



Rydel, Peter K.

Position: Partner

Contact

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Location

Rocky Hill

Practice Areas

- [Business Law](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Employment & Labor Law](#)

Admissions

New York, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York, Connecticut, U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut



Biography

Peter maintains a diverse, multi-disciplined practice in the areas of construction, commercial and employment litigation and counseling. He blends rigorous, yet highly professional, advocacy with a dedication to pragmatic, cost-effective and client-focused solutions for clients.

Peter's construction practice involves representing owners and indemnitors in warranty and bond claim disputes arising out of engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) agreements. This encompasses disputes concerning large commercial solar arrays. He also represents parties in mechanics' lien discharge proceedings and related construction matters.

In his commercial litigation practice, Peter represents businesses, financial institutions, venture capital groups (and similar entities) in foreclosure, pre- and post-judgment proceedings, injunction and related disputes. He has tried cases to verdict involving claims of breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty and business torts. Peter has successfully defended parties against claims of alter ego liability, and prosecuted recognition proceedings under Chapter 15 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Peter's experience includes representing manufacturing clients in disputes concerning license agreements.

Peter's employment practice centers around representing large, mid-size and individual clients in a broad array of employment issues. These matters encompass discrimination, retaliation, wrongful termination, wage and hour claims, non-compete litigation, disputes concerning restrictive covenants and employment investigations. Peter routinely appears before state and federal courts and administrative agencies, such as the CHRO. He also advises human resource personnel in developing human resource policies and best practices.

Peter also represents institutional and individual trustees, beneficiaries, fiduciaries, personal representatives and creditors in a wide array of probate controversies, including the administration of decedent's estates, contested conservatorships, trust construction, fiduciary liability claims, accounting proceedings and contested powers-of-attorney. His trial experience includes representing individuals in estate proceedings and representing clients in multi-jurisdictional, complex estate disputes.

Peter has also had the privilege of working on unique matters, such as representing a local board of education in a dispute concerning the use of retirement funds, and representing a state official investigated for alleged violations of agency policies. He also has substantial experience counseling health care providers in complying with health care privacy laws and subpoenas seeking protected health information.

After law school, Peter clerked for the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department in Albany, NY. This afforded him a unique transition between the academic law school environment and the practice of law.



A native of Bristol, CT, Peter resides in Glastonbury, CT with his wife, children and Trajan, a handsome German Shephard he named after one of the Five Good Emperors of Rome. Peter enjoys skiing, kayaking and the exercise of hitting white balls on a golf course. He is an avid reader of history, to the extent his family believes he may have missed his true calling. He enjoys getting his hands dirty with whatever yard or household work beckons on the weekend and makes every effort to keep pace with his children's intense youth sports schedules.

Education

- Albany Law School of Union University, J.D., 2000
 - *Editor-in-Chief*, Albany Law Review
 - Moot Court
- Siena College, B.A., English, *magna cum laude*, 1997

Honors

- Listed in New England Super Lawyers® as a 2011/2012 Connecticut Rising Star®
- Clerkship, New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department

Representative Matters

- Obtained defense verdict in favor of two manufacturing companies following a four-day, federal court trial involving a former employee's claim that he acquired an equity interest in the companies pursuant to a written employment agreement
- Represented New York-based venture capital firm in vigorously contested litigation involving client's investment in aircraft financing debt instruments that settled favorably after extensive discovery and motion practice

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- Represented nation-wide contractor in its capacity as indemnitor of a performance bond in warranty claim dispute related to a large, commercial solar photovoltaic array



- Obtained favorable verdict following federal court trial on behalf of estate beneficiary in matter against estate's fiduciary involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty and tortious interference with inheritance
- Represented prosthetic limb manufacturer at trial against former Connecticut-based affiliate involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract and violations of CUTPA that resulted in verdict in client's favor on all counts
- Represented estate beneficiaries in complex, multi-jurisdictional federal, state and probate court proceedings involving late mother's estate that resulted in favorable settlement following extensive court proceedings and discovery
- Secured favorable settlement of claims arising from the design, construction and installation of a solar photovoltaic system on rooftop of aerospace manufacturing company after extensive investigation, discovery, expert analysis and mediation
- Represented Connecticut state official in internal investigation involving allegations of sex and gender discrimination asserted by former state employee
- Regularly defends employers in state and federal courts and before administrative agencies against claims of discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination and related issues
- Regularly counsels employers and human resource managers on wide array of employment and personnel issues, including navigating leave laws and regulations, terminations, wage and hour laws and the impact of anti-discrimination laws

Community

- Trustee, Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society, West Hartford, CT, May 2019—present
- Board Member & Counsel, Minnechaug Pool & Tennis Club, Glastonbury, CT, June 2019—present



Presentations

- Speaker, “Fundamentals Of Construction Contracts & Litigation,” New York State Bar Association, June 23, 2021
- *When Privacy Rules and Subpoenas Intersect: A Primer on Health Care Privacy Laws and Practical Tips for Responding to Subpoenas and Other Legal Processes*, Alliance for Non-Profit Growth and Opportunity HR Forum, May 25, 2016 (Presentation)

Publications

- *Recent Changes to Connecticut’s Sexual Harassment Training Law and FMLA*, Client Alert, August 2019
- *New Development Affecting CT Connecticut Employers*, Client Alert, January 2019
- *Patients Now May Sue Physicians for Breaching Physician-Patient Confidentiality*, Client Alert, January 2018
- *Implementing Summer Dress Code Policies in the Workplace*, Client Alert, July 2017
- *The NLRB Is Policing Social Media Policies*, CT Law Tribune, April 27, 2015
- *EEOC Updates Enforcement Guidance on Pregnancy-Related Issues*, Client Alert, July 2014
- *An Attempt to Tame Bully Bosses*, CT Law Tribune, April 28, 2008