



Robert L. Leslie ,Esq.
Oakland,California



Primary Areas of Expertise

Construction, civil
Construction, building
Construction, heavy & highway

Current Employer-Title

Smith Currie & Hancock LLP - Partner

Profession

Attorney - Construction and Government Contracts.

Work History

Partner, Smith Currie & Hancock LLP, 2023-Present; Partner, Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker LLP, 2012-2023; Partner, McInerney & Dillo 1980-2012; Supervising & Trial Attorney, U.S. Army JAG Corps before ASBCA and Federal Courts, San Francisco and Washing, DC, 1974-198 U.S. Army Infantry: Platoon Leader, 82nd Airborne Division, North Carolina, 1969-1970; Platoon Leader and Rifle Company Executive Officer, 101st Airborne Division, Vietnam, 1970-1971. Chief (Reserve) Litigation Division, U.S. Army, 1982-1999; Colonel (ret.), JAGC, USA

Experience

Over 45 years of experience as a construction lawyer for public and private projects in sizes up to \$2 billion. Projects were civil, heavy, highway and building, involving highways, bridges (concrete and steel), tunnels, dams, airfields, light and heavy rail, treatment plants, pipelines, AC and PCC paving, electrical transmission, schools, courthouses and other public buildings, landfills, and commercial buildings. Extensive experience in claims, changes, differing site conditions, defective specification claims, delay, disruption, acceleration, productivity, CPM schedule analysis, False Claims Act claims, terminations (for cause and convenience) and cost accounting. Represented contractor on \$900 million underground pumped storage project. Lead trial attorney in lawsuits and arbitrations for several hundred construction disputes. Represented prime contractors, subcontractors, owners and manufacturers.

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Neutral ID: 97318

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.

Arbitrators on the AAA Roster are not employees or agents of the AAA.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Experience

Lead trial counsel in several hundred arbitrations and mediations. Lead trial attorney in 100+ day arbitration regarding prison facilities involving general contractor, subcontractors and owner, and in 72-day arbitration between owner and prime contractor regarding bridge construction with claims of differing site conditions and false claims. Lead trial attorney in arbitration of \$40 million claim on self-anchored suspension span bridge. Lead trial attorney in arbitrations on port rail, highways, highway bridge, heavy rail facilities, airfield paving, state emergency control center, mixed residential-commercial development, sale of construction business, wine caves, and horizontal drilling. Lead counsel in 20-day arbitration of construction of mountain involving welded wire walls, geotechnical issues and design; ten-week arbitration between prime contractor and owner regarding differing site condition claim; 29-day arbitration in dispute between subcontractor and prime contractor on rail project; 12-day arbitration between prime contractor and owner on construction of depressed highway section. Lead counsel in mediation of disputes on concrete canal lining project, redecking of concrete deck of steel bridge, port rail facilities, heavy rail project, joint venture partner disputes, military airfield paving. Legal counsel to CPA arbitrator for complex sale of construction business dispute. Partnering facilitator on pipeline projects. Lead counsel for Dispute Review Board (DRB) sued by one of the parties; sole arbitrator in arbitrations including mountain highways, commercial buildings, residential, and foundations; chairperson of DRB for tunnel project. One of three arbitrators for dispute regarding government service and supply contracting in Afghanistan; sole arbitrator on dispute between subcontractor and prime contractor on construction in Afghanistan.

Education

U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY (B.S. 1969); University of California, Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco, CA (J.D. 1974)

Professional Licenses

Admitted to the Bar: California (1974), District of Columbia (1979-inactive); U.S. District Courts: Northern, Southern, Eastern and Central Districts of California, District of Hawaii, District of Nebraska, Eastern District of Wisconsin, Western District of Oklahoma; U.S. Court of Appeals: Ninth, District of Columbia and Federal Circuits; U.S. Court of Federal Claims (1975); U.S. Supreme Court (1980).

Certified Arbitrator, California Public Works Contract Arbitration Committee since 1990. Engineer-in-Training Certificate: Pennsylvania, 1969; California, 1974.

Professional Associations

American Society of Civil Engineers; Dispute Resolution Board Foundation.

Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements

Speaker on construction claims and differing site conditions, CLE International, 2007, 2009 & 2009; Class on differing site conditions to AACE International, 2013; guest lecturer and panelist, Stanford University Construction Management program on construction, project management and construction negotiation; Panelist, AAA Arbitration

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Seminar, 1992; Faculty for AAA Commercial & Construction Arbitrator Training, 1985-1997; Panelist - AAA Mediation and Arbitration, 1992. Reviewer for S. H. Bartholomew, “Construction Contracting” textbook, 1998; Classes on construction law to clients and industry associations, 1980 to present.

Citizenship

United States of America

Languages

English

Compensation:

Hearing: \$700.00 per hour

Study: \$700.00 per hour

Cancellation Period: 0 days

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