



## 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 counsel in Virginia state and federal litigation. In 2022, Inside Business named him one of four “People to Watch” in its annual Power List edition, and in 2024, he was included in the “Virginia 500 Power List” by Virginia Business magazine.

Ryan’s experience includes business conspiracies, technology disputes, government contracts, marine construction, 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, 2023 and 2025, he was named “Lawyer of the Year - Construction” (Norfolk) by Best Lawyers in America®, and in 2024, he was honored as a VLW “Leader in the Law.”

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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 (2013-2025); Construction Law (2018-2025); Commercial Litigation (2019-2025); Construction Litigation(2022-2025)

*Best Lawyers in America®*, *Lawyer of the Year Construction Law (2022-2023, 2025)*

*Virginia Business Legal Elite®* by *Virginia Business Magazine*, Construction Law, 2015-2024; Civil Litigation, 2014; Young Lawyer Under 40, 2012-2013; Alternative Dispute Resolution, 2011

*Virginia Super Lawyers*, Business Litigation, 2013-2024; *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.

## 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)