an Assistant County Attorney for Miami-Dade County and for Broward County, Florida, where she represented government agencies in connection with procurement of leases and concessions and construction of infrastructure projects including County Hall, courthouses, performing arts centers, public transit facilities, power and chiller plants, and multibillion-dollar expansions at Miami International Airport and at Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. Ms. Mastin is a Fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers, a Fellow of the College of Commercial Arbitrators, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a member of the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry Governing Committee, and the immediate Past President of the Dispute Resolution Board Foundation, Region 1 (USA and Canada). Ms. Mastin is on the construction neutrals panels of the International Institute of Conflict Prevention and Resolution, the American Arbitration Association, and the International Centre for Dispute Resolution. Her publications include "Globalization and International Projects" (co-author with Matthew Straub and William Breese), in *Construction Subcontracting* (ABA); "ADR from the Owner's Perspective," in *Construction ADR* (ABA); "Managing the Risk of Building Defects" (co-author with Steven Charney), in *Construction Defects* (ABA), and "Damages in Construction Litigation," in *Florida Civil Practice Damages* (Florida Bar). She graduated from Northeastern University School of Law and MIT School of Architecture and Planning.

**Vic L. McConnell** is a partner with the law firm of Smith Cashion & Orr, PLC, where he represents owners, developers, contractors, and design professionals and concentrates his practice in the areas of construction litigation and design professional defense. Mr. McConnell received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Auburn University and an MS in civil/environmental engineering from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Mr. McConnell also received an MS in environmental management from Samford University and a JD from Samford's Cumberland School of Law. Prior to obtaining his law degree, Mr. McConnell was employed as a design engineer/project manager with several engineering-consulting firms in the southeast. Mr. McConnell is a registered Professional Engineer (inactive) and a LEED AP. Mr. McConnell is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National and Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE), and the U.S. Green Building Council (Middle Tennessee Chapter). He is also a member of the American, Tennessee, and Nashville Bar Associations, as well as ABA's Forum on the Construction Industry and ABA's Section of Litigation Committee on Construction Litigation. Furthermore, he is currently the Legislative and Government Affairs Committee Chair for the TSPE Nashville Chapter, is a Board Member of the Tennessee Association of Construction Counsel, and currently serves on the Middle Tennessee USGBC Board of Directors. Mr. McConnell has co-authored several publications related to construction law including the Tennessee chapter of *State-by-State Guide to Construction Contracts and Claims* (Aspen Publishers). Mr. McConnell also teaches construction law and contract as an adjunct professor for Vanderbilt University's School of Engineering.

**Matthew Meaker** is a shareholder with Sacks Tierney P.A., in Scottsdale, Arizona. His practice is focused in the areas of construction law, civil litigation, business and corporate law, and real estate law. Mr. Meaker is very active in Arizona's legal and construction community. He serves on the Executive Council of the Construction Law Section of the State Bar of Arizona and as Legal Counsel on the board of the American Subcontractors Association of Arizona. Additionally, Mr. Meaker is an active member of the local chapter of the Construction Financial Management Association and the Arizona Registrar of Contractor's Industry Advisory Council.

**Sonal Hope Mithani** is a senior principal at the firm Miller Canfield Paddock and Stone, P.L.C., where she specializes in litigation and dispute resolution. A graduate of the University of Michigan Business School (BBA, 1991) and Harvard Law School (JD, 1994), Ms. Mithani manages and litigates large, complex construction disputes,

involving issues relating to design defects, delay, acceleration, schedule compression, lost productivity, cardinal change, and contract abandonment. She has also defended entities inside and outside the construction industry against fraud and abuse claims. Ms. Mithani is a member of the Michigan and District of Columbia bars, and a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the Michigan State Bar Foundation, and the Litigation Counsel of America. She has been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of commercial litigation, construction litigation, and real estate litigation.

