

Laura Fraher

She | Her | Hers

Partner

Washington DC, New York

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Education

- St. John's University School of Law, JD, *Magna Cum Laude*; *St. John's Law Review*
- State University of New York at Geneseo, BA

Practices & Industries

- Construction & Surety
- Commercial Litigation & Complex Trials
- Power & Energy Construction
- Energy
- Data Center & Digital Infrastructure

Admitted to Practice

- New York
- District of Columbia
- Maryland

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- US District Court for the District of Columbia
- US District Court for the District of Maryland
- US District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- US District Court for the Northern District of New York

Biography

Laura serves as co-chair of Barclay Damon's Power & Energy Construction Practice Area. With over two decades of commercial litigation experience, she focuses her practice on complex commercial and construction litigation, including power and energy construction matters. Laura is recognized in *Chambers USA*, where clients note that she is “one of the smartest attorneys I've worked with” and “an excellent legal researcher and writer,” citing her detailed and thorough drafting of pleadings, motions, and briefs and adding that she “is remarkably detailed and thorough in her work.”

Laura is a seasoned litigator, having represented clients in state and federal courts, in arbitrations, and at the appellate level. She has represented owners, general contractors, subcontractors, and construction managers in a wide variety of complex construction litigation. Recognizing that litigation is rarely the best use of a client's time and resources, Laura prioritizes guiding clients to early dispute resolution and supports them at all stages of the dispute process.

In addition to her litigation practice, Laura has extensive transactional experience. She drafts, negotiates, and provides strategic advice to clients regarding construction contracts for large-scale projects, including commercial, residential, and EPC contracts for power plant and industrial facility projects.

Prior to joining Barclay Damon, Laura was a litigator at a highly regarded Washington DC–based boutique construction litigation firm and two leading New York law firms and was a federal law clerk.

In addition to her own practice, Laura serves as a member of the firm's Opportunity, Inclusion & Belonging Partner Committee.

- US District Court for the Southern District of New York
- US Supreme Court

Bar Associations

- Maryland State Bar Association, Construction Law Section and Litigation Law Section
- District of Columbia LGBTQ+ Bar Association

Selected Memberships & Affiliations

- Barclay Damon's Women's Forum
- Construction Lawyer's Society of America, Fellow

Representative Experience

- Represents multiple clients in the energy sector in connection with the drafting and negotiation of EPC contracts and contracts relating to construction projects.
- Successfully represented the owner of multiple newly constructed hydroelectric power plants on the Ohio River in complex litigation against the turbine generator equipment manufacturer. The case was settled on the eve of trial following significant discovery, motion practice, and mediation, on terms favorable to the client.
- Successfully represented the owner of a utility company in a complex dispute regarding the construction of a 10-unit integrated dual-fuel electricity generating facility in Eureka, California, including claims relating to alleged construction defects, design and installation failures, and schedule delays. The case was settled prior to arbitration after significant discovery and mediation on terms favorable to the client.
- Successfully represented a general contractor in a complex, multiparty dispute regarding the construction of a 17-story casino hotel tower in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, including claims relating to alleged construction defects and schedule delays. The case was settled after significant discovery, motion practice, and mediation on terms favorable to the client.
- Successfully represented a major general contractor in achieving a favorable resolution in a fiercely contested and highly publicized case involving the Silver Spring Transit Center project in Montgomery County, Maryland. After four weeks of a jury trial, the county dropped its multimillion-dollar claims and agreed to pay our client $3 million on the client's affirmative claims. The case involved highly technical issues regarding concrete construction, schedule analysis, and damages.

Prior Experience

- Shapiro, Lifschitz & Schram, Attorney
- Cahill Gordon & Reindel, Associate
- US District Court for the Eastern District of New York, Honorable Joanna Seybert, Law Clerk
- Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, Associate

Selected Community Activities

- SMYAL, Board Member and Major Donor Committee Co-Chair
- Team DC, Former Vice President and Board Member

Selected Honors

- *Chambers USA*, District of Columbia: Construction, 2026
- *Legal 500*, Washington DC Elite, Commercial Disputes, 2026
- Selected to *Super Lawyers*, Washington DC: Construction Litigation, 2017–2025

Selected Media

- *Construction Business Owner*, "Inside the Baltimore Bridge Collapse & Aftermath"; "Common Risk Mitigation & Allocation Tools in Construction Contracts"
- *Construction Executive*, "Safeguarding Your Privileged Construction Information With a Clawback Agreement"
- *POWER* Magazine, "The POWER Interview: Negotiating the Details of Power Project Contracts"
- *Utility Dive*, "Ensuring Your EPC Contracts Incorporate the IRA's Prevailing Wage and Apprenticeship Requirements"
- *ACC Docket*, "Not All Contract Models Have the Same Risk: Tips for Managing Power and Energy Projects," Co-Author
- *Distributed Energy*, "Avoiding Conflict and Achieving a Successful Power and Energy Project"

Selected Must Know Minute®

- Effectively Managing Disputes in Construction Contracts
- Enforcing a Liquidated Damage Provision in Construction Contracts
- Should Your Next Energy Project Move Beyond the Fixed-Price EPC Model?