

LINKHORST & HOCKIN, P.A.

Attorneys at Law

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FIRM PROFILE

Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A., is an AV-Rated boutique law firm whose primary practice is in the area of construction law and litigation. Linkhorst & Hockin is rated as a Preeminent Law Firm in the area of Construction Law by the Martindale Hubbell Bar Register. The firm's two partners, Adam C. Linkhorst, Esquire, and John A. Hockin, Esquire, are both Board Certified by the Florida Bar in the area of Construction Law. This is a distinction held by few attorneys in the State of Florida.

Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A., represents various parties in construction disputes, including both public and private owners including condominium and homeowners associations, general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, design professionals and sureties in all types of disputes including, but not limited to, 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 & Hockin, P.A. has significant experience in representing parties in transactional construction law, such as the drafting, review and negotiation of construction contracts and other types of construction industry documentation including payment and performance bonds. Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. also practices in the area of general commercial litigation, which means that Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. represent parties involved with business oriented disputes.

Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. 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, economical and cost efficient manner. In order to achieve this, Linkhorst & Hockin 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. In addition, the firm recognizes the efficacy of alternative dispute resolution as an effective technique and frequently utilizes mediation and arbitration as methods of resolving disputes. In short, Linkhorst & Hockin endeavors to provide representation in a manner which caters to the needs and goals of each individual client.

As a vital member of Florida's construction industry, Linkhorst & Hockin 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), Treasure Coast Builders Association (TCBA), Underground Contractors Association of South Florida (UCA), Engineering Contractors Association of South Florida (ECA), American Institute of Architects (AIA), Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA), Florida Surety Association (FSA), Florida Transportation Builders Association (FTBA), the Reconstructing Lives Foundation, ACE Mentorship of Palm Beach and Martin Counties and Construction Angels. In addition, the individual members of the firm are members of various legal based construction organizations,

including the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry and Construction Law subcommittee of the Florida Bar Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section and Palm Beach County Bar Association Construction Law Committee.

Both Mr. Linkhorst and Mr. Hockin have frequently lectured on various construction law topics for construction trade groups, educational organizations, and legal organizations, including the Broward County Bar Association, the Florida Bar and Florida International University's Construction Management Department. The topics of their lectures have included construction lien law and payment bond issues, understanding and negotiating construction contracts, bid protests, delay and scheduling claims, licensing requirements, and alternative dispute resolution Building Information Modeling (BIM) contracting and liability issues, and various other topics relating to construction law.

ATTORNEY PROFILES

ADAM C. LINKHORST, ESQUIRE, is the managing partner of Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. He was among the first class of attorneys in the State of Florida to become Board Certified by the Florida Bar 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. In addition, Mr. Linkhorst has significant experience in the transactional area of construction law and has drafted, reviewed 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 as well as the United States District Courts for the Southern 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 also served as Chief Justice of the Honor Court.

Mr. Linkhorst previously 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), Engineering Contractors Association of South Florida (ECA), Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA) (past board member of the South Florida Chapter), Construction Association of South Florida (CASF), Florida Transportation Builders Association (FTBA), and Florida Surety Association (FSA).

In 2009, Chambers and Partners (international attorney rating service) stated that: "Adam Linkhorst has set up a remarkable construction practice with Linkhorst & Hockin 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 was identified as a Super Lawyer for 2009 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 and Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A.'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 is 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 is 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. Whether a tragic accident has left the individual wheelchair bound, a natural disaster has devastated their home or an illness has created a specialized need. Reconstructing Lives and its partners are devoted to making the life transition easier.

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.

JOHN A. HOCKIN, ESQUIRE, is a partner in the firm of Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. He was among the first class of attorneys in the State of Florida to become Board Certified by the Florida Bar in the area of Construction Law in 2005, when that specialty area first became recognized by the Florida Bar. Mr. Hockin graduated *cum laude* from the University of Scranton in 1996 with a bachelor of science in political science and history and a minor in Spanish and *cum laude* from the University of Miami - School of Law in 1999. Mr. Hockin is certified to practice law in all state courts in Florida and Georgia, as well as the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Mr. Hockin has represented various public owners in construction disputes, including the City of Delray Beach, Florida, the School Board of Broward County, Florida, the School District of Palm Beach County, Florida, the Town of Golden Beach, Florida and the Healthcare District of Palm Beach County. In addition, Mr. Hockin has represented various other parties in construction disputes, including private owners, general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, design professionals and sureties in construction disputes, including bid protests, lien

foreclosure issues, payment and performance bond issues, construction defect litigation and other related issues. In addition, Mr. Hockin has significant experience in drafting and reviewing construction contracts, on both public and private projects.

Mr. Hockin is actively involved with several construction trade organizations, including the Treasure Coast Builders Association (TCBA), where he serves as a Special Advisor to the Board of Directors. In addition, Mr. Hockin is a frequent lecturer on construction law issues for various Continuing Legal Education panels, such as Lorman and Sterling Educational Services. The topics upon which Mr. Hockin has lectured include bid protests, payment and performance bond issues, construction defect law and other related issues.

Mr. Hockin was selected as a 2013 Super Lawyers Rising Star in the areas of construction and surety law. Mr. Hockin was also selected as a 2013 American Registry Florida Outstanding Young Lawyer in the areas of construction and surety law.

KELLY ROSE BENNETT, ESQUIRE, is an associate in the firm of Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. She graduated from the University of Florida with honors in 2004 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and a minor in secondary education. Mrs. Bennett graduated from the University of Florida - Levin College of Law in 2007. She is admitted to practice in all state courts of Florida as well as the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Mrs. Bennett has extensive litigation experience in both civil and criminal courts. Prior to her employment at Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A., Mrs. Bennett was an associate attorney at a state-wide insurance defense firm practicing in workers' compensation, real estate law, property insurance coverage, family law, and criminal defense. Mrs. Bennett also worked as a civil defense attorney for the Office of Regional Conflict Counsel in West Palm Beach, Florida and as a criminal defense attorney with the Office of the Public Defender in Orlando, Florida.

MALINDA R. LINKHORST, ESQUIRE, is an associate in the firm of Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. She graduated from the State University of New York at Albany in 1992 and a Juris Doctorate degree from Nova Southeastern University in 1995. She is admitted to practice before all state courts in Florida.

While in law school, Mrs. Linkhorst was an active member of the Moot Court Society. Prior to her employment with Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A., Mrs. Linkhorst was a criminal defense attorney with the Office of the Public Defender in Broward County, Florida and has extensive litigation experience.