



## Michael C. Zehner

Associate

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Denver, Colorado

Michael Zehner has focused his interests, both academic and professional, within the construction law field.

Michael grew up working for his father's civil construction company, eventually filling a project management position where he participated in and directed work for large energy and infrastructure clients. This background and continued passion for the industry uniquely allow him to swiftly gain a firm practical understanding of the underlying facts of construction disputes. Michael brings a strong skill set of drafting agreements, motions, briefs, and pleadings to his litigation practice, while his extensive contract drafting, review, and management experience benefit clients for the life of their construction projects.

Michael currently serves as a lecturer at the University of Colorado's College of Engineering & Applied Science, where he co-teaches a graduate-level course on the legal aspects of construction.

Prior to joining Brownstein, he was a summer associate and law clerk at a local boutique construction law firm and a legal intern with Summit Materials, Inc. During law school, Michael was the president of the Construction & Real Estate Law Association, as well as a student attorney for the Civil Practice Clinic.

### Practices

Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Construction, Construction

### Representative Matters

- Successfully obtained six-figure verdict, plus trebled damages, in bench trial involving a contractor's violation of Colorado's Trust Fund Statute on a real estate development project.
- Drafted successful motion to dismiss client from real estate development dispute in Colorado District Court.
- Negotiated execution of \$39.9 million cost-plus GMP agreement for new construction of hotel.
- Negotiated execution of \$60 million initial cost-plus GMP agreement for construction and renovation of casino.
- Negotiated execution of \$2 million unit price agreement for heavy civil construction company covering its construction of extensive road subgrade at a large mining operation.
- Successfully obtained release of multiple mechanics' liens resulting from general contractor's default on large residential development.
- Successfully obtained six-figure verdict, plus trebled damages, in bench trial involving a contractor's violation of Colorado's Trust Fund Statute on a real estate development project.
- Negotiated execution of \$16 million EPC agreement for construction of solar array supporting petroleum extraction field.

### Publications & Presentations

- Expecting the Unexpected, Co-author, *Law Week Colorado*, November 19, 2018

### Education

- J.D., 2017, University of Colorado Law School
- B.A., 2013, University of Colorado

**Admissions**

- Colorado
- U.S. District Court, Colorado

**Membership**

American Bar Association, ABA Forum on Construction Law

Colorado Bar Association, Construction Law Section

Rhone Bracket Inn of Court, Associate Barrister