Michael S. Zetlin ,Esq. Old Westbury, 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.

**Construction Industry Experience** 

**Experience** 

For nearly 40 years, litigated and arbitrated complex, multi-million-doll 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 al 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.

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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.

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.

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

# 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. Distric Court: Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, District of New Jersey (1985).

**Professional Associations** 

Fellow, American College of Construction Lawyers;

Member, 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

the Construction Industry;

Member, Lincoln Center Real Estate & Construction Council.

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# Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements

#### **Publications:**

Co-Editor, "New York Construction Law" Construction Law Library, Aspen Law & Business, 2003; ABA, The Construction Lawyer, "The 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, Novembe 2019; Association of the Bar of the City of New York, "Working on Public Work Projects", Moderator, November 2019; American College Construction Lawyers, Annual Meeting, March 2017; P3C Public-Priva 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 201 Moderator – Anchin "Construction & Development Summit," February 2015; Moderator - Bisnow's "5th Annual NYC Construction & Development Summit," December 2014; Moderator – "Schools, College & 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

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Council, May 2012; Moderator - "New York and Its Grid-Breaking

Megaprojects: Themes & Issues,"

**Locations Where Parties Will Not be Charged for Travel** 

Not be Charged for Travel Expenses

Travel not charged within 50 miles of New York City.

Citizenship

United States of America

Languages

English

**Compensation:** 

Hearing:

\$675.00 per hour

Study:

\$675.00 per hour

Cancellation Period:

30 days

Comment:

Travel not charged within 50 miles of

New York City.

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