

# JAMS GLOBAL ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION GROUP



**JAMS Global Engineering & Construction Group** neutrals have unparalleled depth of experience and knowledge about the construction process. They are also highly skilled in dispute resolution management. They serve as mediators, arbitrators, project neutrals and “rapid resolution” dispute resolvers across the U.S. and worldwide in complex disputes and claims related to a wide range of engineering, construction and infrastructure projects—both public and private. Click on a panelist’s name to see their complete bio.



**Laura C. Abrahamson, Esq., FCIArb Los Angeles, CA** Ms. Abrahamson’s illustrious, 33-year legal career includes private practice at top law firms and in-house senior leadership roles at Fortune 500 companies, including AECOM and Occidental Petroleum. She has deep national and international experience handling complex disputes in the engineering, construction, oil and gas, and chemicals industries and holds a business degree with a dual major in accounting and finance. Ms. Abrahamson brings a pragmatic perspective and robust experience as an arbitrator, advocate and client in more than 100 arbitrations and major litigation matters and more than 50 mediations within the U.S. and significant jurisdictions around the world.



**Deborah S. Ballati, Esq. San Francisco, CA** Ms. Ballati brings a broad range of civil and commercial litigation experience to JAMS, with an emphasis on construction and insurance coverage. As a litigator for 40+ years, she represented parties in the construction industry, including owners, contractors, subcontractors, sureties and design professionals. She has substantial experience with delay and defect claims arising out of commercial and residential construction projects, in addition to contract drafting negotiations and construction related insurance matters. Ms. Ballati served as the first female president of American College of Construction Lawyers and is a sought after commentator on insurance and construction law.



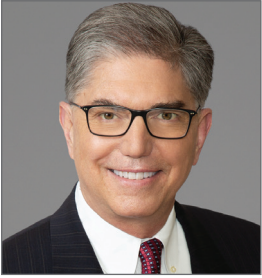
**Viggo Boserup, Esq. Orange County, CA** A Certified Electronic Discovery Specialist and fluent in both Danish and English, Mr. Boserup has served as a full-time neutral since 1992 and has mediated more than 5,000 cases, including hundreds of construction matters. Before becoming a neutral, he was a commercial and residential real estate developer and the principal owner and CEO of a national industrial construction company with more than 1,000 employees in 26 states. Known for his fortitude in obtaining a productive result and going the extra mile, Mr. Boserup follows up with parties to effect a settlement, long after the mediation session is over.



**Hon. Geraldine Soat Brown (Ret.) Chicago, IL** Judge Brown joined JAMS in 2016 following 16 years as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, including four years as the Presiding Magistrate Judge. Before joining the bench, Judge Brown had 25 years of experience in commercial and construction litigation and alternative dispute resolution. As an attorney, she represented owners, architects and contractors in court and in arbitrations, and in drafting construction contracts for commercial, condominium, residential and public buildings. Judge Brown previously served as an arbitrator in construction disputes relating to commercial, residential and condominium buildings as well as public works.



**Philip L. Bruner, Esq. Minneapolis, MN** The Director of the JAMS Global Engineering and Construction Group, Mr. Bruner is one of the world's leading arbitrators, mediators and resolvers of construction, engineering and infrastructure claims and disputes arising in the U.S. and globally. For more than 25 years prior to joining JAMS, he was a member of panels of arbitrators of other dispute resolution organizations. As a neutral, his experience includes numerous complex construction, engineering and infrastructure disputes aggregating from millions to many hundreds of millions of dollars on a wide variety of public and private projects.



**Paul A. Bruno, Esq., FCI Arb Dallas, TX** Mr. Bruno has dedicated four decades to the construction industry and brings a unique and valuable perspective to his ADR practice with experience as an arbitrator, pro-tem judge, trial lawyer and client. Prior to joining JAMS, Mr. Bruno spent 18 years in leadership positions within the legal organization of Fluor Corporation, including, most recently, as Managing General Counsel for the dispute resolution function. He managed dispute resolution for Fluor worldwide, leading a team of lawyers and construction contract professionals in the Corporate Claims Management Group. He also served as corporate counsel during a long tenure at the national firm of Thelen Reid & Priest in the San Francisco Bay Area.



**Hon. William J. Cahill (Ret.) San Francisco, CA** Judge Cahill served on the San Francisco Superior Court for nearly 10 years. Prior to that, he was a construction lawyer representing design professionals, owners, contractors and subcontractors, both in litigation and as corporate counsel to a major engineering firm. At JAMS, Judge Cahill has mediated, arbitrated or served on a dispute review board for numerous multi-million-dollar cases, including infrastructure disputes related to construction, design or engineering of the Golden Gate Bridge as well as windmills, power plants, hospitals, schools, a commuter train system and commercial and residential buildings.



