



Slade Sevier

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Slade Sevier is a partner at the firm's Nashville office and a practice group coordinator of the Construction and Infrastructure practice group. With his engineering background and 20 years of litigation and contract negotiation experience, Slade strives to use industry knowledge to craft unique approaches and achieve cost effective resolutions to client problems. His litigation practice includes representing clients in disputes subject to arbitration, before state and federal courts, and before governmental agencies with respect to a wide variety of matters, including disputes involving breach of contract, negligence, real estate, leases, tax appeals, eminent domain, intellectual property, bid protests, licensing, general business matters, and construction. Slade has considerable experience in the health care, higher education, energy, automotive, manufacturing, life sciences, and hospitality sectors and with industrial, office, retail, multi-family, hotel, and commercial development.

Slade has extensive litigation experience in the construction industry, which consists of representing public and private owners, developers, tenants, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and designers in various types of construction and real estate related disputes involving issues such as construction and design defects, scheduling, disruption and delay, codes violations, licensing requirements, payment claims, mechanics' and materialmen's liens, prompt pay claims, copyright infringement, consumer protection act, and bond and insurance claims. For example, Slade recently represented the owner of a new manufacturing plant in a dispute with its general contractor that involved approximately \$50M in change order claims and \$35M in defective and omitted work counterclaims. A significant portion of Slade's litigation practice involves alternative dispute resolution (mediation, arbitration, etc.).

Slade's transactional practice primarily involves reviewing, drafting, and negotiating construction, design, maintenance, installation, operating, service, joint venture, and other agreements related to energy, industrial or real estate development. He has experience with manuscript and industry standard forms and engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contracts, and extensive experience with the forms of the American Institute of Architects (AIA documents). The types of projects have included hospital and healthcare facilities, laboratories, medical office buildings, senior living facilities, office towers and tenant build-outs, educational facilities, industrial and manufacturing facilities, renewables, energy, and utility facilities, apartments, condominiums, on-campus residential, and single-family residential, retail, hospitality and entertainment venues, and mixed-use developments throughout the country.

Slade is also registered to practice patent law before the United States Patent and Trademark Office and a registered Professional Engineer.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Before law school, Slade was a professional engineer with a design/consulting firm in Nashville. This experience involved commercial, industrial and residential developments, construction permitting, zoning and code compliance, surveying, roadway and traffic design, construction supervision, utility and infrastructure design, earthwork, site grading, floodplain analysis, stormwater management, and dam design.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Construction Law in Nashville, Tennessee, 2019-2024
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Litigation - Real Estate in Nashville, Tennessee, 2020-2024
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Litigation - Construction in Nashville, Tennessee, 2023-2024
- Recipient of “Lawyer of the Year” award for Construction Law in Nashville, Tennessee by *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2022
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- American Bar Association, Forum on the Construction Industry
- Nashville Bar Association
- Tennessee Bar Association
- National/Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers
- Tennessee Association of Construction Counsel, President
- Safe Haven Family Shelter, Former Exec Member, Advisory Board
- Metro Stormwater Management Committee, Former Board Member and Chairman

EDUCATION

- J.D., Vanderbilt Law School, 2003 (*Law Review; Moot Court Board*)
- B.S., University of Tennessee, 1995 (*Civil and Environmental Engineering, cum laude*)

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Tennessee

- United States Patent and Trademark Office
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee
- United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- September 2021, September 2021 Accolades

NEWS & EVENTS

- 17 August 2023, Nearly 400 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2024 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 3 February 2021, K&L Gates Launches Nashville Office with Hire of 25+ Lawyers

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Construction and Infrastructure
- Commercial Disputes
- Construction and Infrastructure Dispute Resolution
- Real Estate Development and Construction
- Real Estate Litigation
- Renewables

INDUSTRIES

- Automotive
- Consumer Products
- Energy
- Health Care Sector

- Higher Education Institutions
- Life Sciences
- Manufacturing

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented a university in connection with design and construction contracts for various residential, classroom and utility projects with a total value in excess of \$1 billion
- Represented Korean automotive supplier in \$80 million construction defect and change order dispute with contractor
- Represented offshore wind owner in connection with the development of a \$300 million manufacturing facility
- Represented automotive supplier in connection with the contracts for the design-build of a 2.3 million s.f. manufacturing facility
- Represented owner/contractor of student housing development in disputes with more than 15 subcontractors regarding liens and nonpayment
- Represented a national retailer in connection with its design-build contracts for various \$100 million distribution centers across the U.S.
- Represented telecommunications company in bid protest of contract awarded by the State of Tennessee
- Drafted and negotiated design and construction contracts for owner/developer of large mixed-use commercial developments
- Represented owner in connection with the contracts for the design-build of a 180,000 s.f. manufacturing facility
- Represented solar power owner/developer in connection with contractor delay and supplier force majeure claims
- Represented international online retailer in connection with delays in the construction of a data center in Japan
- Drafted suites of design, construction and consulting form contracts for use in various industries on projects across the country

