



Deborah B. Mastin ,Esq.
Aventura,Florida

Primary Areas of Expertise

Construction, Design, Energy



Current Employer-Title

Law Office of Deborah Mastin, PLLC - Attorney, Arbitrator, Mediator, Dispute Board Panel Member
University of Miami School of Architecture - Masters of Construction Management Program Instructor

Profession

Attorney, Arbitrator, Mediator, Dispute Board Panel member

Work History

Law Office of Deborah Mastin PLLC., 2013 - Present; Faculty, University of Miami School of Architecture Construction Management Program, 2019 - Present; Assistant County Attorney, Broward County Attorney's Office, 2011 - 2013; Assistant County Attorney, Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office, 1978 - 2011; Attorney, Becker & Poliakoff P.A., 1976 - 1977; Attorney, Legal Services of Greater Miami Inc., 1975 - 1976.

Construction Industry Experience

Until 2013, 35 years as Assistant County Attorney for Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, drafted contracts and litigated claims (no outside counsel) on public infrastructure and energy projects, including \$6 Billion MIA and \$2 Billion FLL International Airport expansions (runways, taxiways, terminal buildings, APMs, fuel farms, environmental remediation), 28 story County admin blg, bridges, tunnels, museums, performing arts centers, stadiums, waste treatment facilities, marinas, golf courses, tennis centers, co-generation and power plants, utilities and piping, fiber optic installations, info technology systems, building management systems, copyright, IP. MIT School of Architecture and Planning SB.

Experience

CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN AND ENERGY: Arbitrator for disputes arising from design, construction and development of heavy infrastructure projects including highways, bridges and drainage; residential and commercial real estate projects, schools, marinas, power plants, energy

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Neutral ID: 147223

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distribution; solid waste disposal; represented County in over \$7 billion in projects, including airport expansion at Miami International Airport, Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport and general aviation airports, performing arts centers, museums, office towers, marinas, transit and automated people mover facilities, chiller plants, roads and utilities, environmental remediation, hazardous material, hotel and commercial fit-out for retail and restaurants, including transactional work and litigation in state and Federal courts.

GREEN AND SUSTAINABILITY: Accredited LEED Green Associate 2011-2012, drafted contract provisions for LEED compliance on construction projects; Program Co-Chair, "Greening the Law," Florida Bar continuing legal education 2011, panelist COAA

COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS: Arbitrator in disputes involving government procurement and private commercial and landlord/tenant transactions, copyright infringement, power sales; represented government in commercial real estate leases as both landlord and tenant; vehicle and equipment acquisition and lease-purchases; procurement of billions of dollars of all manner of goods and services for local government including professional accounting and consulting services, and acquisition of heavy vehicles and aircraft, radio and communications equipment; music, theatrical and artistic works and services

UTILITY AND POWER: arbitrator for multi-million dollar disputes regarding electric power plants and power sales; represented public owner in contract negotiations for electric cogeneration plant, construction of industrial chiller plants, microwave tower installation, installation of underground fuel lines, communications ductbanks and power lines

INSURANCE AND SURETY: Arbitrator and advocate in disputes involving payment and performance bonds, letters of credit, comprehensive general liability insurance, public liability insurance, builders' risk insurance, railroad liability coverage, owner-controlled insurance programs

BUILDING CODE and LICENSURE: Arbitrator in disputes involving alleged breach of building code or licensing statutes; represented local building department, office of code compliance, and construction trades qualifying board

TECHNOLOGY, COMPUTER, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, DATA, INTERNET: negotiated multi-million dollar software licenses for end-user, software escrow agreements, and filed applications for copyright and domain name registration

BANKRUPTCY: represented government creditor in Chapter 7 and 11 cases of debtors who were commercial tenants at airports and parks

ENTERTAINMENT AND VISUAL ARTS: former counsel to Miami-Dade

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Film Board, Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council, Miami-Dade Art in Public Places Trust, Center for the Fine Arts, Broward County Cultural Affairs Division; drafted contracts with visual and performance artists, with theatrical producers and musicians; Florida Bar Entertainment Art and Sports Law Section (former Chair, former Executive Council)