**Richard Chernick, Esq. Los Angeles, CA** Mr. Chernick is Vice President and Managing Director of the JAMS Arbitration Practice and a nationally recognized expert in resolving complex and multi-party matters. He has arbitrated and mediated numerous real property, construction and infrastructure cases involving contractual, delay, change order, termination, and performance claims, as well as disclosure, fraud, land subsidence, earthquake damage, real estate valuation and insurance coverage issues. These disputes involved public utilities, theme parks, hotels, casinos, schools, recreational structures, mobile home parks and shopping centers.



**Zela "Zee" G. Claiborne, Esq. San Francisco, CA** Ms. Claiborne's extensive career as a mediator and arbitrator includes numerous large-scale construction disputes involving hospitals, schools, research and high-tech facilities, commercial and residential buildings, manufacturing plants, wastewater treatment and tunneling projects, bridge and highway construction, airports and rail systems. She also has handled disputes related to construction of a number of energy projects, including oil and gas and hydroelectric as well as alternative energy. She has worked with owners and developers, design teams, general and sub-contractors, suppliers, construction managers and sureties.



**Tony Cole, FCI Arb London, UK** Mr. Cole is recognized globally for his experience in international and domestic arbitration, cross-border commerce and international investment law. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, an IMI-Certified Mediator, a member of the New York Bar and a panelist on numerous leading arbitral institutions worldwide. He is on the European Parliament's list of legal experts and was recently asked by its Committee on Legal Affairs to provide guidance on arbitration in the EU and Switzerland. Mr. Cole has more than 10 years' experience as an arbitrator and advocate in a wide range of international and complex commercial arbitrations, including construction disputes.



**Robert B. Davidson, Esq. New York, NY** Mr. Davidson is a retired partner of a major international law firm and the Executive Director of JAMS Arbitration Practice. In more than 30 years of practice, he has litigated or arbitrated almost every type of commercial dispute, before courts and juries in the U.S., and abroad before international tribunals. In the construction context, he is frequently called upon to chair arbitral proceedings involving engineering and infrastructure disputes, municipal development projects, LEED standards and claims of professional negligence. He is listed in *Chambers USA* as one of the country's foremost international arbitrators.



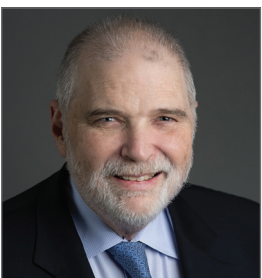
**Thomas I. Elkind, Esq. Boston, MA** Mr. Elkind has worked throughout his career to resolve construction cases, representing owners, contractors, architects, engineers, sureties and lenders in a wide variety of matters. As a mediator, Mr. Elkind is dedicated to working with the parties for as long as the parties are willing to try to find solutions to their disputes. He is persistent, detail-oriented and follows through to keep the process going after the parties appear to have reached an impasse, even if that means continuing to engage with the parties after the mediation session has concluded.



**Ross W. Feinberg, Esq. Orange County, CA** A full-time mediator and special master since 2007, Mr. Feinberg has been involved in mediations totaling more than \$400 million of recoveries. Prior to joining JAMS, he effectively represented parties in construction defect litigation and related class actions for more than two decades. Respected by all sides and facets of the bar, as well as builders and insurance companies, he is widely recognized for his ability to initiate open communication with all parties that leads to constructive resolutions. Mr. Feinberg is the author of *Construction Defect Litigation*, which covers CD law and legislation throughout the country, and the recipient of numerous national and local construction industry awards.



**Gill S. Freeman (Retired Judge 11th Judicial Circuit) Miami, FL** Judge Freeman has nearly 40 years of experience as a litigator, judge and neutral in commercial and construction cases. She is highly skilled in managing cases with complex factual and legal issues. Her experience includes issues relating to contract interpretation, cost overruns, subcontractor disputes and liability, mistake, design defects, construction defects and delays, changes, breach of contract, defective specifications, mechanics' liens, surety bonds, and insurance coverage issues. She presided over numerous construction matters as the first Complex Business Court Judge in Miami Dade County, Florida from 2007-2012 when the collapse of the real estate market generated significant litigation.



