

PETER S. READ

CO-CHAIR, NEW YORK CONSTRUCTION AND LABOR LAW PRACTICE GROUP
SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

New York Construction and Labor Law
Construction Injury Litigation
Product Liability
General Liability
Architectural, Engineering and Construction
Defect Litigation
Catastrophic Claims Litigation

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ADMISSIONS

New York
1994

U.S. District Court Southern
District of New York
2007

EDUCATION

Brooklyn Law School (J.D., 1993)

Loyola College (B.A., 1990)

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

New York County Trial Lawyers
Association

New York State Bar Association

YEAR JOINED

2014

OVERVIEW

Peter is the co-chair of the New York Labor Law Construction Practice Group. He has spent his career defending owners and contractors in construction accident cases involving the New York Labor Law and Industrial Code and indemnification and insurance claims.

With more than 20 years of litigation and trial experience, Peter has defended property owners, managers and security companies in premises liability cases involving catastrophic personal injuries, property damage and business loss. Additionally, he is experienced in the defense of cases involving wrongful death, product liability, lead-based paint exposure and appellate practice in all areas. Pete also handles litigation in cases involving elevators, escalators, moving walkways, electronic doorways, cranes and lifts.

Peter has extensive experience handling fire cases, defending property owners, public utilities, all manner of product liability defendants and construction contractors in cases involving catastrophic injuries and death allegedly as a result of products such as tools and equipment, household appliances, defective auto batteries and gas explosions leading to commercial and residential fires.

Peter has tried many cases throughout New York City as well as Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester and Dutchess Counties with a remarkable rate of success including a number of defense verdicts.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

On The Pulse... New York Construction and Labor Law Practice Group. Knowing the Industry From the Inside Out

New York
New York Construction and Labor Law
January 29, 2021
Marshall Dennehey's New York Construction and Labor Law Practice Group is comprised of a team of at

The Laborious Task of Litigating NY State Labor Law Claims: A Pre-Trial Defense Perspective

New York
New York Construction and Labor Law
November 13, 2017

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

A.M. Best Podcast: Defending Construction Claims Under the New York Labor Law Statutes, December 2018

PUBLISHED WORKS

"The Laborious Task of Litigating NY State Labor Law Claims: A Pre-Trial Defense Perspective," *New York Law Journal*, Litigation Supplement, November 13, 2017

RESULTS

Summary Judgment for Plumbing Contractor in Construction Defect Case.

Architectural, Engineering and Construction Defect Litigation
April 11, 2019

We obtained dismissal of the plaintiff's complaint and all cross claims against our client, a commercial plumbing contractor, on a motion for summary judgment in a construction defect case. The case involved claims by a homeowners association for property damage and replacement costs allegedly in excess of \$6 million as a result of construction defects in the design and installation of plumbing, water collection, drainage, grading, and other water runoff and drainage systems.

Plaintiff's Claims Get Shot Down

General Liability
June 8, 2015

Obtained summary judgment in the Supreme Court of Kings County on behalf of a security, protection and investigation company in a case involving claims for negligent premises security as a result of a shooting at a housing project. The plaintiff was a resident of the premises when he sustained multiple gunshot wounds by an unknown assailant on the outdoor grounds of the property. The security company was hired by the co-defendant property owner to provide uniformed and armed security guards.

Security Company Not Liable for Shooting Victim's Injuries

General Liability
February 16, 2015

Obtained a unanimous defense verdict on behalf of a security company after a 14-day trial in the Supreme Court, New York County. The plaintiff alleged that the defendants failed to provide adequate security at a New York City homeless shelter by allowing an assailant to enter the grounds of the premises—who did so by climbing over a perimeter fence with a gun with the intention of shooting the plaintiff.

SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Defense verdict for a private security company in an action for negligent security at a NYC homeless shelter.

Defense verdict for a major gas distribution company in a case involving severe personal injuries allegedly caused by condition of utility construction site.

Defense verdict on grounds of permissive use for a gas pipeline company in a case involving catastrophic injuries sustained by ATV driver over pipeline right of way.

Defense verdict for New York City marshal in a case for extensive property conversion.

Defense verdict for a national soccer camp company in an auto case involving question of scope of employment.

Obtained summary judgment, affirmed on appeal, for security company in a case involving claims for severe personal injuries from gun shots on grounds of standard and duty of care owed to plaintiff.

Obtained summary judgment, affirmed on appeal, for gas distribution company on grounds of proximate cause in case involving a house explosion and severe burn injuries.