



→ Ira M. Schulman

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Ira M. Schulman is a partner in the Business Trial Practice Group resident in the firm's New York office and is co-leader of the firm's Construction Law practice.

Areas of Practice

Ira has more than 40 years of experience in all aspects of construction law with a particular emphasis on dispute resolution and contract negotiation. He has tried numerous complex construction disputes in jury and bench trials in state and federal courts and before arbitration panels on behalf of owners - both public and private - contractors, subcontractors, sureties and school districts. Ira also has participated in many mediations and has successfully represented clients with construction contract award issues before various city agencies. Additionally, he regularly drafts construction contracts and agreements for owners and contractors.

Ira is frequently appointed as an arbitrator by the Construction Industry Division of the American Arbitration Association, of which he is a member. He also is often chosen as a mediator for construction disputes and has successfully mediated numerous complex construction claims.

Ira is known as an industry leader in the construction space and has been recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA*, *Legal 500 US* and *Business Today*. Notably, *Legal 500 US* said Ira "is praised for his 'sage guidance that is delivered effortlessly,'" and *Business Today* noted Ira "provides extraordinary counsel in dispute avoidance and construction contract negotiations. His vast proficiency and unique style make him the most sought-after construction counsel."

Ira is often asked to speak before various bar, civic and trade associations on issues related to construction law.

Honors

Chambers USA ranked Band 1 (highest) for Construction New York City, 2006-2025

Top 10 Influential Construction Lawyers in New York, *Business Today*, 2023

Who's Who Legal: Construction, 2024

Best Lawyers in America, 2012-2026

Recommended Lawyer in Construction, *Legal 500 US*, 2021-2025

New York Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers*, 2012-2023, 2025

Citizen of the Year, *Armonk Chamber of Commerce*, 2019

Articles

- The Pros and Cons of Generative AI in Connection with Litigation
New York Law Journal, 11.13.2024
- Sheppard Mullin Brings On New York Construction Litigation Team
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton has hired partner Ira Schulman and associates Emily Anderson and Michelle Cuozzo from Pepper Hamilton to focus on construction litigation
GlobeSt.com, 04.07.2020
- When Subcontractors Sue Only the Surety on Payment Bond and Tips for General Contractors
ConsensusDocs Construction Law Newsletter, 06.17.2019

International Arbitration Law Blog Posts

- "Practical Considerations under FIDIC Contracts in Light of COVID-19," May 22, 2020

New York Commercial Division Round Up Blog Posts

- "New York Courts Continue to Enforce Broad General Releases, Even When Claims are Unforeseeable at the Time of Contract Execution," July 29, 2021

Speaking Engagements

"Payment and Performance Surety Bonds in Construction", webinar, May 28, 2024

Events

Composition of Arbitration Panels: Selecting Panelist and Becoming an Arbitrator
07.22.2025

Construction In-House Counsel Roundtable
04.30.2025

Payment and Performance Surety Bonds in Construction Projects: Perspectives of Owners, Contractors, and Sureties

Asserting and Defending Surety Bond Claims and Exploring a Cost Effective Alternative to Protect Rights or Maximize Recovery
Webinar, 05.28.2024

Construction Project Cost Reporting Risks and How to Manage Them after Securities Exchange Commission v. Granite Construction, Inc.
Sheppard Mullin New York Office, 03.28.2023

Memberships

American Arbitration Association – Lecturer and Arbitrator (1987-present)

Lorman Education Services – Contributor to Lorman Education Services' webinars and in-person events

American Bar Association – Member

New York State Bar Association – Member

Westchester County Bar Association – Founding Member and Co-chair of the Construction Law Committee

Podcasts & Webinars

Construction Project Cost Reporting Risks and How to Manage Them after SEC v. Granite Construction, Inc.
03.28.2023

Practices

Construction

Distressed Real Estate Loan Workouts and Enforcement

Litigation

Industries

Construction

Education

J.D., Georgetown University, 1979

B.A., Lehigh University, 1976, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Admissions

New York

U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit

U.S. Court of Federal Claims

U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York