

## BIOGRAPHY

### ELIZABETH A. LARSEN

#### SHAREHOLDER

elizabeth.larsen@leonard.com

Elizabeth advises and represents clients in state and federal court matters nationally, focusing her practice on construction law and commercial and business litigation. Her construction practice is diverse, ranging from representing clients in nuts-and-bolts construction claims, such as bid disputes, mechanic's lien foreclosures, and construction and design defect litigation, to complex performance contracting disputes with government entities. She also advises construction clients on various business, contract negotiation and dispute avoidance matters. Elizabeth frequently presents on construction issues to contractors, design professionals and other construction attorneys through her involvement with the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry, the Minnesota State Bar Association Construction Law Section and trade and professional organizations. She currently serves as the Assistant Chair of the Construction practice group.

The American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry recently selected Elizabeth, through a highly competitive selection process, to receive a Women and Minority Fellowship. The ABA Forum on the Construction Industry's mission is to serve the construction industry through education and leadership.

In commercial and business litigation, she has represented clients in a wide array of cases, including banking and lending disputes, wrongful foreclosure defense, quiet title actions, commercial foreclosure and receivership matters, defense against alleged violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices and Fair Credit Reporting Act, closely held corporate dissolution, and a wide range of general contract disputes. Elizabeth has also expanded her appellate practice for her clients and through a partnership with the Minnesota State Public Defender's Office.

Recognizing her professional skills, and industry and community involvement, Elizabeth has repeatedly been selected for inclusion in *Super Lawyers*®-Rising Stars, and has also served as a moot court legal writing instructor for the University of Minnesota Law School.

A performer at heart, Elizabeth trained as a classical vocalist, spending a good deal of her pre-law years performing in opera theater, soloing with small and large ensembles, and giving recitals. The creative, performance and collaboration skills Elizabeth honed on stage continue to serve her well as a successful litigator.



#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### PRACTICE AREAS

Construction Law

Business and Commercial  
Litigation

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## PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

**ELIZABETH A.  
LARSEN**

612.335.1861

- American Bar Association
  - Civil Litigation Section
  - Forum on the Construction Industry
  - Former vice-chair, Young Lawyers Division, Civil Litigation Committee, 2002–2003
- Minnesota State Bar Association
  - Construction Law Section, Council Member, 2011–present
  - Civil Litigation Section
- Hennepin County Bar Association
  - Appointed to three-year term on the Nominating Committee, 2009–2012
  - Former chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer and community service director of the New Lawyers Section, the largest section of the HCBA
  - Former Finance & Planning Committee member
  - Former Executive Committee member
- Minnesota Justice Foundation
  - Board Member, 2006–2012
  - Treasurer, 2010–2012
- National Association of Women In Construction, Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter 164
  - Vice-chair, 2012–2013
  - Secretary, 2010–2012
- Construction Financial Management Association, Dakota Chapter
  - Programming committee, 2012–present
- Associated Building Contractors, MN and ND
- Association of General Contractors, ND
- Rosemount United Methodist Church
  - Staff-Parish Relations Committee, 2012–present
  - Choir member
- Kiwanis Club, South of the River Chapter

## HONORS

- *Super Lawyers®*-Rising Star, Construction Law, 2006, 2010–2012
- ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, Women and Minority Fellow, 2013–2016

## PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Co-presenter, “The Bolduc Decision on Indemnity Agreements,” CFMA Twins Cities, June 2013
  - Author, *Indemnification and Insuring the Indemnity in Construction Contracts—Is a New Trend Emerging?* Paper presented at ABA Forum on the Construction Industry, Division 9, March 2013
  - Presenter, “The Basics of Contractual Risk Shifting,” Construction Financial Managers Association, March 2013
  - Presenter, “Differing Site Conditions,” Minnesota Utility Contractors Association, February 2013
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- Co-author, *Insuring Contractual Indemnity Obligations: A Lesson in Careful Contract Drafting*, January 2013
  - Presenter, "Minnesota's Construction Defect Statute of Limitation and Repose," Leonard, Street and Deinard internal associate training, January 2013
  - Presenter, "2012 Construction Case Law Update," Minnesota State Bar Association–Construction Law Section, CLE Program, December 2012
  - Editor, *2012 Minnesota Construction Case Law Summary*, December 2012
  - Presenter, "Public Bidding Fundamentals: What You Need to Know to Win Your Bid Dispute," Associated Building Contractors, ND, July 2012
  - Presenter, "Contracts 101: Reading and Interpreting Construction Contracts in Minnesota," National Association of Women in Construction, May 2012
  - Presenter, "2011 Construction Case Law Update," Minnesota State Bar Association–Construction Law Section, CLE Program, January 2012
  - Editor, *2011 Minnesota Construction Case Law Summary*, December 2011
  - Presenter, "Getting Started in North Dakota," Construction Update Annual Meeting, December 2011
  - Presenter, "Contracts 101: Reading and Interpreting Construction Contracts in Minnesota and North Dakota," Associated Building Contractors, MN and ND, November 2011
  - Presenter, "Proprietary Specifications: The Pitfalls of Product Specifications," South Dakota American Institute of Architects Annual Meeting, September 2011
  - Presenter, "You're Fired! Show Me the Money! The Impact of Termination Clauses on Payment," Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, October 2010
  - Presenter, "Legal Risks in Green Building!," South Dakota American Institute of Architects Annual Meeting, September 2009
  - Author, *Compliance with "E-Verify" Program May Be Required of Federal Contractors and Subcontractors*, February 2009
  - Presenter, "Tolling the Statute of Limitation and Contract Termination," National Association of Women in Construction, January 2009
  - Presenter, "AIA vs. ConsensusDocs," Construction Update Annual Meeting, December 2007
  - Presenter, "Tolling the Statute of Limitation and Disgorgement of Fees," South Dakota American Institute of Architects Annual Meeting, October 2007
  - Presenter, "Architect Liability," South Dakota American Institute of Architects Annual Meeting, October 2006
  - Presenter, "Avoiding Trouble in Construction," South Dakota Construction Financial Management Association, July 2006
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**ELIZABETH A.  
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- Panelist, "Dealing with Disruption: What's Fair, What's Legal and Why What's Legal Isn't Always Fair," Construction Update Annual Meeting, December 2005
  - Presenter, "Architect and Interior Designer Construction Issues," South Dakota American Institute of Architects Annual Meeting, October 2005
  - Co-presenter, "Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program: Why It's Important and How It Works," Construction Update Annual Meeting, December 2004
  - Co-presenter, "The Nuts and Bolts of NFPA 921 and It's Use at Trial," Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, CLE Program, February 2003

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## **EDUCATION**

- J.D., *cum laude*, University of Minnesota Law School, 2000
- B.M., Vocal Performance, Drake University, 1995

## **ADMISSIONS**

- Minnesota, 2000
- North Dakota, 2008
- South Dakota, 2008
- U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota, 2001
- U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota, 2010
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, 2011
- U.S. District Court for the District of South Dakota, 2013
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, 2001