



Christine D. Barker

PARTNER

Irvine

949.255.6985

cbarker@grsm.com

RELATED SERVICES

- Construction
- Construction Professionals
- Government Contracts

OFFICES

- Irvine
- Los Angeles

OVERVIEW

Christine Barker is the Co-Managing Partner of the firm's Orange County office, bringing a wealth of legal experience to her role. With a strong background in general and complex matters, she specializes in construction law and toxic torts. Notably, Christine has guided various stakeholders—owners, general contractors, design professionals, and subcontractors—through every stage of projects, offering invaluable counsel on contract negotiations, project design, and construction.

In a recent case, Christine provided crucial support to a start-up navigating the licensing, design, contracting, and construction of private power plants for commercial enterprises. Throughout the construction phase, she adeptly handles change order disputes, delay issues, defect claims, and implements construction remedies like mechanics liens and performance/payment bond claims.

She also brings considerable expertise in tort law, particularly in defending massage therapists against claims of sexual assault and inappropriate behavior. With a focus on providing robust legal defense,

Christine has successfully represented massage therapists facing such allegations, ensuring fair treatment and protecting their professional reputations. Her comprehensive approach includes meticulous case evaluation, strategic planning, and vigorous defense in litigation proceedings. Christine's dedication to upholding the rights of her clients extends to navigating the complexities of sensitive legal matters with empathy and discretion.

A skilled litigator, Christine excels in evaluating cases early on, developing pragmatic strategies, and delivering cost-effective solutions. She represents a diverse clientele—owners, developers, subcontractors, design professionals, real estate agents and brokers, property managers, and other professionals—in litigation, arbitration, and mediation proceedings. Her litigation prowess extends to environmental matters, where she defends clients against mold, asbestos, water, and fire damage claims, among other types of claims.

Beyond litigation, Christine boasts extensive experience in public procurement law, advising clients on bid protests, contract performance, compliance matters, and dispute resolution. Her track record includes successful representation in bid protest proceedings across various solicitation formats.

Christine's portfolio spans a wide range of projects, from commercial retail developments and luxury hotels to hospitals and pipelines. Her commitment to excellence and client advocacy sets her apart in the legal field.

PUBLICATIONS

- Author, Disappointed Bidders Can Now Sue Lowest Bidder in Public Works Project, *Construction Law Blog*, September 2015
- Author, Show Me the 998 Money – Under New California Law, Who Pays the Post-998 Expert Fees and Costs is Irrelevant, *Construction Law Blog*, August 2015
- Author, Disgorgement? But I'm a Construction Manager, Not a Contractor, June 2014
- Author, What To Do When a Private Project Owner Files for Bankruptcy, *Construction Advisory Report*, April 2014

PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter, Understanding the Construction Bidding Process, Lorman Webinar, July 2023

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- California
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California

Professional Associations

- Orange County Bar Association
 - Board for the Construction Law Section Group (Secretary/Treasurer)

Community Activities

- Mentor for Orangewood Children's Foundation
- Assistance League of Orange – Professional Auxiliary Chapter

Education

- J.D., Chapman University School of Law, 2003
- B.A., Political Science, University of California, San Diego, 2000