



RIESS LEMIEUX

Johanna Elizabeth Lambert
jlambert@rllaw.com

1100 Poydras Street, Suite 1100
New Orleans, LA 70163

(504)581-3300
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June 7, 2024

Jefferson Parish
Legal Services Evaluation Committee
200 Derbigny Street
Gretna, LA 70053

Dear Committee:

Please find enclosed Riess LeMieux's Response to SOQ No. 24-016 for Professional Legal Services. Riess LeMieux has the professional training and experience in relation required for the outside legal services in the categories in which we submitted. Additionally, we are located in neighboring New Orleans, conveniently located between the East and West Bank Parish Offices and have the staff and capacity to accept and successfully complete newly assigned work. Since its founding in 2018, Riess LeMieux has not been involved in adversarial legal proceedings where the Parish has been the prevailing party. Additionally, the firm has successfully handled matters for other local government entities and currently represents the Parish in 4 ongoing matters.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to do business with Jefferson Parish.

Sincerely,

Johanna Elizabeth Lambert

JEL/scp
Enclosure



CENTRALBIDDING
FROM CENTRAL AUCTION HOUSE

**SOQ 24-016-Provide Various Professional Legal Services for Jefferson
Parish**
Jefferson Parish Government

Project documents obtained from www.CentralBidding.com
06-Jun-2024 03:52:45 PM

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire Instructions

- The Professional Legal Services Questionnaire shall be used for outside legal services.
- **The Professional Legal Services Questionnaire should be completely filled out. Complete and attach ALL sections. Insert “N/A” or “None” if a section does not apply or if there is no information to provide.**
- Questionnaire must be signed by an authorized representative of the Firm. Failure to sign the questionnaire shall result in disqualification of proposer pursuant to J.P. Code of Ordinances Sec. 2-928.
- All subcontractors must be listed in the appropriate section of the Questionnaire. Each subcontractor must provide a complete copy of the Professional Legal Services Questionnaire, applicable licenses, and any other information required by the advertisement. Failure to provide the subcontractors' complete questionnaire(s), applicable licenses, and any other information required by the advertisement shall result in disqualification of proposer pursuant to J.P. Code of Ordinances Sec. 2-928.
- If additional pages are needed, attach them to the questionnaire and include all applicable information that is required by the questionnaire.

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

A. Person or Firm Name & Principal Address:

Riess LeMieux
1100 Poydras Street, Suite 1100
New Orleans, LA 70163

B. Name, Title, & contact information of Firm Representative, as defined in Section 2-926 of the Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances, who is licensed to practice law in the State of Louisiana with a minimum of five (5) years' experience:

Liz Lambert, Partner
La. Bar No. 33227
14 years' experience
1100 Poydras Street, Suite 1100
New Orleans, Louisiana 70163
D: 504.619.6149
C: 318.452.5421
JLambert@RLLaw.com

C. Location of the principal:

New Orleans

D. Please check the legal field or fields in which Firm is qualified to perform services for Jefferson Parish and include the number of years of experience in that particular field.

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Bond Services (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elections (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Administrative & Regulatory (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Antitrust Law (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Law (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Justice (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dispute Resolution (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental, Energy & Resources (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Law (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Property (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Law (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Labor & Employment Law (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Contract Law (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Science & Technology Law (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State & Local Government Law (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taxation (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tort Trial & Insurance Practices (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complex Litigation (including asbestos litigation) (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Securities (Years: <u> </u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethics Law (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Service Matters (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights & the Constitution (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Municipal Representation (including liability & intergovernmental conflicts) (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Code Enforcement Matters (Years: <u>100+</u>)</p>
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Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Law (Years: <u>100+</u>) <input type="checkbox"/> Communications Law (Years: <u> </u>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation Law (Years: <u>100+</u>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property (Years: <u>100+</u>) <input type="checkbox"/> Trust & Estate Law (Years: <u> </u>) <input type="checkbox"/> Other/specific project as required by the advertisement (Years: <u> </u>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil Spill Litigation (Years: <u> </u>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Finance (Years: <u>100+</u>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use, Planning & Zoning Law (Years: <u>100+</u>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic Development (Years: <u>100+</u>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction Law (Years: <u>100+</u>)
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E. List all subcontractors anticipated for this Project. Please note that all subcontractors must submit a fully completed copy of this questionnaire, applicable licenses, and any other information required by the advertisement. See Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances, Sec. 2-928(a)(3). Please attach additional pages if necessary.

