

2008 BEST LAWYERS



Gordon Hunt



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The Cornerstone Of Construction Law



Mr. Hunt has long been recognized as a distinguished authority on construction law and litigation in California. He has lectured extensively throughout California at major universities, trade organizations, bar associations, and a wide array of construction industry groups. Mr. Hunt has authored many oft-referenced and quoted construction law reference books and articles including the veritable textbooks of construction law which he co-authored entitled "California Construction Law", "California Construction Lending and the Law", and "Construction Surety and Bonding Handbook."

Mr. Hunt is a 1959 graduate of the University of Southern California Law School, is a member of the American, California and Los Angeles County Bar Associations. He has also served as an officer and advisor for various bar associations and on the Legal Advisory Committee of the Associated General Contractors of California.



Mr. Ortmann's practice is focused on construction and real estate contracts, claims and litigation. He has extensive experience representing public agencies, developers, contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, architects and engineers, homeowner associations, and sureties. He has provided transactional services on projects exceeding \$1 billion in value, and has litigated matters involving in excess of \$50 million in controversy. He has extensive experience in all recognized forums for arbitration, as well as numerous court and jury trials in federal and state courts.

Mr. Ortmann is a 1980 graduate of the University of Loyola Law School, and graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts from Cal State Polytechnic University, Pomona in 1976. He is an active member of the American, California and Los Angeles County Bar Associations.

HOW THE *Best-Lawyers in America*[®] WERE SELECTED

Published for a quarter of a century, Best Lawyers[®] lists attorneys in 78 specialties, representing all 50 States and the District of Columbia, who have been chosen through an exclusive survey in which thousands of the nation's top lawyers confidentially evaluate their professional peers. The 2008 edition of Best Lawyers[®] is based on more than 2 million evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers.

Lawyers are chosen for inclusion based solely on a vote of their peers. Listings cannot be bought, and no purchase is required to be included.

The Nomination and Voting Process

In general, lawyers were asked to vote only on nominees in their own specialty in their own jurisdiction. Voting lawyers were also given an opportunity to offer more detailed comments on nominees. Each year, half of the voting pool receives fax or e-mail ballots; the other half is polled by phone.

Voting lawyers were provided this general guideline for determining if a nominee should be listed among "the best" - "If you had a close friend or relative who needed a construction lawyer (for example), and you could not handle the case yourself, to whom would you refer them?" All votes and comments were solicited with a guarantee of confidentiality, a critical factor in the viability and validity of Best Lawyers[®] surveys. Best Lawyers uses various methodological tools to identify and correct for anomalies in both the nomination and voting process.

Ultimately, of course, a lawyer's inclusion is based on the subjective judgments of his or her fellow attorneys.

For all these reasons, Best Lawyers[®] lists continue to represent the most reliable, accurate and useful guide to the legal profession in the United States.

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