



Kathlynn E. Smith

Shareholder

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Education

University of San Diego School of Law, J.D. cum laude

University of Michigan, Bachelor of Arts

Bars + Courts

California

United States District Court of California, Southern

United States District Court of California, Central

United States District Court of California, Northern

United States District Court of California, Eastern

Practice Areas

Construction Disputes and Litigation

Public Works Claims

Construction Agreements

Public Entity Representation

Real Estate Law

Business and Commercial Disputes

Honors + Awards

Selected as Super Lawyer 2019

Selected as Super Lawyers Rising Star 2014

Women Construction Owners and Executives Member of the Year 2013

Los Angeles Business Journal

Women Making a Difference

Nominee 2012

Pasadena Top Attorney sponsored by Pasadena Magazine 2011 – 2014

Kathlynn Smith specializes in construction and general business litigation. She has successfully represented owners, developers, contractors, and subcontractors in a wide variety of matters relating to contract administration and construction claims. Ms. Smith places a particular emphasis on construction claims involving payment disputes, delay and disruption, false claims, construction defects, and actions on payment and performance bonds. Ms. Smith has successfully litigated and resolved complex construction disputes involving multi-million dollar claims.

Ms. Smith is the co-author of the “Smart Girls’ Guide To Construction Law” and architect of the “Smart Girls” initiative directed at women-owned and/or operated companies in the construction industry. The Smart Girls’ mission is to advance and support the success of women in the construction industry. The “Smart Girls’ Guide” is a practical tool for the construction professional with legal tips and understandable breakdowns of legal principles. Learn more about the Smart Girls and the “Smart Girls’ Guide” at www.smartgirlsconstruction.com.

Prior to joining Hunt Ortmann, Ms. Smith represented public agencies and property owners in connection with direct and inverse condemnations of commercial and residential properties. Ms. Smith also represented lenders in litigation involving real property, including breach of contract, judicial foreclosure, forfeiture, quiet title, and fraud actions..

Memberships

Engineering Contractors Association- Board of Directors (2012-2014)

Women Construction Owners and Executives

National Association of Women in Construction- Legislative Awareness Committee Chair (2010-2011)

Certified Plumbers and Mechanical Contractors Association

United States Women’s Chamber of Commerce, Advocate Member (2011-2012)

Design Build Institute of America

Los Angeles County Parks Association- Board of Directors

University of Michigan Alumni Association

California State Bar Association

Los Angeles County Bar Association

Association of Business Trial Lawyers

RATED BY

Super Lawyers®

Kathlynn E. Smith

SuperLawyers.com

News + Publications

- Bidding in the Time of Tariffs
- Hunt Ortmann Attorneys Smith and Tung Featured in Green Home Builders Magazine
- California Supreme Court Confirms that Right to Repair Act Is Exclusive Remedy for Construction Defect Claims – California Constructor
- California’s New Laws Impact Every Stage of Construction – Los Angeles Business Journal
- Ortmann & Smith Featured in CPMCA Pipeline Magazine
- Smart Girl Kathlynn Smith Quoted in “3 Lessons in Construction Management” Feature
- Smith Published in American Bar Association Student Lawyer Magazine
- Kathlynn Smith Elected to WCOE Board of Directors
- Kathlynn Smith Named WCOE Member of the Year!
- Kathlynn Smith Interviewed in Legal Feature
- 2012 Pasadena Top Attorneys Announced!
- Smart Girl Kathlynn Smith Quoted in First Tennessee Business Review Magazine
- Smart Girls Nominated For Los Angeles Business Journal’s Women Making A Difference Award
- Smart Girls Go to Washington!
- Hunt Ortmann is Honored with 2011 Pasadena Top Attorney Selection
- From Clear As Mud To Clear As Day: California Supreme Court Confirms that Right to Repair Act Is Exclusive for Construction Defect Claims
- ‘Moore’ Is Less: How the Moorefield Case Impairs Lien Rights
- Hunt Law Update: Are You On The List? Mandatory Registration For Public Works Contracts
- Nowhere To Run To, Baby: Arbitration Is Nowhere To Hide For Unlicensed Contractors
- It’s A Tough Job But Everyone Wants To Do It: Bidding On Public Works Projects
- Smart Girls Featured on Cover of Image Magazine
- Smart Girls Selvaggio and Smith Featured in Daily Journal
- Who’s Holding The Bag When We Are All Holding Hands? Risk Allocation In The Age Of Collaborative Contracting
- Don’t Get “Got”- Performance Bond Terms Are Contract Terms Too!

Speaking Engagements + Seminars

- Legal Issues in Green Construction
- Get Paid: Mechanic’s Liens, Stop Payment Notices and Bond Claims
- Design Errors, Changed Conditions, And Delays, Oh My! Pursuing And Proving Construction Claims
- Networking & Communication Seminar Presented by Women in Construction Operations (WiOPS)
- California Mechanic’s Lien Law, Use of Stop Payment Notices & Bond Claims
- The 10 Key Contract Provisions; What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You
- 2012 ACE Southern California Fall Symposium
- Hard Hats And High heels: Being A Smart Girl In Construction
- Fundamentals of Construction Contracts: Understanding the Issues in California

- Hard Hats And High Heels: Being A Smart Girl In Construction
- WCOE Western Regional Conference – Los Angeles
- Joint Association Insurance Risk Transfer & Lien Law Seminar- Ontario
- Women in Business Appreciation Luncheon
- An Overview of the Federal and California False Claims Acts
- WIC Week Networking Event
- 2012 Annual Congressional and Leadership Conference- Women Construction Owners and Executives
- National Association of Women in Construction- Risk Allocation in Design Build Contracts
- Northwest Construction Consumer Council Annual Conference
- DBIA National Conference & Expo
- ECA 9th Annual Legal Seminar
- Can Your Innocent Error on a Government Contract Put You in the Crosshairs of the Department of Justice? Smart Girls Workshop- WCOE Regional Conference
- AIA Contracts- Santa Ana