Name & Address:	Specialty:	Worked with Firm Before (Yes or No):
1. No subcontractors will be used	N/A	N/A
2. No subcontractors will be used	N/A	N/A
3. No subcontractors will be used	N/A	N/A
4. No subcontractors will be used	N/A	N/A

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

F. Professional Training and experience in relation to the type of work required for the outside legal services.

All Riess LeMieux attorneys listed in this Response are licensed to practice in Louisiana and have extensive experience handling the matters notated in Section D. Complete bios of the Riess LeMieux team are available at www.rllaw.com/attorneys/ and attached to this Response are key bios for easy reference.



G. Size of Firm and capacity for timely completion of newly assigned work considering the number of professional and support personnel required to perform the type of outside legal services tasks and the Firm's current unfinished workload.

Riess LeMieux has the capacity for newly assigned considering the number of professional and support personnel required to perform the type of outside legal services tasks notated in Section D and the Firm's current unfinished workload. Riess LeMieux currently employs:

- 19 attorneys
- 2 paralegals
- 5 legal assistants
- 6 professional staff members

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

i. Please specify the total number of support staff that may assist in the completion of a matter for each area of the law selected above: 2

ii. List any attorneys that may assist in the completion of a matter for each area of the law selected above. If necessary, please attach additional documentation that demonstrates the employment history and experience of the Firm's attorneys that may assist in the completion of this Project (i.e. resume). Please attach additional pages if necessary.

Name:	Legal Field:	Years of Experience in Legal Field:
1. Michael Riess	See Section D and attached bio	41
2. Christopher LeMieux	See Section D and attached bio	22
3. Liz Lambert	See Section D and attached bio	14
4. Jonathan Forester	See Section D and attached bio	15
5. Robert Riess	See Section D and attached bio	9

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

H. Past performance by person or Firm on Parish contracts. Please attach additional pages if necessary.

LMB Services, LLC v. The Parish of Jefferson, 24th JDC, No. 837-222, Div. K. - Hope Haven Project. This matter was a Mandamus under La. R.S. 38:2191 for the Parish's alleged failure to pay LMB Services after a termination for convenience. The parties reached a settlement at trial.

Command Construction, LLC v. The Parish of Jefferson, 24th JDC, No.831689, Div. C. - W. Esplanade Project. As a result of litigation related to the bid for the Project, Command Construction, LLC's contract with the Parish is an absolute nullity; therefore, based on longstanding jurisprudence in Louisiana, Command is only owed for its costs and no overhead and profit. However, Command refused to provide the Parish with documentation regarding its costs for the Project and filed suit under various theories of law, including breach of contract, detrimental reliance, unjust enrichment, and open account. Currently, the matter is stayed at the District Court, while an appeal is pending with the 5th Circuit regarding the nullity of the contract and the Parish's acceptance of the Project under the Public Works Act.

The Severn Project - This is a companion to the litigation listed above. In this matter, DBE subcontractor, Twin Shores, filed suit against Command, the general contractor, and Kelly Commander, its principal, on the Severn Project under the Prompt Pay Act for its failure to pay Twin Shores for its work. This Project is partially funded by the State and because of Twin Shores' claim, the funding for the Project has been halted. At this time, the Parish is not a party, but is monitoring and taking the necessary steps with the State and Command to ensure that the funding for the Project is not jeopardized as a result of Command's actions.

Katherine Verrette v. Command, Design Engineering, Inc, and Jefferson Parish, 24th JDC, No. 818-241, Div. H - In Verrette, the Plaintiff alleged injuries resulting from Command's work. Riess LeMieux was retained as neither Command or its insurers would accept the Parish's tender of defense and indemnity. As it relates to coverage, we have filed suit against Command, its insurer, and the OCIP carrier for defense and indemnity. The OCIP carrier accepted the tender and is defending the Parish on the merits under a reservation of rights. Riess LeMieux is continuing to monitor the matter in an attempt to recover defense costs.

Masooda Kahn v. Command and Jefferson Parish, 24th JDC, No. 847-962, Div. P - In Kahn, the Plaintiff has alleged that her home sustained damage as a result of Command's construction activities. Both Command and its Insurer failed to respond to the tender of defense and indemnity and a third party demand has been filed. Discovery is in process.

