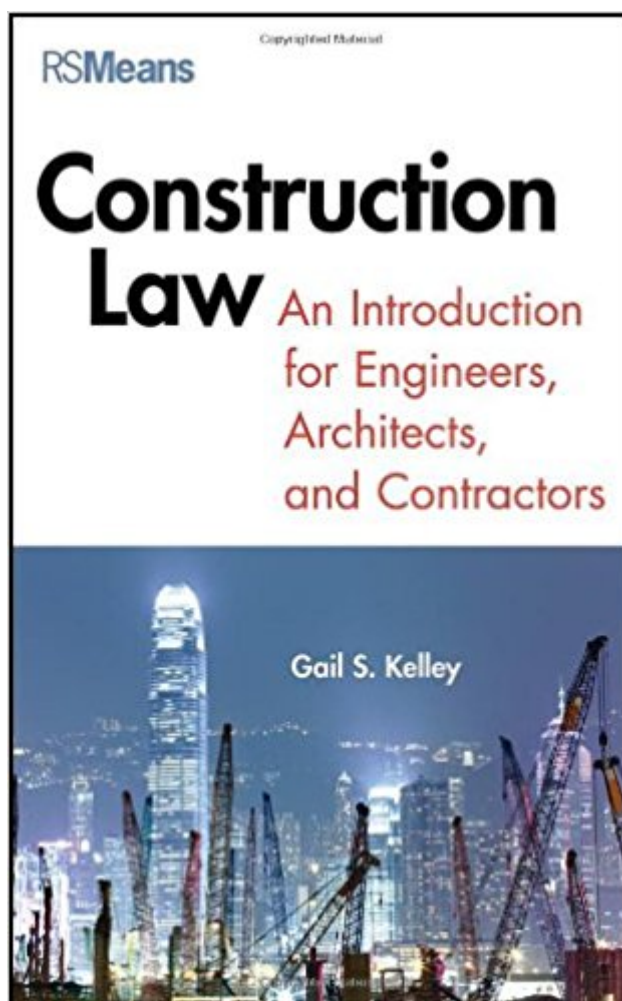


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Construction Law: An Introduction For Engineers, Architects, And Contractors



Synopsis

For a construction business to function properly, architects, engineers, and contractors need to understand how the various state and federal laws affect their business and how to avoid disputes and exposure to liability. This book offers a comprehensive review of the US legal environment, both criminal and civil, focusing on the key legal concepts and issues applicable to a typical construction project. Construction professionals will find clear, concise introduction to a wide range of contractual issues related to project participants, as well as issues related to the actual construction and litigation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A clear, concise introduction to construction law for professionals Construction Law: An Introduction for Engineers, Architects, and Contractors offers a comprehensive review of the U.S. legal environment, focusing on the legal concepts and issues applicable to the design and construction industries. Topics covered include: Basic legal principles Project participants Project delivery systems Construction contracts The design process Procurement Pricing construction projects Subcontractors and suppliers Time for performance Construction scheduling Contract administration The payment process Changes to the work Differing site conditions Termination of the construction contract Mechanic's liens Construction insurance Surety bonds Liability for defective construction Calculations of damages The Economic Loss Doctrine Alternative dispute resolution This book serves as an excellent introduction to construction law for students as well as professionals in the construction industry.

Gail S. Kelley is a Professional Engineer and LEED Accredited Professional as well as a licensed attorney in Maryland and the District of Columbia. Gail has an extensive background in design and construction having worked in construction management, structural design, and structural evaluation.

very good book for people working in the construction industry and need some basic knowledge of construction law.

Accurate, concise and comprehensive. Excellent reference book for Contractors, Estimators and Project Managers to keep handy.