**Kenneth C. Gibbs, Esq. Los Angeles, CA** Recognized by *Chambers USA* as a "construction law guru," "a leading figure in the field of mediation" and "the dean of construction dispute resolution," Mr. Gibbs has been awarded with its highest level ranking of "Band 1" for construction. He is the co-author of *California Construction Law*, one of the most cited treatises on the subject. He has expertise in mediating and arbitrating construction, real estate, insurance, surety and business disputes involving major commercial and infrastructure projects. He is well known for his ability to establish great rapport with clients and for his knowledge of the unique issues involved in public construction and engineering matters.



**Shelby R. Grubbs, J.D., FCI Arb Atlanta, GA** Mr. Grubbs joined JAMS after a successful career with Miller & Martin PLLC, where he was managing member of its Atlanta office. He has served as lead counsel on construction matters and has experience in transportation, infrastructure, government construction and petrochemical projects as well as construction industry non-compete disputes. He served as lead U.S. counsel in cases involving parallel proceedings in Luxembourg, Mexico and the U.K., and counsel in arbitrations in the U.S., Europe and Asia. He has chaired tribunals or served as sole arbitrator in cases administered by the American Arbitration Association, the International Centre for Dispute Resolution and the International Court of Arbitration.



**Katherine Hope Gurun, Esq. New York, NY** Formerly Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Bechtel Corporation, one of the world's premier engineering and construction companies, Ms. Gurun's experience spans both private industry and public service in engineering and construction, business, energy, project finance, joint ventures and insurance and risk management. Ms. Gurun has led or participated in the resolution of numerous complex matters in the U.S. and internationally across all industries. As counsel, she has represented both owners and contractors and built an outstanding track record of settling disputes through ADR, particularly mediation and arbitration.



**William E. Hartgering, Esq. Chicago, IL** Mr. Hartgering's construction practice dates from the late 1980s, when parties and design carriers encouraged mediation as an early alternative to arbitration—particularly when all parties were not subject to the same project contract. His experience includes hundreds of construction and related matters in more than 25 states. He has handled mediations and arbitrations involving the entire range of defect, delay, acceleration, design/engineering and related insurance coverage and damage allocation issues.



**John W. Hinchey, Esq. Atlanta, GA** A national and international leader in the practice of construction law, Mr. Hinchey has extensive experience resolving significant construction and infrastructure disputes as a JAMS mediator and arbitrator. Prior to becoming a full-time neutral, he led the construction dispute practice for 18 years at King & Spalding, an international firm. He has served as President and fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers; honorary fellow in the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers; and Chair of the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry as well as a recipient of its highest achievement "Cornerstone" award.



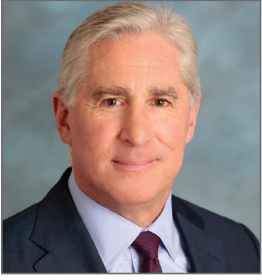
**Hon. Nancy Holtz (Ret.) Boston, MA** Judge Holtz comes to JAMS with more than 30 years of experience as a judge, attorney, and ADR practitioner. In 15 years on the bench, she presided over hundreds of civil matters, including significant multi-million-dollar business and construction litigation cases. As a result of her construction law education on the bench, Judge Holtz brings no particular perspective to a dispute. This neutrality enables her to see a matter from all angles: owner, general and subcontractors, architects, engineers and other professionals, in addition to the many other players involved in large-scale projects.



**Peter Kamminga, Esq., Ph.D. New York, NY** As a longtime member of the mediation team of Hon. Daniel Weinstein (Ret.), Dr. Kamminga has two decades of experience resolving high-profile disputes. He has successfully mediated and arbitrated hundreds of complex civil disputes involving multiple parties, global jurisdictional issues and aggregate values of billions of dollars. He has served as a mediator, neutral evaluator and dispute review board member in residential and commercial construction matters in the U.S. and abroad, including cases involving major real estate developments, infrastructure projects, public utilities and government agencies. He is fluent in Dutch and has an excellent working knowledge of German and French.



**Keith D. Koeller, Esq. Orange County, CA** During his 39-year legal career, Mr. Koeller has litigated, tried, arbitrated and mediated a multitude of complex, commercial and residential construction defect and construction claims involving large public and private commercial developments, high-rise and mixed-use condominiums, and single-family and custom homes. He has handled inverse condemnation and nuisance claims, construction-related catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death cases, insurance coverage claims and risk-transfer disputes. In 2009, Mr. Koeller was the recipient of West Coast Casualty's prestigious Jerrold S. Oliver Award of Excellence for his outstanding contributions to the construction community.