I. Adversarial legal proceedings between the Parish and the person or Firm performing professional services, in which the Parish prevailed, and excluding those instances or cases where the person or Firm was added as an indispensable party, or where the person or Firm participated in or assisted the public entity in prosecution of its claim. In the event that the person or Firm fails to provide accurate and detailed information regarding legal proceedings with the Parish, including the absence of legal proceedings, the person or firm shall be deemed unresponsive with regard to this category, and zero (0) points shall be awarded. Please attach additional pages if necessary.

Riess LeMieux was founded in 2018. Since our founding, there have been no adversarial legal proceedings between a Riess LeMieux client and the Parish where the Parish prevailed.

However, in the spirit of full disclosure, there is currently a pending adversarial matter captioned Parish of Jefferson v. NSN Development, 24th JDC, Div. C, 824-531. This matter involves alleged damage to trees in the Parish right of way.

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

J. Prior successful completion of projects of the type and nature of legal services, as defined, for which Firm has provided verifiable references. (List no more than 10 projects.)

1.	Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission Carlton Dufrechou, General Manager 3939 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 400 Metairie, LA 70002 Project - Safety Bay Improvement Project. First CMAR infrastructure Project in the State. Project - General legal advice and litigation
2.	Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission Melissa Phillpot, Director of Finance and Custodian of Records 3939 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 400 Metairie, LA 70002 Project - Public Record Requests
3.	Gibbs Construction, LLC Matt Moore, President 5736 Citrus Blvd., Suite 200 Harahan, LA 70123 Project - General legal advice and litigation, as needed, with a focus on business, bidding, contract advise, insurance, and construction
4.	Impetus f/k/a Palmisano, LLC Erika Bush, Corporate Counsel 1730 Tchoupitoulas Street New Orleans, LA 70130 Project - General legal advice and litigation, as needed, with a focus on business, bidding, contract advise, insurance, and construction
5.	Plenary Americas Mike Schutt, Senior Vice President 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 1470 Tampa, FL 33602 Project - Belle Chasse Bridge and Tunnel Replacement. First Public Private Partnership (P3) in the State. Riess LeMieux represents the private partner as local counsel for transactional and litigation matters. Riess LeMieux also represents Plenary in litigation matters involving alleged absolute null contracts and a subcontractor default.

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

6.

City of Kenner

Michelle Dufrene, City Attorney or Eric Mund, Deputy City Attorney

Projects - Under the Glaser Administration, Riess LeMieux handled litigation regarding municipal liability for a trip and fall on a public sidewalk. Under the Zahn Administration, Riess LeMieux assisted with public records requests, multiple litigation files, legislation, open meetings, tax advice, general counsel matters, contractual issues, and ethics and compliance. Please contact Jennifer Thornton, Senior Assistant City Attorney for more information

7.

Allstate Financial

Bruce Wainer

321 Veterans Blvd., Suite 201

Metairie, Louisiana 70005

Projects - Litigation and general advice - Riess LeMieux is handling matters for Allstate in St. Tammany Parish regarding permitting (both locally and under the Clean Water Act) and zoning.

8.

MedImpact Healthcare Systems, Inc.

Steffanie Mathewson

Senior Counsel

10181 Scripps Gateway Ct.

San Diego, CA 92141

Projects - Local Counsel - Riess LeMieux is local counsel for MedImpact, the State's former Pharmacy Benefit Manager, and represented it in a \$500 million dollar professional services bid dispute, public record litigation, and contract disputes and interpretation matters with the State.

9.

Baumer Foods, Inc.

Alvin A. Baumer, III

2424 Edenborn Ave #510

Metairie, LA 70001

Projects - Corporate and commercial counsel for ongoing operations domestically and internationally

10.

Jeremy Cox

Cox Parker Construction

jeremy@coxparkers.com

coxparkers.com

Projects - Contract negotiation and claim representation on construction projects.

Professional Legal Services Questionnaire

K. Use this space to provide any additional information or description of resources supporting Firm's qualifications for the proposed project.

