



M. Ryder Lee

Associate

Nashville
+1.615.780.6752

Ryder.Lee@klgates.com

OVERVIEW

Ryder Lee is an associate at the firm's Nashville office and is a member of the Construction and Infrastructure practice group. Ryder assists with clients engaged in all aspects of the construction process, from owners and designers to contractors and suppliers. He has assisted with construction litigation matters, primarily defect claims and contract/payment disputes involving large-scale industrial manufacturing projects.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Ryder served as an associate at a full-service law firm where he focused his practice on commercial litigation in the construction and entertainment industries. Ryder worked in the music business prior to his legal career. His unique background allowed him to assist clients across the music industry, including artists, publishers, labels, managers, promoters, and entrepreneurs.

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Tennessee Association of Construction Counsel
- Tennessee Bar Association
 - Executive Council of the Entertainment and Sports Law Section (Past)

EDUCATION

- J.D., Belmont University College of Law, 2013
- B.A., Vanderbilt University, 2000

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Tennessee
- United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 12 October 2023, Tennessee Supreme Court Holds Economic Loss Doctrine Does Not Apply to Construction Services Contracts

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Construction and Infrastructure
- Commercial Disputes

INDUSTRIES

- Energy

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represent global tire manufacturer in US\$80 million construction dispute involving over 250 distinct claims and counterclaims in two-year, multi-hearing arbitration over change orders, defective or nonconforming work, delay, payment, and breach of contract.
- Assist international semiconductor manufacturer in preparing construction agreements for the construction of multibillion-dollar fab and office facilities in the US.
- Assist leading international offshore wind energy developer in development and construction of US wind farms and new facilities for the manufacturing of components to support domestic supply chain for offshore wind.
- Advise client in multimillion-dollar arbitration related to the construction and conversion of an aluminum mill to a steel plate manufacturing plant.
- Assist global tech client in achieving delivery of a delayed proprietary component for critical-path ventilation system in construction of a new overseas vertical server facility.
- Assist international industrial plastics manufacturer in preparing contracts for design-build construction of a new manufacturing facilities and upfit and expansion of existing facilities.
- Assist developer client with construction contracts for new residential development.
- Advise commercial tenant client on lease and design-build construction contract with lessor-owner for custom build-out of product distribution facility.
- Assist major university client with construction contracts for ongoing campus building and improvement projects.
- Advise international art gallery client in transactional matters involving the design, construction, and improvement of its galleries and facilities in the US and abroad.

- Advise homeowner in dispute with builder over construction of new custom-built home.
- Represent writer and editor in contract negotiations involving the creation of a celebrity-authored book.
- Advise and draft bespoke design and construction agreements for novel agritech/biotech client in the development of modular laboratory and grow facilities.
- Advise and draft suite of agreements for manufactured building client.
- Advise global social media company on a wide array of issues, including influencer law, advertising, placements, employment law, agent licensure, and virtual currency.
- Advise and draft and negotiate contracts for influencer talent-management company.
- Advise art museum client on corporate governance matters and negotiate and draft contracts with vendors and artists related to exhibitions, performances, and events.
- Draft residential solar lease agreements for solar contractor client.
- Advise and represent custom high-rack storage provider client in matters involving design and construction of industrial facilities.
- Represented a commercial contractor in construction litigation involving mid-rise, mixed-use, and multi-family projects.
- Assist client seeking to build new battery recycling facility in navigating environmental and permitting requirements.
- Advise solar energy storage client in drafting and negotiating design-build agreement.
- Represent waterproofing contractor in litigation matters.
- Represent international developer and owner of immersive art museum entertainment venues in drafting and negotiating US construction contracts.
- Represent communications technology provider client in protest of public contract award.
- Represent nationwide vehicle service and repair facility client in litigation matters.
- Represent custom materials supplier in litigation involving construction of residential high-rise development.
- Represent and advise LNG client in matters involving dispute over construction and completion of new liquefaction plant and related EPC agreement.
- Advise and represent homeowners in dispute involving the defective design and construction of custom high-end residence.
- Represent and advise major airline in dispute and litigation regarding US\$235 million airport terminal construction and modernization contract.
- Prepare master services agreement for international energy client developing performance criteria for solar power project and related EPC agreement.

- Represent property owners and stakeholders in real estate disputes.
- Represent estate of high-profile artist in dispute over disposition of tangible and intangible assets.
- Advise developer and designer of tiny-home communities in corporate matters, intellectual property management, manufacturing services agreements (MSA), and construction and real property issues.
- Represent property owners in real estate matters, including title issues and property line disputes.
- Represent tech start-up developing an artificial intelligence (AI) concierge platform in matters, including corporate formation and governance, early-stage funding, trademarks, and IP and software licensing agreements.
- Advise software company client on copyright and music licensing matters.
- Advise advertising client on IP asset protection and management, and employment agreements.
- Serve as production counsel for film production company, including talent agreements, location agreements, licenses, and SAG/AFTRA clearances.
- Defend record label in litigation with high-profile artist's former label over termination of recording contract and ownership of works.