



KANSAS CITY

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PRACTICE AREAS

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Neutral Alternative Dispute
Resolution Services

Construction Law

Claims & Risk Management

Contracts

Government Regulation

Class Action

Insurance Recovery &
Counseling

Business Planning

COURT MEMBERSHIPS

- Missouri
- U.S. District Court for the District
of Kansas
- U.S. District Court for the Western
District of Missouri
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Eighth Circuit

Richard D. Rhyne

Senior Counsel | richard.rhyne@lathropgpm.com

Dick Rhyne has more than 40 years of experience representing clients in complex commercial law and business litigation matters in state and federal courts around the country and in arbitrations. He has built upon that experience and now focuses a large portion of his practice on alternative dispute resolution, where he has participated in over 150 arbitrations as either counsel or arbitrator and over 150 mediations as mediator.

Dick is still deeply entrenched in the construction industry, where he regularly represents owners, general contractors, architects, engineers, sureties, subcontractors and suppliers in matters involving a wide variety of complex construction, design and insurance coverage issues.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

A born problem solver, Dick is passionate about helping parties resolve disputes early and cost-effectively. His ADR experience includes construction disputes, business disputes, environmental issues and release of medical records disputes. Because of Dick's background in construction law, he understands the intricacies of the relationships between owners, general contractors and subcontractors, so he is particularly adept at getting construction and design related disputes resolved amicably.

Dick is listed on the American Arbitration Association (AAA) Panel of Arbitrators and Mediators, is on the roster of neutrals for the Missouri Supreme Court Rule 17 and is a Certified Neutral with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri. Dick's ADR training includes:

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

EDUCATION

University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, J.D., with distinction, 1974

University of Missouri-Columbia, B.S., Business Administration, 1969

- Pepperdine University School of Law, Preventing Bad Settlement Decisions and Impasse, June 2016
- Pepperdine University School of Law, Tools of Mindful Awareness Mediation & Assessment, June 2015
- Pepperdine Law School, Mediating Complex Construction Disputes, June 2014
- Pepperdine Law School, Advanced Mediation, June 2013
- The Dispute Resolution Board Foundation, Dispute Review Board Administration and Practice Workshop, Boston, May 10, 2003
- AAA Construction Arbitrator II Training, Denver, December 2002
- AAA Arbitrator Update, 2001
- University of Missouri at Columbia, Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution, Mediation of Civil Cases, August 2000
- AAA Commercial Arbitrator Training, Kansas City, June 2000
- AAA Construction Industry Mediator Workshop, May 1997

Construction Law

Dick first became interested in the construction industry when he was fresh out of law school in 1974. Since then, Dick has successfully represented construction contractors, insurance and surety bond companies and other corporate clients in multi-million dollar construction cases as well as in general litigation and commercial law matters. He has decades of experience counseling clients on a variety of construction law issues, including construction and design defects, breach of warranty claims, insurance coverage, bid protests, mechanic's liens, surety bond claims, construction administration and contract negotiation and drafting. Dick has also participated in hundreds of arbitrations and mediations of construction disputes in a wide range of cases including several international disputes. Some of Dick's representative experience includes:

- Achieved 90 percent recoupment of remediation costs for defective construction and design defects against general contractor, architect and window manufacturer
- Achieved 100 percent recoupment of costs related to mold remediation due to defective windows for national hotel chain from general contractor and subcontractors

- Obtained \$1.5 million settlement following a two-day mediation on behalf of Jackson County, Missouri, with several companies involved in complaints over the design and construction defects at the Fort Osage Education Center
- Obtained a \$4.2 million verdict for clients who were victims in a landmark cattle fraud case. The Kansas City Star: Millions Awarded in Cattle Fraud
- In second major cattle fraud case, obtained a total award of more than \$1 million for a client in a jury trial. Smoke, Mirrors and Holstein Heifers
- Successfully represented defendants in a 27 count indictment on a bid rigging & Hobbs Act case involving the waste hauling industry
- Was successful in having a \$2.2 million nuisance award overturned against a landfill operation
- Successful represented insured in obtaining cost of the defense from four carriers in environmental claim
- Obtained a multimillion-dollar settlement for owner in a multi-party delay claim arising out of a fast-track project for construction
- Successfully represented insured in obtaining defense costs in several cases involving the pollution exclusion

Presentations

- Panelist. "ACE 21 - Impartiality: Do You Know Where Your Biases Are?" American Arbitration Association, October 2021
- Co-presenter, "The Nuts and Bolts of Insurance for Construction Projects," The Construction Lawyers Society of America Webinar Series, October 21, 2020
- Panelist, *Best Practices for Arbitrating Cases*, Sikich Forensics Academy CLE, February 2019
- *Making Changes and Resolving Disputes During the Construction Process*, Half Moon CLE, October 26, 2017
- *Use of the Case Management Order, Guided Choice and other innovative processes to ensure a successful Mediation*, KCMBA Construction Law Committee, July 17, 2014
- *Alternate Dispute Resolution*, Legal Symposium for the Construction Industry, September 2007
- *Change Orders in Kansas*, Lorman Education Services, September 27, 2005