**Gerald A. Kurland, Esq. Santa Monica, CA** Consistently named by *The Daily Journal* as one of California's top neutrals, Mr. Kurland is known as a leading construction mediator and special master. His diverse ADR experience includes infrastructure, public works, commercial, agricultural and residential projects (pipelines, roadways, flood control channels, university and sports facilities, airport and government buildings, hospitals, shopping centers, reservoirs, water treatment plants, wineries, high rises), with such matters often involving delay/disruption, cost overrun, loss of productivity, differing site condition, mechanics lien, defect and/or inverse condemnation claims.



**Stacy L. La Scala, Esq. Orange County, CA** A highly regarded mediator who has resolved a wide array of disputes, Mr. La Scala began his neutral career in 2011 following 21 years as an attorney handling complex, multi-party litigation involving construction defect, insurance, commercial and contract issues. He has successfully mediated a variety of construction matters, including a dispute between an owner and builder involving hotel construction, multi-phase condominium projects, public works projects involving transit, and residential/single family home disputes involving one to 200 properties. He has additional expertise in professional liability claims against architects and engineers.



**Eleissa C. Lavelle, Esq. Las Vegas, NV** Ms. Lavelle has more than 30 years of experience in the construction field working with contractors, construction managers, subcontractors, sureties and owners of public projects as well as private developers of commercial properties and multi-family high rise and single family projects. Her extensive experience in all phases of multiple construction projects—from drafting contracts through project administration and as litigation counsel, mediator and arbitrator—have given her an exceptional understanding of the interests and objectives of parties involved in resolving disputes arising during the course of construction.



**Lexi W. Myer-Wolfe, Esq. Los Angeles, CA** Ms. Myer-Wolfe brings to JAMS a unique combination of litigation and ADR experience. For the first part of her career, Ms. Myer-Wolfe handled complex, multidistrict product liability matters and class actions. After more than a decade as an attorney working in litigation and the settlement of hundreds of individual claims, she turned to ADR, where she now serves as an arbitrator, mediator and neutral evaluator to help resolve construction cases involving owners, developers, designers, engineers and public entities.



**Andrew D. Ness, Esq. Washington, DC** Mr. Ness has more than 40 years of domestic and international experience in resolving complex business disputes with special expertise in construction, engineering, design and energy issues. As an advocate, Mr. Ness represented contractors, engineers and other design professionals, as well as owners and developers, on an extraordinary range of projects, including numerous megaprojects around the world. He has played a lead role in major domestic and international arbitrations and mediations involving large, highly complex disputes across a wide variety of diverse jurisdictions and arbitral rules.



**Douglas S. Oles, Esq. Seattle, WA** Mr. Oles is recognized as a national leader in the practice of construction law and in various areas of public and private commercial contracts, with extensive experience in both litigation and transactional work. He has served as national chair of the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry, the largest association of construction industry lawyers, and has been elected as a Fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers and an Honourary Fellow of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers. He has served as an arbitrator, mediator and advocate in settling a wide variety of complex construction disputes.



**Leslie King O'Neal Miami, FL** For over 40 years, Ms. O'Neal has handled construction and complex commercial litigation matters in private practice, as in-house counsel for an ENR top-25 commercial general contractor and as a mediator and arbitrator. She has substantial experience with disputes involving design and construction defects, mold and water intrusion, construction delays, payment and performance bond claims, and insurance claims. Ms. O'Neal has managed cases involving builder's risk, commercial general liability insurance, professional liability, environmental insurance, claims on subcontractor payment and performance bonds and subcontractor default insurance, indemnity claims, breaches of contract and product failures.



**Donald R. Person, Esq. Sacramento, CA** Mr. Person has mediated and arbitrated numerous construction disputes involving public and private works of improvement. A mechanical engineer, he is adept at handling interpretation of plans and specifications, construction and design defects, engineering and infrastructure issues, non-conforming and non-code compliant work, project milestones and completion, scheduling, delay, acceleration, interference, change orders and claims, bonds, insurance, damage analysis, and mechanic's liens and stop notices. He has particular expertise in resolving pre-litigation claims and implementing effective, economical discovery plans.



**Barbara A. Reeves, Esq. Santa Monica, CA** Ms. Reeves has arbitrated and successfully mediated construction and engineering disputes, with a specialty in insurance coverage disputes involving general liability issues for commercial construction, engineering and environmental matters. Drawing on her energy industry background she has handled construction matters involving nuclear power plants, co-generation plants, and coal- and gas-based power plants. She is recognized for her ability to put parties at ease and to achieve settlement in mediations as well as handling arbitrations.



