

Peter C. Lenart

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Experience

Peter Lenart is a senior litigation associate in the Professional Practices and Environmental Practices Groups at Donovan Hatem LLP. He is active in managing litigation for Donovan Hatem’s design professional and business clientele in both Massachusetts and Florida.

In addition to his many years of experience in representing architects, engineers, surveyors, project owners, and Performing Party Groups in complex commercial matters, Peter possesses extensive litigation experience in the diverse fields of criminal law, employment and civil rights law, aviation litigation, environmental and contaminated site remediation cost recovery actions, and the defense of catastrophic injury and wrongful death matters.

Peter served in the Disability Rights Section, Civil Rights Division, of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. where he enforced the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). In 1997, following then Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Deval Patrick’s departure from government service to private practice, Peter was awarded a Letter of Commendation from Acting Assistant Attorney General Isabelle Katz Pinzler in recognition of his service to the Department. Peter’s experience in enforcing the U.S. disability law is frequently called upon to assist the firm’s design professional clients in responding to issues involving both the ADA and the Fair Housing Act.

Peter also served the people of the State of Florida as an Assistant State Attorney in Florida's Eleventh Judicial Circuit (Miami-Dade County). As a line prosecutor he tried domestic violence matters, drug cases, juvenile prosecutions, thefts, robberies and had prosecutorial responsibility for all felony levels having up to a life sentence as potential punishment. In light of his can-do attitude and his passion for victim advocacy, one Circuit Court Bailiff nicknamed him “RoboCop.”

Peter began litigating aviation matters in 2000, and went on to represent major domestic and international air carriers in accident cases across the country. He also represented premier general aviation aircraft and component manufacturers in suits for injury or death in federal multi-district litigation, and in state and federal court commercial litigation.

Peter has investigated and defended environmental matters in several New England states. He was also successful in winning a nearly two million dollar judgment in an environmental cost recovery action in Worcester Superior Court in 2008. Peter served as the matter’s lead trial counsel, and opposed an attorney who had been involved in litigating the matter throughout the course of the case’s more than twenty year procedural history.

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(Peter C. Lenart, continued)

Admitted to Practice

- Massachusetts
- Florida
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts

Education

- The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law (J.D., 1994)
- The Catholic University of America (B.A., Double Major of History and Politics, *cum laude*, 1990)

Recent Articles and Publications

Indemnification—A Contractual Sword and Shield: Tips on How to Enter Into Contracts Which Leave Design Professionals Well Armed and Well Protected, The Design and Construction Management Professional Reporter, June 2010

Contributing Author, *Chapter 4: Architect-Engineer Contracting*, Federal Government Construction Contracts, Editors: Adrian L. Bastianelli III, Andrew D. Ness, Joseph D. West, published by American Bar Association, 2010.

RFIs and Shop Drawings: How to Manage Risk and Reduce Liability, co-authored with David Hatem, partner at Donovan Hatem LLP, STRUCTURE Magazine, March 2010.

Florida Court of Appeals Further Restricts Applicability of Limitation of Liability Provisions in Professional Service Contracts, The Design and Construction Management Professional Reporter, February 2010.

United States Court of Federal Claims Finds No Breach of Implied Warranty, The Design and Construction Management Professional Reporter, January 2008.

Published in AIG Aviation Helicopter Loss Control & Litigation Newsletter, Article regarding V-22 Osprey Tiltrotor Aircraft

Community Involvement

- Habitat for Humanity