



Michael S. Zetlin ,Esq.  
New York, New York



## Primary Areas of Expertise

Construction  
Litigation  
Contracts

## Current Employer-Title

Zetlin Dispute Resolution Services, LLC – Managing Member  
Zetlin & De Chiara LLP - Senior Partner

## Profession

Attorney

## Work History

Managing Member, Zetlin Dispute Resolution Services, LLC, 2024-Present; Founder and Partner, Zetlin & De Chiara LLP, 1991-Present; Associate Attorney, LePatner Block Pawa & Rivelis, 1988-1991; Associate Attorney, Whitman & Ransom, 1985-1988.

## Experience

For nearly 40 years, litigated and arbitrated complex, multi-million-dollar construction disputes in multiple state and federal courts throughout the United States on behalf of owners, developers, institutions, construction managers, general contractors, subcontractors, and design professionals. Experience includes most project types including aviation, cogeneration biofuels, solar power, wind power, tunnels, roads, bridges, transportation hubs, sports and entertainment venues, manufacturing facilities, data storage centers, telecommunications, education and cultural facilities, retail, residential, mixed-use, commercial and hotels. Experience with all construction claim types such as delays, construction defects, design errors, differing site conditions, breach of warranty, personal injury, insurance coverage disputes, wrongful termination, fraud, and defamation. Drafted and negotiated contracts for clients with values as high as two billion dollars. Serve as a strategic advisor to clients throughout all aspects of the construction process.

Adjunct Professor at Columbia University from 2007, teaching “Legal Issues in Building Construction” as part of the Masters Program in Construction Administration.

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*Neutral ID: 154300*

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.

The information contained in this resume has been supplied solely by the individual arbitrator and may, or may not, be a complete reflection of their experience. The AAA assumes no responsibility for the content, completeness, accuracy, or reliability of the information contained in an arbitrator’s resume. If you have any questions about an arbitrator’s experience or background, you are encouraged to contact your case manager.

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## **Alternative Dispute Resolution Experience**

Member of the AAA Construction Mega Project Panel and Large Complex Case Panel since 2006. Served as a sole arbitrator and member of a three-person panel on a multitude of matters with claim amounts ranging as high as \$175 Million. Project types in connection with design and construction claims on projects such as a cogeneration facility, a petrochemical plant, a college science building, a sports venue and a museum.

### **Fellowships:**

American College of Construction Lawyers  
National Academy of Construction  
American Bar Foundation

### **Honors & Recognitions:**

New York Building Congress Industry Recognition  
Best Lawyers of America  
Best Lawyers of America, Lawyer of the Year 2011, 2019 (Construction Law, New York City)  
Chambers & Partners, World's Best Lawyers  
Expert Guides, Best of the Best USA  
The Legal 500  
Super Lawyers  
Lifetime Achievement at City & State's 50 Over 50  
City and State New York's Construction Power 100  
City and State New York's Construction Power 100  
City and State New York The Law Power 100  
AIA New York State, Honorary Member

## **Education**

Fordham University (JD-1985); Columbia University School of Engineering (BS, Civil Engineering-1982).

## **Professional Licenses**

Admitted to the Bar: New York (1986), New Jersey (1986); U.S. District Court: Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, District of New Jersey (1985).

## **Professional Associations**

Fellow, American College of Construction Lawyers;  
General Counsel, National Academy of Construction;  
General Counsel and Board of Directors, New York Building Congress;  
General Counsel, American Institute of Architects New York Chapter;  
Board of Trustees, Pratt Institute;  
Advisory Board, Columbia University Industry Advisory Committee of Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics;  
Past Governing Committee Member, American Bar Association Forum of the Construction Industry;  
Member, Lincoln Center Real Estate & Construction Council.

## **Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements**

### **Publications:**

Co-Editor, "New York Construction Law" Construction Law Library, Aspen Law & Business, 2003; ABA, The Construction Lawyer, "The

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Potentially Catastrophic Design Error and the Ethical Response,” Association of the Bar of the City of New York, November 2019; THE CURE “The 2017 Healthcare Construction Report,” September 2017.

#### Speaking Engagements:

NY Building Congress Panel Discussion, “ADR” Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Legal Alternative to Workers Compensation Insurance for Infrastructure and Construction, Moderator, July 2022; The State of Commercial Real Estate, Moderator, May 2022; Construction Law Committee of the NYC Bar “The Impact of MTA Debarment Regulation to Contractors, Design Professionals and Suppliers”, Speaker, November 2019; Association of the Bar of the City of New York, “Working on Public Work Projects”, Moderator, November 2019; American College of Construction Lawyers, Annual Meeting, March 2017; P3C Public-Private Partnership Conference 2017, February 2017; Commercial Observer “Pulse Healthcare Conference,” November 2016; Moderator – “Health Care Pulse, Commercial Observer Breakfast,” November 2016; Moderator – “Offices 2025, Commercial Observer Breakfast,” March 2016; Moderator – “Social Public Private Partnerships: A New Tool for Real Estate Development,” March 2016; Moderator – “Attracting the Right Partner: Procuring PPPs,” Public-Private Partnership Conference Expo 2016, March 2016; Presenter – “Transformative Projects, Transformative Risk Management,” New York Build, March 2016; Moderator – Bisnow’s “6th Annual NYC Construction & Development Summit”, November 2015; Moderator – “Building Brooklyn,” June 2015; Moderator – Anchin “Construction & Development Summit,” February 2015; Moderator - Bisnow’s “5th Annual NYC Construction & Development Summit,” December 2014; Moderator – “Schools, Colleges & Universities: a Construction Report Card,” September 2014; Speaker “Transformative Projects, Transformative Issues,” June 2014; Speaker – “Inaugural ISO 55000 Conference for the United States,” May 2014; Moderator – “Building Better: Boosting Your Construction Project’s Bottom Line,” November 2013; Moderator – “New York’s Next Urban Agenda: What’s the Future of Real Estate, Development and Construction in New York City?” October 2013; Speaker - "BIM - Improved Life Cycle Management, Maintenance and Enhanced Energy Performance," The Steven L. Newman Real Estate Institute, February 2013; Moderator "Latest Innovations in the Design and Construction of Sports Facilities," ENR Construction, November 2012; Panelist - "Where Will The Opportunities Be in 2013? NY and Beyond," Bloomberg Commercial Real Estate Conference, November 2012; Moderator - "Public Private Partnerships - They're Coming to New York," New York State MWBE Forum, October 2012; Moderator - "Project Labor Agreements: Real Savings or Window Dressing?" Zetlin & De Chiara with Willis and Deloitte, May 2012; Speaker - "BIM is Coming, BIM is Here - Now What? An Analysis of Legal Issues," NYBC Architects Leadership Council, May 2012; Moderator - "New York and Its Grid-Breaking Megaprojects: Themes & Issues,"

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| <b>Locations Where Parties Will Not be Charged for Travel Expenses</b> | Travel not charged within 50 miles of New York City. |                   |
| <b>Citizenship</b>   | United States of America                             |                   |
| <b>Languages</b>   | English  |                   |
| <b>Compensation:</b>   | Hearing:   | \$675.00 per hour |
|  | Study:   | \$675.00 per hour |
|  | Cancellation Period:                                 | 30 days           |

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