**Theresa M. Ringle** is an architect and a senior attorney with the law firm of Kopka Pinkus Dolin, PC in Indianapolis, Indiana. She represents clients throughout Indiana in a number of practice areas with a focus on serving the construction, design, environmental, green building and insurance industries. She enjoys the opportunity to represent a diverse range of clients ranging from contractors, subcontractors, designers, private owners, public entities, insurance carriers, sureties, large corporate entities, smaller organizations, individuals, general counsel, and other law firms. Ms. Ringle serves on the American Arbitration Association's construction law panel. She is an active member of the American Bar Association's (ABA) Forum on the Construction Industry and she currently serves on the Forum's Division 3 (Design) steering committee. Ms. Ringle previously served as the co-chair for the ABA's Construction Litigation Subcommittee on Design Professional Liability. She is also a frequent author and speaker on various construction, risk management, litigation, professional liability, and commercial general liability insurance coverage-related issues. Ms. Ringle received her Bachelor's in Architecture from Ball State University and her J.D. degree from the Indiana University Law School at Indianapolis.

**Mark J. Stempler** is a construction attorney in West Palm Beach, Florida, with the law firm of Becker & Poliakoff PA. He is board certified by the Florida Bar in Construction Law and is certified as a LEED Green Associate by the U.S. Green Building Council. He represents clients in all aspects of the construction industry, including owners, developers, contractors, design professionals, and sureties, with a focus on the green building sector. He is part of the leadership team of the USGBC's Palm Beach County branch and South Florida chapter, and serves on the City of West Palm Beach Sustainability Advisory Committee. Mr. Stempler also practices in government procurement, and primarily represents private companies doing business with government agencies during the bidding, negotiation, and protest phases. He has authored or co-authored numerous procurement-related

publications, and is a frequent lecturer on bid protests. Mr. Stempler graduated from Florida International University's School of Law (cum laude), and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Miami.

**Angela Richie Stephens** is a Member of Stites & Harbison PLLC, where she focuses on construction law with an emphasis on structural steel, sustainability, contract negotiation, alternative dispute resolution, and litigation. Based in Louisville, Kentucky, Ms. Stephens works on behalf of clients across the country and around the country. Ms. Stephens began her love for the construction industry when she started tagging along with her father, an engineer with the Corps of Engineers, during inspections of locks and dams. She worked for a small construction company while still in high school, and then studied civil engineering at the University of Louisville's Speed Scientific School. During engineering school, Ms. Stephens worked for Messer Construction Company and Camp, Dresser, & McKee. She graduated from engineering school with high honors, then obtained her law degree magna cum laude from the University of Louisville's Brandeis School of Law.

**Ryan N. Stringfellow** is an associate at Smith Cashion & Orr, PLC in Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Stringfellow represents contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, owners, and developers in the areas of construction law, contract negotiation and drafting, construction and commercial litigation, and business and corporate matters. Mr. Stringfellow earned a BS from the M. E. Rinker, Sr., School of Construction Management, University of Florida; an MBA from the Brock School of Business, Samford University; and a JD from Cumberland School of Law, Samford University.

**Ujval K. Vyas**, Ph.D., JD, is an independent consultant and scholar. He is principal of Alberti Group, a Chicago-based consultancy specializing in matters related to the built environment, including sustainability and risk management in the A/E/C industry, insurance, and real estate. He has lectured and published extensively in this arena, particularly regarding legal and public policy issues associated with green building rating systems and high-performance buildings. He is a licensed attorney and practiced construction law for a decade. He was the prime organizer of the first comprehensive conference on the risks and public policy issues associated with green buildings in 2007, subsequently published as a special volume by the Counselors of Real Estate. In addition to his career as an attorney and business consultant, Dr. Vyas was trained as an intellectual historian and taught architectural history, theory, and design at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Dr. Vyas received his JD with honors from the Chicago-Kent

College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology, and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago's interdisciplinary Committee on the History of Culture. He specialized in philosophy and the history and theory of modern architecture, ultimately writing his dissertation on the American architect Philip Johnson. Dr. Vyas continues to teach occasionally at the graduate level and most recently taught seminar courses on "Sustainability and Real Estate" at The Real Estate Center, DePaul University, and "Emerging Technologies and the Law" at Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology.