

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 (Universities)

Extensive experience in drafting and negotiating construction documents for owners and developers on commercial construction projects, including sports venue, multi-family residential, condominium, high-rise office, and shopping center projects, including the following recent projects on behalf of institutions of higher education:

- Representing private university in development of design and construction contracts to be used for all building improvements and new construction activities, including upcoming 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)
- Represents bond underwriters and lenders on construction-related issues arising on bond-financed and conventional commercial lending transactions

Represents owners and general contractors 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)



Austin Office

512.370.2852 Direct

512.370.2850 Fax

rbass@winstead.com

Education

University of Texas School of Law

– J.D., 1977

Yale University

– M.A.R., 1973

Baylor University

– B.A., 1971

- 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)

Awards & Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*, (BL Rankings, LLC), Construction Law, 2007-2024
- *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 2006-2023 (currently "Star Individual")

Admissions

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