

Robert Bass

Shareholder

Practices: Construction

Industries: Higher Education; P3, Infrastructure & Project Finance; Real Estate; Sports Business

Robert represents Winstead's real estate development, lending, bond underwriting and construction industry clients on a wide range of issues based on his extensive, practical experience in litigating construction disputes and in drafting and negotiating both large and small construction contracts. Additionally, with his contact and experience in lobbying the Texas Legislature with regard to construction-related legislation, Robert has key insight into the development of construction law in Texas.

Representative Experience (Sports Business & Public Venues)

Extensive experience in drafting and negotiating construction documents for owners and developers, as well as contractors, and handling disputes arising on commercial construction projects, including sports venue, multi-family residential, condominium, high-rise office, and shopping center projects, including the following sports and public venue related projects:

- Represented municipal-owned convention center hotel in drafting and negotiating design and construction contracts for major renovations during on-going hotel operations
- Represented private university in development of design and construction contracts to be used for various projects, including major renovations to basketball facility (Big 12)
- Represented public university in drafting and negotiating design and construction contracts for multi-year renovations to iconic football stadium (SEC)
- Represented private university in drafting and negotiating construction contract for major renovations to football stadium (Big 12)
- Represented general contractor in connection with claims arising from termination of critical subcontractor and claims with owner for additional compensation on nationally recognized art museum project
- Represented NFL team with regard to design and construction of approx. 75,000 seat, retractable roof football stadium (under construction)
- Represented NFL team with regard to development, design, and construction of approx. 69,000 seat, retractable roof football stadium
- Represented NBA team with regard to development, design, and construction of approx. 18,500 seat basketball and multi-purpose arena
- Represented developer in drafting and negotiating the contracts for the design and construction of a \$142 Million (plus) hotel and casino in Oklahoma
- Represented one of the nation's largest churches with regard to design and construction of conversion of former NBA basketball arena to sanctuary and church facilities in Houston, Texas



Austin Office

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Education

University of Texas School of Law

– J.D., 1977

Yale University

– M.A.R., 1973

Baylor University

– B.A., 1971

- Represented developer in drafting and negotiating construction documents for golf course (NGCOA “course of the year” national award winner) and clubhouse construction

Represents bond underwriters and lenders on construction-related issues arising on bond-financed and conventional commercial lending transactions, including the following:

- Represented bond insurers with regard to financing for construction of approx. 53,000 seat MLB stadium
- Represented bond insurers with regard to financing for construction of approx. 82,000 seat NFL stadium (home to two NFL franchises)

Represents clients in resolving construction claims, payment and performance bond claims and other disputes through negotiation, administrative proceedings, arbitration and litigation

Represents clients before the Texas Legislature and its various administrative agencies and local governmental bodies on a wide range of issues, including construction and insurance regulatory matters

Professional & Community Service

- State Bar of Texas (Construction Law Section: Chair, 2007-2008; Vice-Chair, 2006-2007; Secretary, 2005-2006; Treasurer, 2004-2005; Council, 1994-1997; Legislative Affairs Advisor, 2001-2004; 2009-2015)
- Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Construction Law Examination Commission (2016-2019) (Examiner for Board Certification in Construction Law)
- Texas Bar Foundation (Life Fellow)
- American Bar Association (Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section: Section Secretary, 1992-1995; Life Fellow of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section; Forum Committee on the Construction Industry: Steering Committee, Division 12, 2001-2004)
- Austin Bar Association (Construction Law Section)
- Texas Building Branch (Associated General Contractors, Legal Affairs Committee)
- American Institute of Architects (Allied Member)
- Urban Land Institute (Austin), Young Leader Mentorship Forum (Mentor, 2023-2024)

Awards & Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*, (BL Rankings, LLC), Construction Law, 2007-2025
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, (BL Rankings, LLC), "Lawyer of the Year" - Austin Construction Law, 2012, 2013 and 2016; "Lawyer of the Year" - Austin Construction Litigation, 2015
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Rated (over 25 years) - Preeminent
- Chairman's Award, Texas Building Branch, Associated General Contractors, 2011
- Leadership and Service Award, Texas Building Branch, Associated General Contractors, 2005
- Texas Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters, Construction Law, 2006-2023
- *Chambers USA Guide to America*, Chambers & Partners Publishing, Construction Law 2006-2025 (currently "Star Individual")
- Who's Who Legal, Lexology, Construction, 2024

Admissions

- Texas, 1977
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit