



W. Ryan Snow

Ryan is the 2024 President of the Virginia Bar Association and was Managing Partner of CWM from 2012 to 2020. He handles high-stakes litigation with a focus on complex business disputes, construction law and maritime law. He also serves as local Virginia counsel in patent and other federal court litigation. In 2022, Inside Business named him one of four "People to Watch" in its annual Power List edition.

Ryan's experience includes business conspiracies, technology disputes, marine construction, government contracts, maritime cases, railroad cases, mediation, arbitration, indemnity claims, and others. He successfully argued one of the seminal financial tracing cases in the Virginia Supreme Court and was co-counsel in one of the largest patent cases tried to jury verdict in Norfolk federal court.

Ryan is listed in Best Lawyers in America® and has been selected a Virginia Business Legal Elite in four categories. He is a past Chair of the Construction & Public Contracts Law Section of the VBA, a member of the IP Section of the Virginia State Bar, and a former President of the l'Anson-Hoffman American Inn of Court. In 2022 and 2023, he was named "Lawyer of the Year - Construction" for Virginia by Best Lawyers in America,® an honor granted to a single lawyer based on highest overall peer ratings in a practice area.

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Practice Areas

Business Disputes
Practice Group Chair

Construction Law
Practice Group Chair

Government Contracting
Practice Group Chair

Admiralty & Maritime Law

Intellectual Property

Litigation

Local Counsel Representation

Railroad & Transit Law

Businesses & Industries

Business Owners

Developers, Project Owners

Equipment & Material Suppliers

Financial Institutions

Heavy Construction Companies

Intellectual Property Owners

Marine Construction Companies

Railroads, Shipping Companies

Technology Companies

Honors & Awards

AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rating by LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell

Best Lawyers in America®, Admiralty & Maritime Law (2013-2023); Construction Law (2018-2023); Commercial Litigation (2019-2023); Construction Litigation(2022-2024)

Best Lawyers in America®, *Lawyer of the Year Construction Law (2022-2023)*

Virginia Business Legal Elite® by *Virginia Business Magazine*, Construction Law, 2015-2020; Civil Litigation, 2014; Young Lawyer Under 40, 2012-2013; Alternative Dispute Resolution, 2011

Virginia Super Lawyers, Business Litigation, 2013-2021; *Top 100*, 2014

Education

Washington & Lee University, J.D., 2001

Franklin & Marshall College, B.A., magna cum laude, 1998

Bar Admissions

Virginia

Court Admissions

Virginia Supreme Court

United States Supreme Court

United States Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

United States Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit

United States Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit

United States District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Virginia

United States Bankruptcy Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Virginia

Memberships

Virginia Bar Association (President, 2024; Board of Governors, 2020-2023; Chair, Construction & Public Contracts Law Section, 2011)

Virginia State Bar (Construction Law and Intellectual Property Law Sections)

Federal Bar Association

Old Dominion Bar Association

Norfolk & Portsmouth Bar Association

Hampton Roads Utility & Heavy Contractors Association (HRUHCA)

Associated General Contractors of Virginia (AGC)

Community Involvement

l'Anson-Hoffman American Inn of Court (President, 2019-2020)

Norfolk Botanical Garden (Chairman, 2017-2020; Board of Trustees, 2012-2020)

Norfolk Botanical Garden Foundation (Board of Directors, 2013-2020, 2023-2024)

NPBA Middle School Mock Trial Program (Instructor, 2006-2015)

The Civil Rights Law Institute (Board, 2024)

Representative Experience

- Represents businesses in complex contract cases, business conspiracy cases, business interference cases, intellectual property cases, technology disputes, commercial lease disputes, antitrust actions, declaratory judgment actions, injunctions, mediations, arbitrations, and others.
- Represents construction clients, owners, and sureties in contract negotiations, teaming agreements, installation and design defects, mechanic's liens, payment and performance bond claims, change order disputes, differing site condition claims, indemnity actions, and others.
- Represents government contractors in contract drafting, business structures, teaming agreements, protests, change orders, equitable adjustments, litigation, appeals, cybersecurity, and others.
- Represents maritime clients and railroad interests in marine construction cases, cargo cases, limitation actions, vessel arrests, MARPOL investigations, riparian rights disputes, property disputes, preemption cases, FELA cases, ICCTA challenges, and others.

Representative Cases

CASE RESULTS DEPEND ON A VARIETY OF FACTORS UNIQUE TO EACH CASE. THEY DO NOT GUARANTEE OR PREDICT SIMILAR RESULTS IN FUTURE CASES.

- *Landfill Gas Holdings, LLC v. Cube MAS Holdings, LLC*, AAA Case No. 02-18-0001-9169. (Panel arbitration involving sale of multiple landfill gas energy projects).
- Appeal of Norfolk Dredging Co., ASBCA No. 61071 (equitable adjustment case in Board of Contract Appeals involving USACE dredging project).
- *JTH Tax, Inc. d/b/a Liberty Tax v. Aime Consulting, LLC, et al.*, 2:16-cv-279, E.D.Va. (franchise case resulting in \$2.7 million verdict after 3-day trial; affirmed in part and reversed in part on appeal) (Morgan, J.).
- *Carter Machinery Co. v. Lakeshore Toltest Corp.*, CL14-6599, York Cir. Ct. (multi-faceted mechanic's lien suit with associated Delaware bankruptcy case).
- *Oasis Brands, Inc. v. Green Innovations Ltd.*, 2:13-cv-529, E.D.Va. (trademark case involving challenge to jurisdiction in Virginia) (Jackson, J.).
- *Norfolk & Portsmouth Belt Line RR Co. v. South Norfolk Jordan Bridge, LLC*, 2:13-cv-234, E.D.Va. (indemnity case arising out of bridge collapse) (Jackson, J.).
- *Segin Systems, Inc. v. Stewart Title Guaranty Co., et al.*, 2:13-cv-190, E.D.Va., PTAB, Fed. Cir. (patent infringement case accusing account reconciliation software) (Jackson, J.).
- *Virginia Innovation Sciences v. Samsung Electronics Co., et al.*, 2:12-cv-548, 2:13-cv-332, 2:14-cv-217, E.D.Va., PTAB, Fed. Cir. (series of patent infringement cases involving mobile devices) (Davis, J.).
- *Carter Machinery Co. v. Martin Constr. Group, LLC, et al.*, CL-12-3703, Chest. Cir. Ct. (successor liability trial piercing shell company to reach LLCs).
- *St. Joe Company v. Norfolk Redev. & Housing Auth.*, 722 S.E.2d 622 (Va. 2012) (constructive trust case recouping funds seized by secured creditor).
- *I/P Engine, Inc. v. AOL, Inc., et al.*, 2:11-cv-512, E.D.Va. (patent infringement case accusing search engine advertising) (Jackson, J.).

Representative Cases, *continued*

- *Norfolk 102, LLC v. Waterside Assoc., L.P., et al.*, CL-11-3414, Norf. Cir. Ct. (commercial lease case seeking multi-party injunction).
- *Misener Marine Constr., Inc. v. Norfolk Dredging Co.*, 594 F.3d 832 (11th Cir. 2010) (marine construction case based on mooring structure failure).
- *Mullins v. River Docks Corp., et al.*, 4:10-cv-138, E.D.Va. (warranty case arising out of remanufactured marine engines) (Smith, J.).
- *Norfolk & Portsmouth Belt Line RR Co. v. Wilson*, 667 S.E.2d 735 (Va. 2008) (FELA case asserting close clearance injury).

Articles and Presentations

- W. Snow, D Hartnett, "Traps for the Unwary: Limit Contract Risk and Protecting Your Right to Payment", HRUHCA (September 2019)
- "Hackers and Why They Hack – and Why You Need to Know", For the Defense, Defense Research Institute (October 2018)
- Presenter, "Making Sure You Get Paid: Legal Remedies for Problem Projects", Hampton Roads Utility & Heavy Contractors Association (July 2015)
- W. Snow, "Successfully Managing Government Contract Disputes: Key Considerations," *Litigation Strategies for Government Contracts*, Aspatore Books (November 2012)
- Co-Editor, "Law of Damages in Virginia", Virginia CLE (January 2012)
- Presenter, "Liability for Construction Defects and Failures", Half Moon Seminars (February 2012)
- Moderator/Presenter, "Intellectual Property Issues in Construction Law", Virginia Bar Association (January 2012)
- Moderator/Presenter, "Legislative Update", Virginia Bar Association (July 2011)
- Moderator/Presenter, "Business Litigation", Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association (September 2007)
- Moderator/Presenter, "Trial Advocacy", Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association (October 2005)
- Moderator/Presenter, "Deposition Tactics", Norfolk and Portsmouth Bar Association (April 2004)
- D. Schultz , W. Snow , "Injunction Practice In Virginia State and Federal Courts" (April 2003)
- D. Schultz , W. Snow , "Recent Developments in Admissibility of Expert Witness Testimony" (February 2002)