

LINKHORST LAW FIRM

Attorneys at Law

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FIRM PROFILE

LINKHORST LAW FIRM, P.A., is an AV-Rated boutique law firm whose primary practice is in the area of construction law and litigation. Linkhorst Law Firm is rated as a Preeminent Law Firm by the Martindale Hubbell Bar Register. Adam C. Linkhorst is Board Certified by the Florida Bar in Construction Law. This distinction is held by few attorneys in the State of Florida.

Linkhorst Law Firm represents various parties in construction disputes, including both public and private owners, condominium and homeowner's associations, general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, design professionals and sureties in all types of disputes such as those involving construction lien foreclosures, payment and performance bond disputes, bid protests, construction defects, construction contract disputes and other similar types of construction related matters. In addition, Linkhorst Law Firm has significant experience in representing parties in transactional construction law, such as the drafting, the review and negotiation of construction contracts and other types of construction industry documentation. Linkhorst Law Firm also practices in the area of commercial litigation, which means Linkhorst Law Firm represents parties involved with business disputes. Mr. Linkhorst is also Certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a Circuit Court Mediator.

Linkhorst Law Firm is centrally located in Jupiter, Florida, to effectively represent parties in the construction industry throughout Florida. The firm's goal is to maintain its reputation as the construction law firm that serves its clients in an effective and cost-efficient manner. To achieve this, Linkhorst Law Firm puts its client's needs and goals as top priorities and keeps in regular contact with each client so that the firm consistently acts in the client's best interests. The firm also recognizes the efficacy of alternative dispute resolution as an effective technique and utilizes mediation and arbitration as methods of resolving disputes. In short, Linkhorst Law Firm endeavors to provide representation which caters to the needs and goals of each individual client.

As a vital member of Florida's construction industry, Linkhorst Law Firm recognizes the

significance of maintaining an active role with various industry trade groups including: the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), Associated Builders and Contractors Association (ABC) Construction Association of South Florida (CASF), Underground Contractors Association of South Florida (UCA), American Institute of Architects (AIA), Florida Transportation Builders Association (FTBA) and ACE Mentorship. Members of the firm are also involved with various legal based construction organizations including the American Bar Association Construction Industry Forum, the Florida Bar Real Property Probate & Trust Law Section Construction Law Committee and the Palm Beach County Bar Association Construction Law Committee.

Mr. Linkhorst has lectured on various construction law topics for construction trade groups, educational and legal organizations. The topics of their lectures have included construction lien law and payment bond issues, construction contracts, bid protests, delay and scheduling claims, licensing requirements, alternative dispute resolution and Building Information Modeling (BIM) contracting and liability issues.

ATTORNEY PROFILES

ADAM C. LINKHORST, ESQUIRE, is the managing partner of Linkhorst Law Firm, P.A. He was among the first class of attorneys in the State of Florida to become Board Certified in the area of Construction Law in 2005, when that specialty area first became recognized by the Florida Bar. He maintains an AV Preeminent Rating pursuant to the Martindale-Hubbell rating system. He has focused his practice on construction law since being admitted to the Florida Bar in 1995. Mr. Linkhorst has represented various parties in construction issues, including public, commercial, and residential owners, general contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, material suppliers, equipment rental companies and sureties in all types of disputes, including bid protests, construction lien foreclosure and defect actions, payment and performance bond claims, contract disputes and all other areas of construction litigation, arbitration, and mediation. Mr. Linkhorst is Certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a Circuit Court Mediator. Mr. Linkhorst also has significant experience with transactional construction law and has drafted, also and negotiated numerous construction contracts for both public and private projects.

Mr. Linkhorst received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the State University of New York at Albany in 1991 and a Juris Doctorate degree from Nova Southeastern University in 1995. He is admitted to practice before all state courts in Florida and the United States District Courts for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fourth, Eleventh and Federal Circuits and the United States Court for Federal Claims. In law school, Mr. Linkhorst was a member of the Nova Law Review and Moot Court Society and served as Chief Justice of the Honor Court.

Mr. Linkhorst served as the chairperson of the Broward County Bar Association Construction Law Committee and has lectured for the Florida Bar, Florida International University's Construction Management Program, the Broward County Bar Association,

and various Continuing Legal Education providers and trade organizations on construction law topics.

Mr. Linkhorst is actively involved with several construction industry trade organizations including: the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) (Florida East Coast Chapter – board member and general counsel), Associated Builders and Contractors Association (ABC) American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry, Construction Law subcommittee of the Florida Bar Real Property Probate & Trust Law Section, Underground Contractors Association of South Florida (UCA), Construction Association of South Florida (CASF), Florida Transportation Builders Association (FTBA), and Florida Surety Association (FSA).

Mr. Linkhorst received the President's Member of the Year Award for 2022 from the Florida East Coast Chapter of the Associated General Contractors.

Chambers and Partners (international attorney rating service) has stated that: "Adam Linkhorst has set up a remarkable construction practice... in Palm Beach. Appreciated for his dynamism and his ability to reach favorable settlements for his clients, he is one of the most promising lawyers in Florida." Mr. Linkhorst has been identified as a Super Lawyer by SuperLawyers.com.

Mr. Linkhorst was honored by the Palm Beach County Legal Aid Society by being awarded the 2009 Construction Law Pro Bono Award for Palm Beach County. This honor was bestowed on Mr. Linkhorst during the Legal Aid Society's Annual Dinner, which was attended by over 700 people. The Award was given to recognize Mr. Linkhorst's volunteer representation of a severely disabled client whose home was subject of a foreclosure action by a contractor who had performed shoddy work.

Mr. Linkhorst served on the Board of Directors of Construction Angels, a foundation whose goal is to be a first responder to families who have lost a loved one who was working on a construction jobsite. Construction Angels supports the surviving family members when such an incident occurs and facilitates aid during their time of immediate need.

Mr. Linkhorst served on the Board of Directors of Reconstructing Lives, a foundation dedicated to seeking out individuals from the construction industry who have been dealt a hand that has created unexpected needs in their home – needs which they are incapable of meeting on their own.

Mr. Linkhorst is on the Board of Directors of ACE Mentorship of Palm Beach and Martin Counties. *ACE* stands for *Architecture, Construction and Engineering* and is a mentorship program established to provide high school students exposure to the integrated construction industry and scholarship opportunities to further the students' educational endeavors.

Mr. Linkhorst was selected as a Finalist by the Daily Business Review as a 2013 Most Effective Lawyer in the categories of Arbitration, Mediation, and Products Liability. The selection was based on his representation of a condominium association located in

Boynton Beach, which obtained a \$24 million settlement related to defective Chinese drywall.

MALINDA R. LINKHORST, ESQUIRE, is a partner with Linkhorst Law Firm, P.A. Ms. Linkhorst has been a practicing criminal defense attorney in Florida since 1995. Ms. Linkhorst is committed to serving her clients by treating them with dignity and respect, by humanizing them to the court and opposing counsel, and by expeditiously and aggressively assisting them by protecting their legal, civil and human rights through what is sometimes a daunting and complex legal system.

Ms. Linkhorst received her Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Psychology from the State University of New York at Albany in 1992 and her Juris Doctorate degree from Nova Southeastern University in 1995. She began her legal career as an Assistant Public Defender in Broward County, Florida where she specialized in Juvenile Law prior to practicing in the Felony Circuit Court division, as such she is uniquely qualified to represent both adults and juveniles.

Ms. Linkhorst has been practicing construction litigation for over 10 years with Linkhorst Law Firm and is one of the few attorneys in South Florida to specialize in both construction and criminal law. She is therefore well-positioned to represent those accused of all crimes pertaining to any construction issues.

Ms. Linkhorst is also Of Counsel to Michael A. Gottlieb P.A. Michael Gottlieb is a Florida State Representative based in Broward County, Florida and is an AV-rated lawyer, practicing criminal defense for over 30 years. Together they have successfully tried many cases including several Murder trials.

With almost 30 years of trial litigation experience, Ms. Linkhorst has a breadth of experience and knowledge regarding aggressive and effective litigation. Throughout her career, she has earned the respect of her clients and other legal professionals with whom she interacts to protect the rights of her clients.