All Riess LeMieux attorneys listed in this Response are qualified and experienced to handle the matters notated in Section D. Michael Riess and Chris LeMieux are known throughout the state as industry leaders in the field of construction law. Michael and Chris have also represented businesses in transactional matters and provided general counsel advise to the largest construction companies in Louisiana. Jon Forester is a passionate litigator and frequently lectures on construction and business related matters. Robert Riess' practice focuses on transactional matters, including contract negotiations, real estate, business formation, ownership disputes, intellectual property, compliance and legal strategy. Additionally, the Firm Representative, Liz Lambert, has dedicated her career to representing governmental entities, both large and small, as in house and outside counsel. Liz served 5 years with Jefferson Parish as a Senior Assistant Parity Attorney in charge of Special Projects, before going into private practice. While with Jefferson Parish, Liz was a Certified Ethics Trainer for the State of Louisiana, conducting 20 plus sessions. Liz also gained extensive experience with legislative matters, both local and state, and has worked with local legislative delegations on several issues, including a revision to the Open Meetings Law regarding consent agendas. As a private practitioner, Liz has represented numerous governmental and private entities providing general advice, transactional, and litigation services. Liz has also lectured on Open Meetings Law, Public Records, public contracting, and insurance. Riess LeMieux is a member of the Jefferson Chamber and Liz is a part of the 2024 Leadership Jefferson Program. Further, Liz is a fellow of the Loyola Institute of Politics, 2023 Leadership in Law recipient, 2024 graduate of Leadership Jefferson through the Jefferson Parish Chamber, and a 2023 and 2024 Chambers ranked "Up and Coming" Attorney.

L. To the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is an accurate statement of facts.

Signature:  Print Name: Johanna Elizabeth "Liz" Lambert

Title: Partner

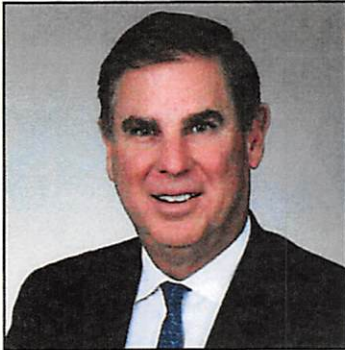
Date: 6/7/24



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MICHAEL R. C. RIESS | FOUNDING PARTNER

mriess@rllaw.com

504-619-6142

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Construction Litigation | Commercial Law | Real Estate Transactions and Financing | Commercial Litigation | Insurance Coverage and Defense | Maritime Litigation | Jones Act Defense | Contracts | Personal Injury

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Michael R. C. Riess is a founding partner of the firm. Prior to starting Riess LeMieux in 2018, Michael founded Kingsmill Riess, LLC in 1989. During his thirty-five year career, Michael Riess has represented domestic and international corporate and individual clients in a wide range of complex commercial litigation matters and business transactions. Michael continues to fiercely represent his diverse mix of local, regional and national clients with their legal needs in cases involving construction litigation, public bid protests, contract disputes, maritime incidents, charter party disputes, insurance and indemnity law questions, sales, transactions, foreclosure, restructuring and litigating troubled loans for both creditors and debtors.

Michael has tried more than 75 cases to verdict and handled thousands more with the understanding that each individual client has their own goal for a successful resolution. Michael regularly presents seminars on construction- and business-related topics, including contract negotiation, public bid law disputes, FARs, bid rigging, ethics compliance, and DBE compliance. Michael has been involved in many charitable endeavors over the years, the most recent being Campaign Chair to raise over \$6.2 million to refurbish and restore St. Stephen's Church, a historic landmark in Uptown New Orleans. Michael was also recognized in the 2011 Leadership in Law class by CityBusiness.

EDUCATION

- Tulane University, B.S.M., 1979; M.B.A., 1983; J.D., 1983; Beta Alpha Psi

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Michael has represented clients on numerous types of projects, including airports, hospitals, military bases, chemical plants, shipyards, highways and bridges, office towers, hotels, condominiums, apartment complexes, public schools, movie theaters, restaurants, and museums.

- Obtained summary judgment dismissing hundreds of claims against a general contractor based on the government contractor immunity defense on three SELA projects involving over \$350 million worth of construction work in New Orleans.
- Successfully defeated mold and mildew claims in excess of \$3 million and recovered 100% of contract value and retention for large commercial HVAC/mechanical subcontractor.
- Successfully litigated dozens of public bid protests under the Louisiana Public Bid Law on behalf of numerous general contractors.
- Successfully closed \$66 million acquisition of platform drilling rigs for large independent driller working in the Gulf of Mexico.



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- Successfully obtained over 10 defense verdicts for maritime clients in Jones Act cases.
- Currently representing three major subcontractors pursuing claims in excess of \$40 million on the University Medical Center Project in New Orleans.
- Successfully represented buyers and sellers in commercial transactions in excess of \$1 million.
- Obtained arbitration award in favor of electrical subcontractor against general contractor on public school project in New Orleans.
- Obtained summary judgment in favor of pile driving contractor under peremption/statute of repose involving claims dealing with structural and foundation issues in excess of \$13 million.
- Successfully litigated numerous commercial contract claims to conclusion by way of settlement up to maximum or near maximum recoverable amounts.
- Obtained over 25 summary judgments in favor of general contractors relating to dismissal of third party construction zone claims.
- Successfully negotiated terms and conditions involving construction contracts for developers, general contractors and subcontractors.

