# William E. Franczek ,Esq. Norfolk,Virginia



### **Primary Areas of Expertise**

Federal & Local Govt Contracts Power Generation Facilities; Horizontal Infrastructure Metro Rail Facilities Commercial Bldg Construction DRBs for Large Const Projects

**Current Employer-Title** 

Woods Rogers Vandeventer Black, PLC - Principal Available for both In-Person and Virtual hearings

**Profession** 

Attorney, Civil Engineer, Arbitrator and Mediator - Construction Law, Government and Commercial Contracts

**Work History** 

Managing Partner/Partner/Associate, Vandeventer Black LLP, 1982 - 2022; Principal with Woods Rogers Vandenter Black PLC - 2022 - Present; Construction Engineer, Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation, 1973 - 1982.

Construction Industry Experience

Nine years of experience in heavy construction as a civil engineer. Worked on three nuclear power plant construction sites. Duties included interpretation of construction plans and specifications, supervision of trades and subcontractors - civil, mechanical & piping and electrical - at administration of a staff of 10 to 15 field and office engineers.

**Experience** 

Upon graduation from law school, began work with the Vandeventer Black Law Firm, specializing in Construction Law. Significant experien representing contractors in disputes with the federal government, including representation of contractors before boards of contract appeals the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; and General Accountability Office. Experience includes contrac drafting, claims preparation, negotiation and dispute resolution (litigatio mediation, and arbitration), bid protests, and general advice. Claims and disputes range from \$10,000 to mega projects in the > \$5B range. Work includes major infrastructure and energy mega projects. Represents general contractors, joint venture partners (DB), construction managers,

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The AAA's Rules provide the AAA with the authority to administer an arbitration including, arbitrator appointment and challenges, general oversight, and billing. Accordingly, arbitrations that proceed without AAA administration are not considered AAA arbitrations, even when the parties select an arbitrator who is on the AAA's Roster.

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subcontractors, suppliers, owners, public entities and professional servic organizations.

### **Alternative Dispute Resolution Experience**

Arbitrator for AAA since 1986, and mediator since 2000. Represented numerous clients in AAA arbitration proceedings. Conducted over 300 arbitrations and mediations. Represented contractors in structured negotiations with the Army Corps of Engineers, private mediations with subcontractors, and before the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Served as DRP (Dispute Resolution Panel) Chair on U.1 181 Harbor Bridge Project in Corpus Christi, TX; served as DRB chair for the \$1.7B Silver Line Dulles Phase 2 Metro rail Project; served on DRB for \$1.2B I-70 Central Corridor interstate highway renovation in Colorado; serving as DRB chair on \$5.6B Purple Line Metro Rail Projection in MD. Serving on DRB for NYDCC for Rockaway Beach Municipal Center; serving on DRP for the \$1.6B Dallas Southeast Connector Project. Served as party appointed arbitrator in a large energy construction matter before the London International Court of Arbitration Served as a sole arbitrator on an International project on a large tank manufacturing project. Strong experience in energy-related projects including power plants, solar fields and wind farms - have done 15-20 o these projects over the last 10 years. Also mediated numerous construction cases throughout the country in similar sizes and discipline described above.

#### **Education**

Syracuse University (JD, magna cum laude, Order of the Coif-1982; BS Civil Engineering-1973); State University of New York (MS, Environmental Science-1977).

#### **Professional Licenses**

Admitted to the Bar: New York (1983), Virginia (1983). Licensed Professional Engineer: New York (1977); Commonwealth of Virginia (Emeritus-1983).

#### **Professional Associations**

Fellow, American College of Construction Lawyers (2018 - Present); Fellow, College of Commercial Arbitrators (2016 - present); American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law; Past Chair Division 13 (Government Construction Law Division); CPR International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution - Construction Panel; New York State Bar; Virginia Bar Association (Construction and Public Contracts Law Section); Associated General Contractors of Virginia, Inc. (Virginia Legal Counsel and State Board of Directors - 2005-2020); Tidewater District Associated Builders and Contractors; Design Build Institute of America - Hampton Roads Chapter (Founder, past Legal Counsel and Board of Directors member); Hampton Roads Builders and Contractors Exchange (Past President 2017).

## Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements

AAA 2019 Construction SuperConference - "Not Your Average ADR"; Arbitration in Commercial, Construction and Employment Law Cases - Faculty, Norfolk Portsmouth Bar Association CLE Presentation (Octobe 2018); "Strategies for Winning at Mediation" - presentation to the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance, July 2018; Co-Editor:

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS (3d ed. 2017); Co-Author, Chapter 14 – Termination for Default, in FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS (3d ed. 2017); Co-Author, Chapter 14 – Claim Issues, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION LAW (2017); It's Getting Better All the Time: Best Practices in Presenting Delay Claims, Presentation to the ABA Forum on Construction Law (October 2016); Member of the Webinar Faculty for Tech Tools: Understanding the Scheduling Experts Technology, ABA Forum on the Construction Industry (June 2014); Alternative Dispute Resolution, Presentation to the 2014 Annual Meetin of the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance; Co-Author, Clearing the Smoke: Forensic Schedule Analysis Method Selection for Construction Attorneys, THE CONSTRUCTION LAWYER, Fall 2013; Working with Damages Consultants: Ten Steps to Success, Presentation to the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, 2013 Midwinter Meetii - Naples, FL; Handling the Resolution of Subcontractor Claims in ADI with the Owner, Presentation to the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, September 2010 Fall Meeting – Miami, FL; Preventing disput in Vertical Construction Projects, Presentation to the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, April 2010 Annual Meeting – Austin TX; Are Yo Choosing the Right Design Subcontract for Your Design-Build Project?. Presentation to the Design Build Institute of America, Hampton Roads Chapter (April 2010); Top Ten Contract Clauses Sure to Cause You Problems, Presentation to the Professional Construction Estimators Association of America (April 2010); The Great Debate: Arbitration vs. Litigation – Which Should You Chose?, Presentation to the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, April 2009 Fall Meeting – New Orleans, LA; Discovery Issues in the Complex Arbitration Matter, Presentation t the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, October 2008 Fall Meetin - Chicago, IL; View from the Other Side: An Arbitrator's Thoughts on How Not to Present Your Case, Presentation to the ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, April 2008 Annual Meeting – Palm Springs, CA.

Locations Where Parties Will Not be Charged for Travel Expenses

Citizenship United States of America

**Languages** English

**Compensation:** Hearing: \$650.00 per hour

Study: \$650.00 per hour

Cancellation: \$3,500.00 per day

Cancellation Period: 60 days

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Comment:

Plus expenses. Hourly rate billed for study time and preliminary hearings. Travel time billed up to 9 hours/day (combined hearing & travel). Minimum 8 hrs/day billed for time outside of Norfolk, VA. Legal assistant billed for minor tasks at \$150/hr. Travel by business class.

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