

Michael T. Contos

Partner

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Michael Contos is a Partner in the Firm's Construction Practice. Advising clients in the commercial real estate and construction industries, Michael also serves as outside general counsel for cooperatives and condominiums.

Michael's keen understanding of the business climate allows him to act as a partner to his clients, offering sound actionable legal advice. His clients include commercial, institutional and residential real estate developers, owners and operators; condominiums and cooperatives; construction management firms and general contractors; hotel owners and operators; non-profits; and other business entities.

When litigation is the best option, Michael develops creative solutions to complex disputes in the commercial litigation arena, litigating and trying cases in state and federal courts before various alternative dispute resolution bodies and administrative agencies. He is experienced in prosecuting and defending construction and real estate-related matters, including complex construction and design disputes; delay claims, acceleration and consequential damages claims; surety bond claims; lien and trust fund issues; lease and ownership matters; access disputes; New York Lien Law and Prompt Payment Act claims and general contract matters.

Michael's work extends to negotiating and structuring complex construction and real estate contracts on behalf of his clients and diligently advising them through all phases from conception to completion.

Michael is a member of the faculty of New York University where he teaches courses in construction dispute resolution and hospitality and tourism law and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Union Community Health Center.

Education

- Fordham University (J.D., *cum laude*)

Bar Admissions

- New York
- New Jersey

Related Services

- Construction

- Washington, D.C.
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey
- U.S. Court of Claims
- U.S. Tax Court

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- Association of the Bar of the City of New York [I am also on the NYC Bar Construction Law Committee]
- New York County Lawyer's Association
- Union Community Health Center and 420-422 W. 47th Street Owners Corp. (Board of Directors)
- New York University and NYU Tandon School of Engineering (Adjunct Professor)

Awards & Honors

- *New York Super Lawyers* Rising Stars: 2017-2022

Insights

May 21, 2026

ICE Raids on Construction Sites: What Contractors Need to Know