BAR ADMISSIONS

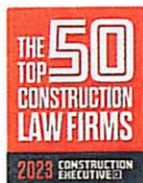
- Louisiana Supreme Court and all courts of Louisiana
- United States Court of Appeal for the Fifth Circuit
- United States District Courts for the Eastern, Western and Middle Districts of Louisiana
- Louisiana Supreme Court and all courts of Louisiana

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Louisiana State Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Forum on Construction Law
- Maritime Law Association of the United States

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Former Lighthouse of the Blind Board Member
- 2018 Order of St. Louis Medal Recipient Recognizing Work as Campaign Chair in raising over \$6.2 million dollars to refurbish St. Stephens Church



AV® PREEMINENT™
Martindale-Hubbell®
Lawyer Ratings



**TOP
LAWYERS**



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CHRISTOPHER K. LEMIEUX | FOUNDING PARTNER

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Construction Law | Employment Law | Commercial Litigation | Government
Contracts and Surety Law | Real Estate Transactions and Financing | Contracts
| Environmental Law

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Chris has been a Managing Partner of the firm since its founding in 2018. Chris has practical operational experience where he served as general counsel and an executive committee member for a regional design builder. During his twenty year career, Chris has represented contractors, architects, engineers, private and public owners, sureties, insurers and subcontractors in litigation, arbitration, claims, disputes and negotiations and drafting of construction contracts for a variety of federal, private, and public projects including design build, P3, integrated project delivery, multifamily, schools, military, stadiums, manufacturing facilities, historic renovations, parking garages, jails, warehouses, car dealerships, condominiums, roads, bridges, drainage, senior living, environmental, chemical plants, waste treatment facilities, pumping stations, oil terminals, marine, FEMA funded projects, mixed use facilities, and residential. In addition, he has represented employers in a wide variety of employment matters including employment training, wage and hour, ADA, FMLA, and Title VII.

Among other acknowledgments, Chris has been recognized by Super Lawyers, Best Lawyers in America, and Chambers USA. Chris regularly lectures on construction and employment law to industry groups and associations, such as Louisiana Associated General Contractors, Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana, Construction Financial Management Association, National Business Institute, and the Louisiana Bar Association.

EDUCATION

- University of Alabama, B.A., 1998
- Loyola University New Orleans School of Law, J.D., 2001

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented public entity in alternative procurement method for 50-million-dollar project
- Represents the General Contractor in all matters arising out of the Hard Rock Hotel Collapse.
- Represented Design-Builder against Owner and Awarded Contract Balance, Attorney's Fees, Expert Fees, and AAA Fees while zeroing the Owner's counterclaim for defective work and design.
- Represented a civil contractor in prosecuting multi-million dollar delay and cumulative impact claim arising from changed project conditions and defending against owner's delay claims.
- Obtained multi-million dollar judgment on behalf of General Contractor for Contract Balance.
- Represented numerous bidders in successfully challenging awards for projects ranging from \$2,000,000 to \$550,000,000.
- Obtained a rescission of a default and termination of a General Contractor on a Public Works Act Project.
- Obtained a dismissal for a Subcontractor in a multi-million dollar structural slab failure case.
- Obtained a defense verdict in favor of a Contractor to claims of property damage allegedly caused by vibration.



