

Patrick E. Gaas

Partner

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Services

Construction & Infrastructure
Construction Litigation
Government Contracting & Public
Procurement
Litigation

Industries

Construction & Infrastructure
Financial Services



With more than three decades of experience, Pat Gaas is regularly engaged by owners, contractors, and design professionals to handle some of the largest and most challenging commercial and industrial construction disputes and transactions both nationally and internationally, including workouts, document preparation, administrative proceedings, litigation, mediation, and arbitration. In addition, Pat handles or manages a broad variety of other matters for a select group of clients, including financial institutions, doing business both domestically and abroad.

Before joining the firm, Pat was a Shareholder and Director of a well-established law firm, where he served as Section Head in the Houston, Texas office in its construction practice group, then regarded as one of the largest and most accomplished on the Gulf Coast.

Pat has presented seminars to the American Bar Association, the Texas Bar Association, and many client groups with topics ranging from litigation strategy, project delivery methods, and construction, design and/or procurement contract provisions, to suretyship, lien laws, and insurance issues.

For many years, Pat has been recognized by *Super Lawyers* in the field of Construction Law. He has been listed for many consecutive years in *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] for Construction Law, most recently in the 2020 edition. He is listed in the 2018, 2019 and 2020 editions of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the area of Construction. Pat was recommended by *Legal 500 US* in 2018 and 2019 for Construction Litigation. He is rated *AV Preeminent*[®] by Martindale-Hubbell.*

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policies.

Experience

Representing Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) Contractor in a “claw back” dispute having an amount in controversy approximating \$1 Billion with chemical plant owner, involving competing claims over the design, procurement, and construction of the largest and most complex Propane Development Unit (PDU) facility in the world, with a cost approaching \$3 billion.

Representing municipality sued by a general contractor for delay and other damages in a dispute arising from the construction of a new \$50 million wastewater treatment plant in place of an existing one. The total damages differential claimed in the case is approximately \$36 Million.

Represented an EPC contractor in providing advice and document review of Front End Engineering and Design and Engineering Procurement and Construction contracts, together with the related third party financing documents required of the contractor, for construction of an industrial plant facility incorporating two (2) C3 Oleflex Process units and one (1) UOP Huels Selective Hydrogenation Process unit with a combined production capacity of 1,020,000 metric tons per annum of polymer grade propylene and chemical grade propylene.

Lead Trial Counsel for EPC Contractor in International Arbitration (Helsinki, Finland) with Subcontractor arising out of the design and construction of two peat fired electrical power plants located in Ireland – amount in controversy approximately 20,000,000 Euros; length of arbitration hearing – approximately 50 days.

Represented EPC contractor in International Arbitration (London, England) with owner regarding delay and extra work claims regarding two power plants located in former Soviet Union. Amount in controversy approximately 100,000,000 Euros; length of arbitration hearing – approximately 6 weeks.

Lead Trial Counsel for non-destructive examination contractor in lawsuit with pipeline operator arising out of the remediation of a 31 mile natural gas pipeline in Ohio and Indiana – amount in controversy approximately \$60,000,000; length of jury trial – approximately 5 weeks.

Represented international chemical company in defense of contractor's delay, productivity and other claims arising out of construction of air separation plant. - the revised claim was alleged to be approximately \$11,000,000, exclusive of fees and costs; length of arbitration hearing – approximately 2 months.

Represented EPC Contractor in a contract dispute involving basic engineering design and front end engineering design services for all process and auxiliary units, utilities, interconnecting pipe and all other facilities and



associated integration, including technical assistance services for two premium refineries in Brazil, with capacities of 600,000 BPD and 300,000 BPD, respectively.

Represented EPC Contractor in a contract dispute involving alleged defects in the fabrication of refractory for furnaces of a delayed coking unit, and arising from conduct as a procurement agent for owner and as the project manager for the Delayed Coking Facility portion of the Modernization Project.

Education

University of Texas School of Law, J.D. (1988) *with honors*

Texas A&M University, B.B.A. (1985) *cum laude*

Admissions

Texas (1988)

Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Professional & Community Activities

American Bar Association, Forum Committee on Construction Industry

State Bar of Texas, Construction and Insurance Sections

Houston Bar Association, Construction and Litigation Sections

Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. – Houston Chapter

Associated Builders and Contractors of America, Industrial Committee, Government Relations Committee, and PAC Member

Construction Lawyers Society of America, Fellow

Institute of Transnational Arbitration, Member of the Advisory Board

Litigation Counsel of America, Fellow



London Court of International Arbitration, Member

Texas Bar Foundation, Fellow

Insights

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Achieves Top-Tier Recognition from *Chambers USA 2020*

April 24, 2020

[Alerts](#)

Does the COVID-19 Pandemic Qualify as a Force Majeure Event Under Contracts Governed by Texas Law?

April 2, 2020

[Events](#)

Lego-Sets for Mega-Projects: Modularization and Using this Tool for Success

February 13, 2020

[Events](#)

Lego-Sets for Mega-Projects: Modularization and Using this Tool for Success

December 16, 2019

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2019 Texas Super Lawyers

October 22, 2019

[News Releases](#)

Record-Breaking Recognition for Kilpatrick Townsend in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2020

August 15, 2019

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Receives Top Rankings from 2019 Legal 500 US

July 10, 2019

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Achieves Top-Tier Recognition from Chambers USA 2019

May 2, 2019



Events

5th Annual EPC Contract Management Conference

January 16, 2019

Events

2018 Construction SuperConference

December 10, 2018

Perspectives

KT Client Success: U.S. Supreme Court Victory

October 12, 2018

News Releases

Eight Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2018 Texas Super Lawyers

September 18, 2018

In The News

Record-Breaking Recognition for Kilpatrick Townsend in The Best Lawyers in America® 2019

August 20, 2018

News Releases

Kilpatrick Townsend Receives Top Rankings from 2018 Legal 500 US

June 11, 2018

News Releases

Kilpatrick Townsend Achieves Recognition From Chambers USA 2018

May 11, 2018

In The News

Patrick Gaas Interviewed by the Houston Business Journal on "New-to-Houston Law Firm Looks to Hire, Mulls New Office Space"

March 15, 2018

In The News

Kilpatrick Townsend Referenced as Counsel for Cash Biz in Texas Lawyer's "Texas Supreme Court Allows Payday Lender to Force Arbitration After Having Borrowers Arrested"



February 26, 2018

[In The News](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Noted as Counsel for Cash Biz in Law360's "Texas Justices Say Payday Lender Can Arbitrate Claims"

February 26, 2018

[Publications](#)

10 Key Takeaways: Collaborative Relationships Between Owners Contractors

January 17, 2018

[Events](#)

4th Annual EPC Contract Management Conference

January 10, 2018

[In The News](#)

Media Coverage: Kilpatrick Townsend Launches Office in Houston

October 16, 2017

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Launches Office in Houston

October 10, 2017