I was offered the choice to review this book. I have taken the time to review this textbook, and I believe this is a good choice for a textbook for a college level class involving construction topics and non-lawyers.¹ What I like: The book is well-written and is very detailed about many subjects. I have found that the discussions regarding the myriad of subjects is excellent. I also appreciate that author's attempts to explain the American legal system, which must be a foundation of any class of this type so the student understands the environment in which they operate and why so much of their practice is driven by preventing litigation. I also appreciate the non state specific approach to the book. Thus, unlike some other similar books I have encountered, this text doesn't limit the discussion to one state, but is rather general.² What I don't like: There is much to appreciate about this book. However, while much discussion is here regarding many topics, I do think many students might appreciate a more narrative approach in discussing some topics. As there is much discussed, but somewhat limited detail. I would think that many students would need supplemental reading with case studies to round out some of this material. In fact, I think students with limited understanding of the topics discussed here might be challenged to understand so much of the topics as some of the items discussed are rarely encountered. Also, while there are some case studies here, I believe there are not enough discussed to round out the topics discussed. More case studies and examples, in my experience, are often appreciated by the student. Overall there is much to admire about the author's approach in this book. There is a wealth of information about this important, if not vital, topic for anyone involved in construction. That being said, I think novice students may not have enough detail or narrative to explain the topics, and this should be kept in mind by an instructor. For someone involved in construction looking for a good general resource, this book is an excellent

resource.

If you have ever wondered about the details of how a construction project is handled with contracts, this book is a straightforward and non-legalistic read. Given the amount of money involved in most projects, it is not surprising that many guidelines and legal cases have arisen over the many stages of involvement. This starts with a lender considering making a loan to an owner of a property site, where the owner wants to use the loan to hire a contractor to build on the site. A common precaution from the standpoint of the lender is to require that it approves the owner's contracts with the contractor and the architect. One consideration is how the lender's loan stands in relation to any other creditors that the owner might have, where in practice the owner will indeed have those creditors. One recent trend discussed is that a building qualify for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design [LEED]. An owner might require that the contractor build to that specification. The book refrains from delving into whether this makes economic sense, leaving that to the judgment of specific projects and the assessment by an owner. Unsurprisingly, scheduling of the project is another major topic of the book. A project would initially draw up a schedule. Then periodically the actual stages reached in the project are compared to this timeline. The idea of resource levelling is raised. Where it is usually desirable to maintain a constant level of material and labour usage throughout the project, as being more efficient than having some periods of high usage. Many other areas arise in the narrative. All part of the project's scope and all of these you should be aware of, as an owner or contractor.

Without a doubt, the BEST law book I've ever read. This is right up there with Ed McGovern on international trade law. The writing is clear; the taxonomy inspired. Author takes a complex subject, breaks it down into logical pieces and explains the interplay of federal and state law illustrating throughout with controlling legal decisions. Tricky distinctions between legal doctrines, such as quantum meruit, unjust enrichment and betterment, are lucidly explained. I finally understand what's behind the ambiguity in judgments concerning economic loss recovery. This is a must-read for anyone puzzling over U.S. law particularly U.S. contract law - a must-read for all of us who are struggling with epidemic building failure, such as B.C.'s ongoing leaky condo crisis, and the multitude of construction defects post-completion that seems to be the new normal in construction practice. This book reveals the tensions between owners, architects/engineers, builders and insurers all of which makes one wonder how anything ever gets built today.

I have several law books on various topics. This is one of the most comprehensive law books I have on any specialized topic! It's useful whether you're a professional, or even if you're just a homeowner acting as your own general contractor. This book primarily focuses on the facts of construction law, rather than focusing much on "how to" pursue a case when there is a problem. It contains a lot of good tips on how these things are approached typically in the real world, and how the court system typically views various disputes.

As a contractor, this is a comprehensive and informative reference book to have on site or in the office. It had very useful information in it and no doubt I'll reference back to it when situations come up, as they do. From getting the project going, bidding, contract, building, completion...it provides legal support and answers to questions. Very well-written and easy to comprehend, keeps it precise and doesn't over elaborate where it doesn't need to.

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