GOVERNMENT: as advocate addressed issues of municipal authority and sovereign immunity, False Claims, Small and Disadvantaged Business programs, Davis-Bacon and local minimum wage requirements, environmental compliance, local and federal procurement and grant requirements

INTERNATIONAL: member of arbitration tribunal in international disputes involving parties from Caribbean, Europe, Central America; represented public owner holding multi-million dollar contracts with international contractors (including Brazil, Spain, France, Germany and Japan); past president of Dispute Resolution Board Foundation, Region 1 (USA)

Alternative Dispute Resolution Experience

AAA Commercial and Construction Panels since 1997; current member of AAA Large Complex Case Panel, Mega Projects Panel, Master Mediator Panel, Dispute Board Panel; International Centre for Dispute Resolution arbitrator and mediator; Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution, construction and commercial arbitrator and mediator; Chaired panels, sat on three member and sole arbitrator panels. Arbitrated disputes among domestic and international owners, contractors, construction managers, architects, engineers, subcontractors, sub-consultants, developers, insurers and sureties. landlords and tenants, Property Owners and vendors; . Mediator in federal, state and administrative disputes. Participated in over 100 ADR proceedings. Disputes have ranged from under \$75,000 to over \$200 million, and up to 12 parties arising from claims of defective design, late performance, overbilling, non-payment, mold, defective work, government procurement issues. Damages sought have included delay damages ranging from extended general conditions, loss of profit, loss of bonding capacity, loss of opportunity, idle time, indirect costs, acceleration, interference, and total cost claims, copyright infringement, and royalty underpayments. Resolution required understanding of critical time impact analysis and precedence diagrams.

Technology Proficiency

MIT, SB 72
AAA/ABA Tech Cred (in progress)

Education

Northeastern University School of Law (JD-1975); Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Architecture and Planning SB-1972).

Professional Licenses

Admitted to the Bar: Florida (1976), Massachusetts (1975); U.S. District Court: Southern District of Florida (1976); U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit (1981); U.S. Bankruptcy Court: Southern District of Florida (1994); U.S. Supreme Court (1988). Florida Board Certified

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Construction Law (2007); Florida Certified Circuit Court Mediator (1996); Florida Qualified Arbitrator (2008); LEED Green Associate (2011-2012).

Professional Associations

College of Commercial Arbitrators (Fellow); American College of Construction Lawyers (Fellow); Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Fellow and Tutor in International Arbitration); Dispute Board Federation (Fellow); Dispute Resolution Centre of Trinidad and Tobago; British Virgin Islands Arbitration Center; Florida Bar (Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section, Construction ADR Committee Past Chair; Construction Law Institute (past co-vice chair), Construction Law Certification Course (past Co-chair), Construction Committee; International Law Section; Entertainment, Art and Sports Law Section, Past Chair); American Bar Association (Dispute Resolution Section; Forum on Construction Law, past Governing Committee; Intellectual Property Law Section; Public Contracts Section; Business Law Section, International Law Section and Litigation Section); Dade County Bar Association; Dispute Review Board Foundation (Past President Region 1, USA, Canada and Caribbean); Chartered Institute of Arbitration North American Branch, past Board of Directors; Miami International Arbitration Society, past Board of Directors; Arbitral Women; International Institute of Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR) (Construction and Environmental Committees, Construction and Commercial Neutrals Panel member); International Chamber of Commerce (ICC); International Bar Association (IBA), International Construction Projects Committee; London Court of International Arbitration; ConsensusDocs Working Group (DRB Addendum Committee Co-chair); Airport Council International-North America; International Bar Association; Florida Association of Women Lawyers; National Association of Women Lawyers, former University of Miami School of Architecture Construction Management Advisory Council; American Society of Civil Engineers; AIA, AGC

Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements

Publications: GUIDE TO BEST PRACTICES IN COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION 2025 College of Commercial Arbitrators, co-author "Construction Arbitration"; "ADR from the Owner's Perspective," CONSTRUCCION ADR, ABA 2014; Co-author, International and Globalization, "Construction Subcontracting," ABA 2014; Co-author "Identifying Design and Construction Provisions Impacted by ... Green Building Goals and Objectives, "Green Building and the Construction Lawyer," ABA 2014; Co-author, "Construction Defects", ABA 2012; "Admissibility of Written Decisions of Non-Binding Dispute Board", The Australian ADR Reporter, bulletin of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Australia, 2012; "Green Issues in Real Property Development", FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL 2011; Co-author, "To Mediate or Not to Mediate," DISPUTE RESOLUTION JOURNAL, August 2007; "Damages in Construction Litigation," FLORIDA CIVIL PRACTICE DAMAGES, Florida Bar, 6th ed. 2005.; columnist on art law issues, ART CALENDER, September, October and November, 1996; co-author, "Limited Editions of Fine Arts Multiples," FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL, 1992; "Purchasing and Bidding Requirements and Challenges," Florida Bar Local Government

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Speaking: 2025 Fordham Law School NYC Arbitration Week; 2025 College of Commercial Arbitrators, "Damages in Arbitration"; 2024 - 2016 Florida Bar Construction Law Cert. Review Course, "ADR"; 2023 Florida Bar Arbitration Institute; 2016 AAA Construction Conference; Florida Bar Construction Law Institute 2016; U Miami Law School 2016, "Construction ADR;" 2016 American College of Construction Lawyers, "A View From the Tribunal - Effective Advocacy in Arbitration;" 2015 American College of Construction Lawyers, "Effective Mediation Advocacy;" Panelist, "Construction ADR", Florida Bar Construction Law Certification Review Course, 2014; "Trains, Planes and Autos - Infrastructure Financing and Delivery," ABA Business Law Section 2014; "international Use of Dispute Boards," ABA Dispute Resolution Section Spring 2014; "Use of Dispute Boards in the USA and Internationally", Dispute Board Foundation Australia, 2012; "Best Practices for Dispute Boards", DRBF Brussels, Belgium 2011; Panelist, "Dispute Boards as to Preserve Relationships", ABA Dispute Resolution Section 2012; Faculty, "International Dispute Resolution", Kings College, London, UK 2011; Presenter, "Airport Council International/AGC Project Delivery Summit," 2011; Presenter, "COAA Spring Conference," 2011; Program Co-Chair, "Greening the Law," Florida Bar, 2011; Faculty, "Counseling Clients with Public Contracts," Florida Bar Construction Law Institute, 2011; Presenter, "AAAE Project Planning and Construction Conference," 2011; Faculty, "Green Disputes", AAA/ICDR Neutrals' Conference 2010; Panelist, "Dispute Resolution Boards in Public Construction," ABA Section of Public Contract Law, 2010; "How to Guarantee your Public Construction Project will Cost Lots More Than It Needs To," Miami-Dade League of Cities, 2010; "Beyond Bid Protests," Florida Bar Construction Law Institute, 2010; Panelist, "Cultural Differences between International and Domestic Arbitrations," AAA/ICDR, 2010; Presenter, "Effective Advocacy in Mediation," ABA Dispute Resolution Section, 2010; Faculty, "How to Manage a Dispute Review Board," Florida International University School of Law, 2009; Panelist, "DRB's - A Practitioner's View," AAA, 2009; "How to Spoil a Perfectly Good DRB," DRB Foundation, 2009; "Bid Protests and Other Peculiarities of Public Construction," Florida Bar Construction Institute, 2009; "Construction Defects from a Public Owner's Perspective," ABA Construction Industry Forum, 2008; "Best Practices in Arbitration," ABA Dispute Resolution Section, 2007; "Third Party Subpoenas," AAA Neutrals Workshop, 2005; "Owner's Perspective on ADR", AAA Neutrals Workshop 2004

Citizenship

United States of America

Languages

English

Compensation:

Hearing:	\$6,000.00 per day
Study:	\$750.00 per hour
Cancellation:	\$3,000.00 per day

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Cancellation Period:
Comment:

30 days
Available to travel; travel expenses to be paid at cost. Travel Rate at 50% of Study Rate if more than 1 hour each way. Airfare at business class or higher..

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