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- Obtained a defense and indemnity Judgment in favor a general contractor and against a Subcontractor's Commercial General Liability Carrier.
- Represented engineering company related to delay, disruption and defective design claims on a multifamily project.
- Represented a Subcontractor against General Contractor and Builder's Risk Carriers for damages sustained during Industrial Project.
- Represented subcontractor on a federal project prosecuting and defending delay and multi-million dollar extra work/change order claims.
- Represented General Contractors on claims by owners alleging building envelope leaks.
- Represented Architects and General Contractors on claims by Hotel Owners regarding alleged deficiencies in the design, renovation, and construction of hotels.
- Represented primary subcontractor against building envelope water intrusion claims associated with the construction of a seven-story building.
- Represented architects, contractors, and engineers regarding licensing requirements and alleged violations.
- Negotiated and prepared numerous construction, design build, construction management, architectural and IPD agreements associated with commercial, industrial, civil, retail, condominiums, manufacturing, multifamily, parking garages, and mixed use projects.
- Defended Contractors in matters concerning FLSA alleging misclassification and inadequate pay;
- Retained as lead counsel on internal investigations involving harassment, theft, and numerous violations of company policy.
- Retained as lead counsel for Title VII, ADA, and FMLA claims nationwide.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Panelist, Labor Shortages and Mitigation of Risk, Groundbreak 2022 powered by Procore, November 2022
- Moderator, Active CMAR A133 and A201 Contract Negotiation, The Blueprint presented by Riess LeMieux, October 2022
- Moderator, A Design Professional's Job is Not Over when the Design is Complete, The Blueprint presented by Riess LeMieux, October 2022
- Presenter, 2022 Construction Tune Up: Can We Recover Money and Time, March 2022
- Panelist, 2022 Louisiana Associated General Contractors Critical Issues Summit, February 2022
- Presenter, Troubleshooting Change Orders, Delays, and other Construction Challenges, Co-Presenter with National Business Institute, December 2021
- Panelist, 2021 Louisiana Associated General Contractors Annual Summer Conference, July 2021
- Presenter, Indemnification Clause Strategies, Co-Presenter with National Business Institute, April 2021
- Co-Presenter, How Bankruptcy Impacts Construction Projects, Levelset Presentation, March 2021
- Panelist, 2021 Louisiana Associated General Contractors Critical Issues Summit, March 2021
- Presenter, 2020 Annual Construction Industry Webinar: Dealing with Risk and Uncertainty, September 2020
- Panelist, Louisiana Associated General Contractors Summer Conference, July 2020
- Presenter, Indemnity, Change Orders, and More: Top Construction Legal Issues and Answers Webinar, Co-presented with the National Business Institute, June 2020
- Panelist, Louisiana Associated General Contractors and Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana Critical Issues Summit, February 2020
- Presenter, I'm Picking Up Good Vibrations – The Risks and Damages Caused by Construction Vibration, Co-presented with Walter P. Moore, January 2020
- Presenter, Charting a Course in Unfamiliar Waters: Tips for Winning Your Case in Arbitration, Louisiana State



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Bar Association CLE Seminar, December 2019

- Presenter, Construction Insurance: Defective Work Claims and Construction Property Damage – Covered or Excluded, Louisiana State University, May 2019
- Presenter, How to Contract Commercial Jobs Both Upstream and Downstream, May 2019
- Presenter, Protecting Your Money: Contract Provision Primer, Construction Financial Management Association Seminar, March 2019
- Presenter, Lessons Learned: Shop Drawings and Construction Administration, March 2019
- Panelist, Louisiana Associated General Contractors and Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana Critical Issues Summit, February 2019
- Presenter, How to Keep your Foot out of your Mouth: The Do's and Don't of Deposition Testimony, Associated Builders and Contractors, January 2019
- Presenter, Roles of Owners, Contractors, and Architects, July 2018
- Presenter, Protecting Against Construction Risk in Private and Public Contracting, March 2018
- Presenter, Defense and Indemnity in Construction: Protect Yourself From Financial Risk

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Louisiana Supreme Court and all courts of Louisiana
- United States Court of Appeal for the Fifth Circuit
- United States District Courts for the Eastern, Western and Middle Districts of Louisiana
- United States Court of Federal Claims
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Louisiana State Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- Jefferson Bar Association
- Fifth Circuit Bar Association
- Louisiana Board of Association of General Contractors (2011-2014)
- Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana
- Federal Bar Association (Board Member, New Orleans Chapter)
- National Business Institute Faculty Member



AV[®] PREEMINENT[™]
Martindale-Hubbell[®]
Lawyer Ratings





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JONATHAN S. FORESTER | PARTNER

jforester@rllaw.com
504-619-6191

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Construction Litigation | Commercial Litigation | General Civil Litigation |
Insurance Coverage and Defense | Class Actions | Bankruptcy | Employment
Law

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Jonathan S. Forester is a partner with the firm. Mr. Forester represents contractors, owners, insurers, self-insureds and subcontractors in complex property damage and injury claims. Mr. Forester has represented clients in claims relating to commercial buildings, highways, bridges, theaters, airports and various other construction sites relating to contractual breaches, delay and disruption damages and construction defects including moisture intrusion, roof damage, structural defects, construction vibration damage, and fire or explosions. He represents and advises construction-related entities and other businesses through contract negotiation and drafting, as well as the filing of liens and recovery of funds owed pursuant to the Louisiana Private and Public Works Acts and federal Miller Act. Mr. Forester is adept in the trial courtroom and also argues appeals. He regularly gives seminars regarding all facets of construction law. In addition, he has served on the Federal Bar Association's Younger Lawyers Division Board of Directors since 2016. Mr. Forester has been selected for six years (2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020) as a "Rising Star" in the field of Construction Litigation by Super Lawyers publication and was a finalist for the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel's 2017 Maraist Award.