Former Firm Work

- Represented contractor of condominium complex in various disputes with owner and multiple subcontractors regarding change order, nonpayment, defective work, back charge and liens claims
- Drafted and negotiated design, construction and consulting agreements for various hospital, outpatient, laboratory and medical office projects across the U.S.
- Represented various homeowners and contractors in residential construction disputes

- Represented university in dispute with contractor of educational facility involving defective work and delay claims
- Represented owner/developer of hotels in arbitration against adjacent property owner regarding a construction easement
- Represented university in connection with \$100 million real estate purchase, including hotel, restaurant and office improvements
- Representation of university in connection with construction and permanent easements
- Represented various taxpayers with resolution of unpaid taxes to the Tennessee Dept. of Revenue
- Represented property owner in connection with the renegotiation of a lease to the State of Tennessee
- Represented various contractors in connection with licensing applications
- Represented German manufacturer in connection with installation of equipment in the U.S.
- Represented amusement parks in appeals of property taxes
- Represented university in dispute with contractor regarding defective turbine
- Represented contractor of multi-family complex in disputes with owner and subcontractor regarding wrongful termination and nonpayment
- Represented landowner in adverse possession property line dispute
- Represented architect in various copyright infringement actions against homebuilders
- Represented hospital in disputes with contractors regarding defective building envelope
- Represented publishing company in successful appeal of property taxes in court
- Represented national automotive retailer in dispute with contractor regarding change orders and lien claims
- Represented the program manager in a dispute with owner, architect and contractors regarding settlement of a hospital
- Represented Canadian developer in connection with the purchase of property in Tennessee
- Represented healthcare provider in bid protest of contract awarded by State of Tennessee
- Negotiated a performance contract for the installation of energy savings devices in a healthcare facility
- Represented owner in dispute with HOA regarding water infiltration in condo tower
- Represented members of LLC in wrongful sale of real property by managing member
- Represented individual in compensation dispute with former employer
- Represented property owner in connection with dispute over lease to the State of Tennessee

- Represented contractor in dispute with subcontractor regarding defective work
- Represented subcontractor in defective work claim
- Represented individual in compensation dispute with former employer
- Represented health insurance company in dispute with State of Tennessee
- Represented an owner of a hospital in a dispute with architect, contractor and subcontractors regarding defective building envelope
- Represented landowner in an eminent domain action, obtained a favorable jury award and successfully defended the award on appeal
- Represented federal contractor in noncompete dispute with former employee
- Represented owner/developer of multifamily in dispute with subcontractors and architect regarding defective work
- Represented LLC in connection with resolving claims of criminal conduct of former controlling member
- Represented airport in dispute with security company regarding hourly rates and overtime
- Represented healthcare company in appeal of property taxes
- Represented contractor in dispute with owner and multiple subcontractors involving change order, nonpayment and lien claims on a condominium and resort project
- Represented national retail chain in connection with a commercial lease dispute
- Represented various property owners asserting blasting damage claims
- Drafted and negotiated design and construction agreements on behalf of owners for various senior living communities throughout the country
- Represented contractor in a dispute with subcontractor involving disruption, delay and back charge claims on a condominium tower project
- Represented city in dispute with contractor regarding defective bridge project
- Represented building component vendor in connection with suite of installation contract forms
- Represented owner/developer of upscale open-air retail centers in an arbitration against a co-developer and obtained a favorable award including attorneys' fees
- Represented tenant in negotiations with designers and contractors for the build-out of over 150,000 square feet of Class A office space
- Drafted suite of residential subcontract forms for developer of mixed-use developments
- Represented healthcare company in dispute with former investor

- Represented museum in connection with termination of architect
- Represented a sewer utility in disputes with various contractors
- Represented school board in a dispute with its contractor and architect regarding a defective roofing system
- Represented city in connection with design and construction contracts
- Represented telecommunications company in dispute with lease broker regarding commissions