

Adrien Pickard

Partner

Washington DC
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Education

- George Washington University Law School, JD
- University of Virginia, BA

Practices & Industries

- Power & Energy Construction
- Commercial Litigation & Complex Trials
- Energy
- Construction & Surety

Admitted to Practice

- Virginia
- District of Columbia
- Maryland

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- US Court of Federal Claims
- US District Court for the District of Columbia
- US District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- US District Court for the Western District of Virginia

Biography

With over 20 years of litigation and trial experience in federal and state courts across the nation, Adrien is focused on resolving complex construction and commercial disputes for major construction, power, and energy clients. Adrien has developed an extensive understanding of the legal and practical issues affecting the construction industry, allowing him to identify issues early on to ensure his clients stay ahead of the curve. His ability to secure favorable outcomes—whether through early negotiation or in the courtroom—has made him an essential partner for national and international clients facing high-pressure challenges.

One of Adrien's standout achievements came when he helped an owner navigate a series of complex construction disputes involving a contractor that threatened to delay critical timelines and increase costs. Working closely with the client's project team, executives, and in-house counsel, Adrien analyzed the project record, conducted a thorough on-site assessment, and delivered savvy advice that optimized the owner's position. The result was a favorable resolution that ensured the owner was financially protected and the contractor was held accountable.

During Adrien's 20-plus-year career, he has practiced at several nationally recognized firms, including Shapiro, Lifschitz & Schram, Blank Rome, and Vorys. He has successfully litigated matters in nearly every state on the East Coast as well as in California, Illinois, Texas, and Washington state.

Bar Associations

- American Bar Association
- Virginia Bar Association
- District of Columbia Bar Association

Selected Memberships & Affiliations

- George Mason University Inns of Court, Former Executive Committee Member

Representative Experience

- Represented several national construction firms in connection with various highway construction disputes in Virginia and Maryland courts.
- Drafted engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contracts for a large energy company for use in ongoing development projects.
- Represented a construction firm in connection with claims against the owner and the surety in a dispute over subcontractor defects.
- Successfully argued for and obtained summary judgment on behalf of a regional distributor of solar cells in the US District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.
- Represented a government contractor in a $50 billion General Services Administration (GSA) bid protest in the US Court of Federal Claims, resulting in an order requiring the government to rebid the contract award.
- Successfully defended a Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) case against the founder of an international yoga movement in the US District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.
- Successfully negotiated a limited injunction on behalf of a client accused of theft of proprietary data claims in the US District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.
- Represented a class of plaintiffs in a Title II public accommodation discrimination case in the US District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Prior Experience

- Shapiro, Lifschitz & Schram, Attorney
- Blank Rome LLP, Of Counsel
- Fiske & Harvey, PLLC, Attorney
- Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease, Associate

Selected Community Activities

- Alexandria Third Century Corporation, Former Board Member

Selected Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®: Commercial Litigation, 2027
- Virginia Access to Justice Commission, Pro Bono Service Honor Roll, 2020–2021
- DC Bar, Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll, 2018–2020
- Selected to *Super Lawyers* Washington DC Rising Stars: General Litigation, 2013–2017
- *Washington Post Magazine*, Top Attorney in Washington DC, 2013

Selected Media

- *Lexis Practical Guidance*, "Structuring, Administering, and Releasing Retainage on Construction Projects"
- *Construction Business Owner*, "Why Every Construction Project Needs a Dispute Resolution Plan"; "Common Risk Mitigation & Allocation Tools in Construction Contracts"
- *For Construction Pros*, "The Trend Toward Bright-Line Protections: State-by-State Updates Strengthen Prompt Payment Laws in the Construction Industry"; "What Contractors Need to Know About Prompt Payment Statutes in Construction"; "DOGE Reforms Trigger Surge in Federal Construction Contract Terminations | For Construction Pros"
- *Industry Today*, "Managing Risk With the Four Major Types of Construction Delays"
- *Construction Executive*, “Better Manage the Four Types of Subcontractor Risk”

Selected Must Know Minute®

- Schedule Float in Project Management: Who Owns It?
- Guaranteed Performance Metrics in Construction Contracts
- Delay Claims in Construction Contracts
- Construction Contracts and Strict Notice Provisions
- What Does It Mean for Government Contractors When Construction Projects Are Canceled?