R. SCOTT CLAYTON, ESQUIRE, is a partner with Linkhorst Law Firm, P.A. Mr. Clayton graduated from Kutztown University of Pennsylvania in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in fine art. Mr. Clayton graduated from Florida Coastal School of Law in 2004. Following graduation from law school, Mr. Clayton clerked for the Honorable Marlene Lynch Ford in the Superior Court of New Jersey. Mr. Clayton is licensed to practice law in all state courts in Florida and New Jersey, as well as the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Prior to his employment with Linkhorst Law Firm, Mr. Clayton was senior associate at a state-wide insurance defense firm where his practice focused on representing developers and contractors in construction defect litigation. Mr. Clayton also handled personal

injury, premises liability, and subrogation matters. Mr. Clayton has extensive litigation experience and has tried numerous cases to verdict.

Before relocating to Florida, Mr. Clayton practiced law in New Jersey with a focus on civil rights litigation, defending police and sheriff's officers, and other public entities in cases alleging violations of constitutional rights.

GENNY L. CONTRERAS, ESQUIRE, is an associate attorney with Linkhorst Law Firm, P.A. Ms. Contreras is a member of the Palm Beach County and Martin County Bar Associations. Ms. Contreras is licensed to practice law in all Florida State Courts and the United States District Courts for the Middle and Southern Districts of Florida.

Ms. Contreras' passion for law started while studying business and owning a construction company where she holds licenses in Real Estate and is a State of Florida Certified Air Conditioning Contractor (CAC) and State of Florida Certified General Contractor (CGC). Pulled in a different direction, she decided to pursue her legal education and graduated from St. Thomas School of Law, Miami, Florida where she received her Juris Doctor Degree along with a Certificate in Environment Sustainability, Business Law, and Real Estate Law. In addition to her demanding schedule, Ms. Contreras received a Pro Bono Commendation Certificate for outstanding commitment to public service.

Ms. Contreras primarily practices in construction and civil litigation matters including commercial and contractual disputes, construction disputes and defects, construction lien and bond claims, and professional licensing complaints and related issues.

Ms. Contreras is one of the few attorneys in Florida who is simultaneously licensed as a contractor. She uses this practical, hands-on experience for the benefit of her clients.

As a lifelong resident of South Florida, she graduated from Palm Beach State College with a B.A.S. in Supervision and Management and was of the President's Academic Honors List. She was a member of the Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society.

Ms. Contreras is an active member of the Craig S. Barnard Inns of Court and the Construction Law Committee of the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

In her free time, Ms. Contreras likes to read, spend time with friends and family, kayaking and playing pickleball.

RICH CARTLIDGE, ESQUIRE, is an associate with Linkhorst Law Firm, P.A. Mr. Cartlidge's practice is focused on complex commercial and construction litigation, contract and business disputes, bid protests, and construction lien matters.

Prior to joining Linkhorst Law Firm, Mr. Cartlidge was an associate with a boutique, construction litigation firm in Tampa, Florida, and then with a large, statewide insurance defense firm and a boutique trial law firm in West Palm Beach, Florida. Mr.

Cartlidge's experience provides him with a unique prospective for evaluating insurance coverage and liability concerns, and he puts those skills to use when representing clients. Mr. Cartlidge also employs a pragmatic approach to address complicated legal problems and works efficiently to provide value while meeting our clients' expectations.

Mr. Cartlidge has been Board Certified in Construction Litigation by the Florida Bar since 2017 and licensed to practice law in the U.S. District Court for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida.

Mr. Cartlidge published an article on November 5, 2015, Construction Defect Disputes & Litigation: Using Coverage, Case Law and Indemnification to Shift Liability: Detangling Indemnification and Shifting Liability, West Palm Beach, Florida.

Mr. Cartlidge received his undergraduate degree cum laude from Wake Forest University and his Juris Doctor degree from Stetson University College of Law.

Mr. Cartlidge received the Super Lawyers Rising Stars award, 2017-2023 and the Palm Beach Illustrated Top Attorney 2022-2024.