- *Home Construction Disputes*, Association of MO Mediators, August 13, 2005
- *What's Hot in Construction Law*, Lathrop Gage L.C., July 14, 2005
- *Change Orders*, Lorman Education Services, May 3, 2005
- *Construction Law: Can This Job Be Saved? Creative Strategies For Project Completion & Litigation Avoidance in Missouri*, Lorman Education Services, 2002
- *Hot Topics in Construction Law for Real Estate Professionals*, The Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, 2002
- *Recent ADR Developments*, The Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, 2002
- *Design-Build In Missouri and Kansas: Public Sector Issues/ Competitive Bidding*, Lorman Education Services, 2001
- Panelist, *Attorney's ADR Toolbox*, Missouri Bar Annual Meeting, 2001
- *Major Land Use Laws in Missouri: Environmental Issues in Property Development*, The National Business Institute, 2001
- *Major Land Use Laws in Missouri: Ethical Considerations*, The National Business Institute, 2001
- *The Big Debate*, Joint Sessions and Private Caucuses - Association of Missouri Mediators, 2000
- *Dispute Resolution: Practical Solutions*, The Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, 2000
- *Construction Claims and Job Profitability*, 1988
- *Construction Delay Claims Seminar*, 1985
- *CPM Construction Scheduling Using Micro-Computers, and Construction Delay Claims Seminar*, 1985

Publications

- Chapter Author, "Liability of the Design Professional to the Owner," *Construction Litigation: Representing the Owner*, April 2020
- *Resolving Public Sector Disputes: A Road of Politics and Potholes*, a chapter published in the AAA Handbook on Construction Arbitration and ADR-Third Edition, Spring 2014
- *Understanding ADR*, chapter in *Preparing for Alternative Dispute Resolution Cases*, December 2007
- *Resolving Public Sector Disputes: A Road of Politics and Potholes*, *Dispute Resolution Journal*, Feb.-April, 2003

- *Construction Law Arbitration*, The Missouri Bar ADR Committee Newsletter - Fall 2001
- *Construction Law Mediation*, The Missouri Bar ADR Committee Newsletter - Fall 2001
- *Construction Law: From Getting the Contract to Chain of Liability*, 1999. Chapter 2 -- Scope of Typical Clauses, *Construction Change Order Claims*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1994
- *For the Defense: Tactics, Strategies and Considerations in Defense of Civil Litigation*, 1994
- *Missouri Construction Law*, Federal Publications, Inc., 1992 and 1993
- *What Do You Do When the Contract is Changed?*, Chap. 4, *What Do You Do When Conditions on the Job Change?* Chap. 5, *Construction Law: What Do You Do When?*, National Business Institute, Inc., Seminar, 1986

In The News

- KCBJ: Richard Rhyne Wins \$8 Million Verdict for Client
December 30, 2015
- Missouri Lawyers Weekly: Lathrop Gage Concludes \$1.5 Million Settlement
August 9, 2011

News Releases

- Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers Recognizes 30 Lathrop GPM Attorneys
November 16, 2021
- Seven Lathrop GPM Attorneys Named Lawyer of the Year, 100 Ranked as The Best Lawyers in America®
August 19, 2021
- Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers Recognizes 34 Lathrop GPM Attorneys
November 16, 2020
- Lathrop GPM Attorneys Named to The Best Lawyers in America®, Lawyer of the Year, and Ones to Watch for 2021
August 20, 2020
- Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers Recognizes 42 Lathrop Gage Attorneys
November 13, 2019

- Best Lawyers in America 2020 Names 72 Lathrop Gage Attorneys; 13 Lawyers of the Year
August 15, 2019
- Richard Rhyne Named Chair of First Call Governing Board
November 28, 2018
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 47 Lathrop Gage Attorneys in Missouri and Kansas
November 14, 2018
- Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 70 Lathrop Gage Attorneys
August 15, 2018
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 57 Attorneys from Lathrop Gage in Missouri and Kansas
November 9, 2017
- Lathrop Gage Attorneys in Inaugural Class of CLSA Charter Fellows
September 15, 2017
- Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 78 Lathrop Gage Attorneys
August 15, 2017
- Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 78 Lathrop Gage Attorneys
August 16, 2016
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 71 Lathrop Gage Attorneys
October 14, 2013
- 81 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named “Best Lawyers in America”
August 15, 2013
- 75 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers
October 15, 2012
- Lathrop Gage Obtains Summary Judgment in Surety Dispute
October 11, 2012
- Six Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named “Lawyers of the Year” by Best Lawyers
September 12, 2012
- 80 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named “Best Lawyers in America”
August 22, 2012
- 54 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers
November 1, 2011
- Richard Rhyne to be Honored at GKCWPC Annual Dinner
September 1, 2011

- 62 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Recognized by Super Lawyers Magazine
October 13, 2010
- 59 Lathrop Gage Attorneys Named Best Lawyers in America
August 6, 2010
- Richard Rhyne Leads Committee for County Progress in Redistricting Resolution
July 21, 2010
- Richard Rhyne Elected President of CCP for 2010
November 23, 2009
- Firm Obtains Favorable Settlement in Recount Litigation Over Attorney General Primary Election
September 4, 2008
- Margaret Donnelly Officially Files Request for Recount in Attorney General Primary
August 26, 2008
- Margaret Donnelly Asks Secretary of State's Office for Recount of Attorney General Results
August 15, 2008

Professional Affiliations

- American Arbitration Association - Arbitrator; Mediator
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA), Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, Chair (2003); Committee Leadership Council (2003); Construction Law Committee, Chair (2001)
- The Missouri Bar
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri, Certified Neutral

Community Involvement

- First Call, Board of Directors, 2010-present; Board Chair, 2019-2021; Volunteer of the Year (2013)
- MS Society, Board of Directors (2000-2006), Vice Chair (2006)

Honors

- *Construction Lawyers Society of America*, Charter Fellow, 2017
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2011-2022; Lawyer of the Year - Kansas City, MO Litigation - Construction, 2013

- Missouri/Kansas *Super Lawyers*, 2006-2020