



Michael E. Botnick

Member

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Overview

Michael Botnick has more than 40 years of experience in commercial transactions, litigation and construction matters. A certified mediator, he is admitted to the American Arbitration Association National Roster of Arbitrators and Mediators. He is also a Fellow of the Construction Lawyers Society of America, an invitation only organization. His practice encompasses transactions, real estate, contracts and corporate law, as well as trusts and estates.

For over 30 years, Michael has dedicated a hefty portion of his time practicing construction law for clients in the public and private sectors, an area in which he has been recognized by Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business. Peers praise his pragmatic approach to disputes and his focus on reaching the best solution for clients, whether by a negotiated settlement or litigation. The publication further states that he is "very good at breaking it down, anticipating issues before they happen and coming up with practical solutions that avoid wasting time and money." Michael is listed in the A.M. Best's Directory of Insurance Professionals.

From 1994-2003, Michael served as Deputy City Attorney for the City of New Orleans. In that capacity, he was responsible for the negotiation, drafting and preparation of all public bid, professional, and personal service contracts for the City. He also assisted all City departments in the drafting of contracts and served in an advisory capacity to these departments. During this time, he chaired the committee responsible for reviewing all contracts, leases, capital projects and professional and personal service contracts for compliance with policy and legal requirements before submission for the Mayor's consideration and signature. From 1993-1994, Michael served as Director of Economic Development for the City of New Orleans. He was the City's Lead Counsel for the 1988 Republican National Convention, the Pope John Paul II visit, the Harrah's Casino project and in various complex and high-profile state and federal litigation matters.

Practices

- Arbitration and Mediation
- Business Transactions and Entity Formation and Governance
- Commercial Financing and Secured Transactions
- Commercial Litigation
- Construction
- Corporate and Securities Litigation
- Insurance
- Real Estate and Commercial Leasing
- Trusts and Estates

Industries

- Construction
- Insurance
- Real Estate

Admissions

- Louisiana
- U.S. Supreme Court

Education

- Tulane University, J.D. 1975
- University of New Orleans, 1972

Experience

- *Gootee Construction, Inc. v. Atkins*, 2015-0376 (La. App. 4 Cir. 12/21/16), 207 So.3d 485, writ denied, 2017-0138 (La. 3/31/17).
- *Caldarera & Company, Inc. v. St. James Parish Hospital Service District*, No. 09-CA-166 (11/24/09)
- *Haspel & Davis Milling v. Board of Levee Commissioners*, 493 F.3d 570 (5th Cir. 2007)
- *Civil Service Commission of The City of New Orleans v. The City of New Orleans*, No. 02-C-1912 c/w 02-C-1815 (La. 9/9/03)
- *Times Picayune Publishing Corporation v. The City of New Orleans*, 760 So.2d 375 (La. App. 4 Cir. 2/23/00)
- *Louisiana Landmark Society, Inc. v. The City of New Orleans*, 85 F.3d 1119 (5th Cir. 1996)
- *Missouri Pacific Railroad Company v. City of New Orleans*, 46 F.3d 487 (5th Cir. 1995)

Affiliations

PROFESSIONAL

- American Arbitration Association
- American Bar Association
- Construction Lawyers Society of America
- Federal Bar Association
- Louisiana State Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- New Orleans Academy of Trial Attorneys

CIVIC

- Anti-Defamation League – Honorary Life Member of the National Commission, Past Chair and Honorary Board Member of the Southcentral Region
- Jewish Children Regional Service Endowment – Former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Honorary

Recognition

- New Orleans CityBusiness Leadership in Law Award (2019)
- Diversity Law Institute’s “Diversity Award” (2018)
- Best Lawyers in America – Construction Law
- Chamber USA – Construction Law (Since 2010)
- Louisiana Super Lawyers
- New Orleans Magazine “Top Lawyers” – Construction Law
- Martindale-Hubbell – AV Preeminent Rating
- Listed in the A.M. Best’s Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys

Publications

- *International Arbitration- What matters?* Co-Presenter, 2018 Primerus International Convocation, May 2018
- *Legislative Update: How Boudin is Made in Baton Rouge*, Co-Presenter, Gordon Arata Annual Duck Lunch and Seminar, October 2015