

Matthew J. DeVries

Partner

Nashville, TN
(615) 724-3235
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“Whether contract negotiation, claims preparation, or litigation, Matt is our go-to advocate.”

After working more than 15 years as a construction attorney in Nashville and Washington, D.C., Matt DeVries joined Burr & Forman to lead the firm’s construction and sports/entertainment presence in Tennessee. Matt is a hybrid attorney—a seasoned litigator who also spends a significant amount of time drafting contracts. While most of his experience lies in construction, a growing part of his practice involves representing artists and talent in the sports and entertainment industries. In this role, he provides guidance and experience in contract negotiations, insurance disputes, intellectual property matters, and general business litigation. Matt effectively balances both areas of law, leveraging his wide range of skill sets to serve his eclectic roster of clients and sophisticated contractors and developers.

Matt is the founder of the nationally recognized construction-related blog www.bestpracticesconstructionlaw.com, which focuses on lessons learned, technology, project management, and legal trends in the construction industry. Outside of work, Matt is a single father of seven children and writes about family, work, and life balance at www.thesameasyou.com.

Matt earned his J.D. from the University of Richmond School of Law and his B.S. in Political Science from American University. Prior to entering private practice, Matt clerked for the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia. He has also worked on Capitol Hill for U.S. Senator Pete Domenici (NM).

CAPABILITIES

Commercial Litigation
Construction & Project Development
Employment Litigation
Labor & Employment
Sports & Entertainment

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Richmond School of Law
B.S., American University

LICENSED IN

Tennessee
Virginia

ADMITTED IN

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
U.S. Court of Federal Claims
U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. District Court - District of

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Honors & Recognition

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Construction Law since 2013, Litigation - Construction since 2021
- Fellows of the Construction Lawyers Society of America (2017)
- JD Supra's Readers' Choice Award, Construction Law Recipient (2016-2021, 2023)
- *Mid-South Super Lawyers*, "Rising Star" (2011)
- *Engineering News-Record*, "Top Up-and-Coming Leader Under 40, " South Central Region, Construction Law (2011)
- *Nashville Business Journal*, "Commercial Real Estate Most Valuable Player" Award in the Professional Services Category (2010)

News

- Best Lawyers® 2024 Honors 242 Burr Attorneys, Including 17 "Lawyers of the Year"
Firm News, 08.17.2023
- Burr & Forman Attorneys Named Top Authors on JD Supra's 2021 Readers' Choice Awards
Firm News, 04.01.2021
- Burr & Forman's Matt DeVries and Erik Doerring Recognized in JD Supra's 2020 Readers' Choice Awards
Firm News, 04.29.2020
- Burr & Forman's Matt DeVries and Erik Doerring Recognized in JD Supra's 2019 Readers' Choice Awards
Firm News, 03.27.2019
- Burr & Forman's Matt DeVries and Jerry Taylor Recognized in JD Supra's 2018 Readers' Choice Awards
Firm News, 03.19.2018

Speaking Engagements

- Presenter, "Contractor Beware: Avoiding Legal Pitfalls in the New Year," The Associated General Contractors Of Tennessee
Speaking Engagement, 01.27.2021
- Presenter, "Huh? Ugh! LOL: The Top Ten-tions of Construction Law and Contracts," Professional Constructor Central
Speaking Engagement, 12.15.2020

Columbia

U.S. District Court - Eastern District of Tennessee

U.S. District Court - Middle District of Tennessee

U.S. District Court - Western District of Tennessee

U.S. District Court - Eastern District of Virginia

Matthew J. DeVries

- Presenter, Webinar: Tennessee Construction Law Speaking Engagement, 10.26.2020
- Speaker, Associated General Contractors' Contractor Development WebEd Series Speaking Engagement, 11.02.2017
- Speaker, Associated General Contractors of Tennessee 2017 Annual Convention Speaking Engagement, Sandestin Resort; Sandestin, FL, 10.04.2017

Articles

- "The Next Chapter of COVID-19 for Contractors," *The Tennessee Contractor* Articles / Publications, 06.22.2020
- "Practical Tips for Contractors Addressing COVID-19," *Construction Executive* Articles / Publications, 06.03.2020
- *The Practical Lawyer: FIND YOUR WHY: THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN WORK AND LIFE* Articles / Publications, 02.06.2020
- Standardized Contracts: Streamlining Projects in Today's Fast-Paced Construction Market Articles / Publications, 07.11.2018
- *Construction Executive: Manage Productivity Losses Using Adequate Recordkeeping* Articles / Publications, 10.03.2017

Professional Activities

- AGC of Tennessee, Board Member