



SEIGER GFELLER LAURIE <sup>LLP</sup>  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

## CONSTRUCTION AND GREEN BUILDING

SGL's attorneys are familiar with the complex legal issues faced by the construction industry. We have significant experience representing clients in construction disputes and routinely advise our construction clients on risk management and litigation avoidance. We are also experienced in advising clients involved in green building and sustainable development on the myriad issues presented by this new and evolving field.

## CONSTRUCTION LITIGATION

SGL's attorneys have extensive experience representing clients along the entire chain of the construction process, including owners, general contractors, construction managers, design professionals, contractors, and building products manufacturers. Knowing that construction litigation can be an expensive, time-consuming, and frustrating process, our attorneys seek to gain an in-depth understanding of a matter early on and develop a strategy for resolving the situation in an efficient, cost-effective manner. We call upon a nationwide network of respected experts to evaluate claims (often before litigation is even commenced), quickly get up to speed on the complex technical issues our clients will face, and work to resolve disputes before litigation is commenced. If litigation proves necessary, we obtain an intimate technical understanding of the claims against our clients and develop a strategy to extricate them from litigation at the earliest opportunity, whether through dispositive motion practice or alternative-dispute resolution. When early resolution is not an option, we defend our construction clients at trial.

SGL's attorneys are experienced in representing construction clients in a wide variety of claims, including:

- Breach of contract claims
- Changed condition and change order claims
- Construction insurance and bad faith/extra contractual liability
- Defective/inappropriate building materials claims
- Delay and extra work claims
- Design and construction defect claims
- Guaranty bonds
- Mechanic's liens, including the filing, enforcing, and removal of liens
- Surety claims
- Warranty claims

## LITIGATION AVOIDANCE/RISK TRANSFER

Outside of the litigation context, SGL's attorneys also routinely advise clients on avoiding or mitigating construction risks, keeping our clients out of litigation when problems arise. We understand the many risk management, insurance, and indemnification issues that can work to our clients' benefit by transferring potential risks away from them, and preventing problems before they occur.

## GREEN BUILDING/SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Additionally, SGL advises clients on the cutting-edge issues relating to green building and sustainable development. The novel issues presented by this rapidly-evolving field have given rise not only to new opportunities for our construction clients, but to new challenging legal issues. Aside from the usual construction issues involving insurance coverage obligations, professional liability, and warranty issues, new and ever-changing rating systems, municipal and regulatory requirements, and green building tax incentives have added layers of complexity to many construction projects. As green building grows by leaps and bounds, our clients are frequently confronted by the challenges presented by these novel issues. SGL's attorneys are on the cutting edge of the legal issues presented by green building, and are well-positioned to advise our clients on these challenges.

## RESOURCES

American Institute of Architects – [www.aia.org](http://www.aia.org)  
American Society of Landscape Architects – [www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org)  
American Society for Testing Materials – [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org)  
U.S. Green Building Council – [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org)  
U.S. Green Building Council (New Jersey Chapter) – [www.usgbcnj.org](http://www.usgbcnj.org)  
Delaware Valley Green Building Council – [www.dvgbc.org](http://www.dvgbc.org)