EDUCATION

- Louisiana State University, B.S., 2004
- Université Jean Moulin (Lyon III), summer law program, 2007
- Louisiana State University School of Law, J.D., 2009
 - * President, Moot Court Board
 - * Member, Trial Advocacy Board
 - * Winner, Robert Lee Tullis Moot Court Competition
 - * Best Brief, Robert Lee Tullis Moot Court Competition
 - * Regional Winner, National Moot Court Competition
 - * American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) Excellence in Advocacy Award, NMCC
 - * ACTL Best Oral Advocate Award, NMCC

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Obtained lowest and nominal settlement figure of 20+ defendants for defendant contractor against claims by 75+ plaintiff homeowners alleging vibration and dewatering damage related to large drainage project in New Orleans.
- Successfully argued at Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal obtaining insurance defense and coverage for client contractor in significant personal injury electrocution case.
- Obtained favorable ruling with regard to DBE hearings before New Orleans airport board regarding DBE contractor.



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- Obtained Judgment requiring defense and indemnity in favor of a general contractor and against a subcontractor's Commercial General Liability insurer.
- Successfully argued prescription at Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal on behalf of dirtwork client contractor regarding catastrophic settlement of newly constructed building.
- Obtained dismissal of indemnity claims for general contractor relating to significant damages to upscale condominium renovation project.
- Defended commercial contractor in significant building envelope moisture intrusion and mold claim arbitration involving commercial building with property damage claims in excess of \$12 million.
- Obtained favorable settlement for specialty masonry restoration subcontractor in litigation against upstream Contractors and federal government on a federal pump-station project.
- Represented subcontractor on a federal project asserting and defending multi-million dollar change order and additional work claims.
- Represented numerous contractors related to alleged ultra-hazardous pile driving claims and involving historic structures.
- Represented contractors on highway construction projects relating to vibration claims and vehicular accidents.
- Successfully negotiated contracts involving all forms of construction delivery methods for developers, general contractors and subcontractors.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Louisiana Supreme Court and all courts of Louisiana
- United States Court of Appeal for the Fifth Circuit
- United States District Courts for the Eastern, Western and Middle Districts of Louisiana

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Louisiana State Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- American Bar Association
 - Forum on Construction Law
- Federal Bar Association
- Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel
- Jefferson Bar Association
- Associated Builders and Contractors
- Loyola College's Executive Mentor Program





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JOHANNA ELIZABETH LAMBERT | PARTNER

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Commercial Litigation | Construction Law | Maritime Law | General Litigation

Johanna Elizabeth Lambert represents contractors, owners, insurers, self-insureds and subcontractors in personal injury and complex property damage claims. Liz has represented clients in claims relating to commercial buildings, highways, bridges, and various other construction sites relating to contractual breaches, delay damages and construction defects including moisture intrusion, roof damage, structural defects, and construction vibration damage. During law school, Liz clerked for Judge Terri Love in the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, Judge Fredericka H. Wicker in the Louisiana Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal, and Judge Stanwood Duval in the Eastern District of Louisiana. Before joining the firm, Liz served as a Senior Assistant Parish Attorney for Jefferson Parish.

EDUCATION

- Louisiana State University Alexandria, B.S., 2007
- Loyola University New Orleans School of Law, J.D., 2010

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented public entity in alternative procurement method for 50-million-dollar project
- Assisted public and private entities in numerous contract negotiations for construction projects
- Represented clients in bid protests against public entities
- Represented contractor in Mandamus action under Title 38 seeking payments of funds owed for work on a public project
- Represented public official in Mandamus proceeding regarding official's duties pursuant to home rule charter
- Represented developer in zoning dispute and inverse condemnation proceedings
- Represented homeowner in matters related to servitude of drain and inverse condemnation proceedings
- Drafted state and local legislation on behalf of public entities
- Provided testimony before Legislative Committees on behalf of public entity
- Advised public and private entities on personnel and employment matters
- Provided Ethics Training and Presentations to public employees and appointees
- Represented public entity in redhibition claim and breach of contract claims
- Represented public entity in expropriation proceedings
- Advised public entities on Code of Ethics, Public Bid Law, Open Meetings Law, and Public Records Act
- Advised clients on matters related to Public and Private Works Act lien and privilege claims
- Represented general contractor and surety in payment dispute against private owner
- Represented property owner in breach of contract claim regarding payments of commissions
- Represented general contractor in construction defect claim by public owner
- Represented subcontractor in arbitration recovering over 1 million dollars for a delay claim