**Hon. Ignazio J. Ruvolo (Ret.) Walnut Creek, CA** Justice Ruvolo served on the California Court of Appeal for 22 years, including 12 years as presiding judge. He was previously a civil litigator for 20 years and served on the Contra Costa County Superior Court. He has handled a wide variety of construction matters, including residential, commercial and public works projects, involving construction defects, breach of contract, professional liability, writs of mandate, competitive bidding laws, tort claims and more. In addition to serving as a mediator, Justice Ruvolo is also available as a neutral evaluator. His experience in appellate and writ approaches can help provide valuable insights in matters potentially destined for appeal.



**Hon. Judith M. Ryan (Ret.) Orange County, CA** Judge Ryan has arbitrated and mediated numerous breach of contract cases arising out of specific construction contracts. She has handled a broad range of issues including negligent design and construction, disruption, change orders, delay damages, changed site conditions, cost overruns and insurance issues. She is familiar with the standard contract forms and has dealt with a wide variety of issues arising under both the standard and specialized form contracts. In addition, she has arbitrated matters involving specific environmental and site clean-up issues.



**Thomas J. Stipanowich, Esq. Los Angeles, CA** Mr. Stipanowich is a respected figure in the field of dispute resolution and an experienced arbitrator and mediator specializing in large and complex cases in the U.S. and internationally. He has arbitrated cases under the rules of major global administering bodies, as well as non-administered and ad hoc arbitration. Mr. Stipanowich began his career as a construction lawyer at a national firm. He has handled a wide variety of construction disputes involving power plants, process plants, airports, hospitals and commercial buildings. He is the leader of the prestigious Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law and former President and CEO of the CPR Institute.



**Hon. Nancy Wieben Stock (Ret.) Orange County, CA** Judge Stock spent 24 years on the Orange County Superior Court bench, where she served on the Complex Civil Panel and as presiding judge of both the court itself and the appellate division. Prior to her service on the bench, Judge Stock worked as a federal prosecutor and in a business litigation firm. She has resolved a range of construction defect matters as well as construction-related securities and real estate disputes. Judge Stock is highly regarded among counsel for her skill in handling complex matters, including cases involving multiple parties and requiring coordination between multiple jurisdictions.



**Patricia H. Thompson, Esq. Miami, FL** Ms. Thompson joined JAMS in 2017 after a successful career as trial and appellate lawyer and arbitrator, concentrating her practice in construction, employment, surety, fidelity, financial insurance matters and other complex commercial disputes in state and federal courts. Her goal as an arbitrator is to meet the parties' pre-dispute expectations of efficiency and cost reductions. In mediation, she balances facilitation, evaluation and perseverance to direct the best avenue of resolution for all parties involved.



**Joe Tirado London, UK** Mr. Tirado has over 30 years of dispute resolution experience and has handled hundreds of cases across a broad range of industry sectors as counsel, arbitrator, mediator and expert determiner in over 60 jurisdictions worldwide. He is recognized as a ranked individual for international arbitration and ADR in leading legal directories. Mr. Tirado has handled high value cases in a number of sectors and industries, including construction and engineering. He has conducted and advised on international commercial and investment arbitration under all the major international arbitration rules before the leading international arbitration institutions as well as "pure" ad hoc and UNCITRAL arbitration.



**Eric E. Van Loon, Esq. Boston, MA** Mr. Van Loon has resolved many construction-related claims involving all types of structures, all types of parties, and all types of issues including contract interpretation and insurance coverage. Examples include contractors, subcontractors, architects, engineers, equipment manufacturers and sellers, and insurance and reinsurance carriers. Projects include commercial developments, power plants, wastewater treatment plants, highway projects, parking structures, sewer lines, housing and condominium projects and individual residences.



**Hon. Curtis E. von Kann (Ret.) Washington, DC** In his 45 years as a trial lawyer, judge, arbitrator and mediator, Judge von Kann has handled numerous cases in North and South America, Europe and Asia, involving engineering and construction of power plants, radio towers, dairy processing plants, university campuses, satellites, nuclear facilities and real estate developments. Among the issues presented were claims for delay damages, requests for equitable adjustments in contract prices, breaches of various warranties, errors in project scheduling, enforcement of performance bonds, negligent and intentional misrepresentations, and consequential and punitive damages.



**Michael D. Young, Esq. New York, NY** Mr. Young has successfully mediated more than 200 construction-related cases in many different states and has arbitrated many construction and construction-related disputes. These matters have involved all types of structures, all types of parties and all types of issues, such as defective work or design issues and claims for extras and delay damages. Many of these cases have involved multiple defendants, thus raising allocation issues, and many have involved ancillary disputes such as alleged misrepresentations by developers, insurance coverage questions and zoning or code issues.