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- Represented general contractor in pile driving and construction damage litigation

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Louisiana Supreme Court and all courts of Louisiana
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Louisiana State Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- Loyola University Institute of Politics



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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Construction Litigation | Products Liability | Premises Liability | Automobile/
Trucking/Transportation Liability | Insurance Defense | Natural Gas Liability |
Fire and Explosion | Business Formation | Commercial Litigation | General
Litigation

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Robert is a primary component of the Firm's transactional team with complementary litigation experience allowing him to provide clients with a full breadth of counsel. His clients come from a broad range of industries including construction, food manufacturing, clothing brands, retail, development and other parts of the commercial arena. Robert has grown his practice to routinely operate as outside General Counsel representing clients in transactional matters and disputes including commercial contract negotiations, real estate, business formation, ownership disputes, intellectual property, compliance and legal strategy. He strives to serve his clients not only as a negotiator and draftsman, but also as a counselor with the proven ability to help clients strike an appropriate balance between legal and business considerations. If a dispute cannot be resolved amicably, he is experienced with litigation, mediation, and arbitration.

EDUCATION

- College of Charleston B.S., Business Administration, B.S., Hospitality & Tourism Management, 2012
- Tulane University, J.D., 2015

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Prepare, negotiate and assist with multi-million dollar transactions, mergers and acquisitions, non-profit and private sales and acquisitions, leases, lease-backs, subordination and non-disturbance agreements, construction management contracts, commercial lease agreements, professional services agreements, and corporate governance documents.
- Negotiating and drafting basic and complex business documents (including bylaws, employee handbooks, operating agreements, buy-sell contracts and options agreements).
- Corporate formation (including limited partnerships, LLCs, joint ventures and corporations).
- Represented Contractor in dispute with City entity regarding violations of public bid law resulting in award of contract to client and finding of Motion for Contempt against City for violation of Temporary Restraining Order.
- Represented General Contractor in successfully obtaining dismissal of claims by Owner as preempted under La. R.S. 9:2772.
- Represented Design-Build Contractor against Owner and Awarded Contract Balance, Attorney's Fees, Expert Fees, and AAA Fees while zeroing the Owner's counterclaim for defective work and design.
- Represented manufacturer in intellectual property dispute whereby former partner attempted to start competing business resulting in manufacturing client retaining 100% of the company.
- Represented General Contractor in filing lien on property and obtaining same through sheriff sale.
- Routinely represents client in successful Open Account filings.
- Represented General Contractor in successfully obtaining dismissal of claims by Public Entity Owner as



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perempted under La. R.S. 38:2189

- Represented Contractors and Subcontractors with successful prosecution of lien claims.
- Represented owners in selling Aircraft and boats including necessary title work and filing with the FAA and United States Coast Guard, respectively.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

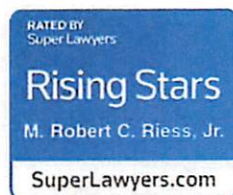
- Board Chairman/Founder: Non-Profit Millennial Spirits of NOLA
- Member: Emerging Philanthropists of New Orleans Class of 2017
- Youth Empowerment Project's "40 Under 40", Class of 2016

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Louisiana Supreme Court and all State Courts of Louisiana
- United States District Courts for the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts of Louisiana

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel
- Louisiana State Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana
- American Bar Association





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ACCOLADES AND RECOGNITION

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Riess LeMieux is focused on our clients and being the absolute best communicators to their legal issues and keeping them actively involved in what we do as their trusted counsel. We have built these relationships to stand the test of time and encourage anyone seeking our help to talk to our current clients to ensure that they are well taken care of and set the standard for the industry. Our goal is to be thought leaders and be recognized for the legal work that we do. Often in our industry, we are recognized for our legal acumen and how we stack up against the competition. Below are a few of the organizations that have recognized the firm and our attorneys for our accomplishments and legal acumen.



New Orleans
CITYBUSINESS
LEADERSHIP IN LAW

RECOGNIZED BY
Best Lawyers



RATED BY
Super Lawyers

