



Practice Areas

- Architect and Engineer Malpractice Defense
- Contract Drafting, Review and Negotiation
- Construction Law and Construction Defects
- Construction Injury Litigation
- Intellectual Property
- Real Estate E&O Liability

Sean Ryan has dedicated his career to serving design, construction and real estate professionals. In the construction sphere, he works closely with his architect, engineer and contractor clients to negotiate complex contracts, seek to mitigate potential risk and provide guidance throughout the entire project life cycle. Sean additionally represents these professionals against design and construction defect, delay, and professional liability claims and in the prosecution of fee collection cases. Outside of the courtroom, Sean actively works for the betterment of his clients and the design, construction and real estate professional community by holding presentations and authoring articles on critical issues and best practices. Sean additionally serves as General Counsel for the Society of American Registered Architects, a national organization dedicated to the betterment of architects through its motto “architect helping architect.”

Sean began his legal career as a federal law clerk with the Honorable Robert F. Kelly in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and state law clerk for the Honorable Frank T. Hazel in the Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas. He then obtained his Master of Laws degree (LLM) before serving as an attorney in the construction practice groups of two firms prior to joining Bardsley Law.

In addition to his focus on the law, Sean enjoys sports, music and international travel. While living and studying in Valparaiso, Chile several years ago, he traveled throughout South America. Later during his legal studies, Sean explored Europe with the University of Miami School of Law’s semester abroad program. Sean’s favorite journey, however, might be to the Final Four. A proud graduate of Villanova University and devoted Wildcats basketball fan, he attended both of his alma mater’s championships in 2016 and 2018.

Sean and his wife, Amy, daughter, Ella, and dog, Reilly, live in Broomall, Pennsylvania.

Education

- Widener University
School of Law, J.D., 2009
- The George Washington
University Law School,
LL.M. 2010 (National
Security and U.S. Foreign
Relations Law)
- Villanova University, B.S.
Business Administration,
2004
- Pontificia Universidad
Católica de Valparaíso,
Chile, 2006 (Latin
American Studies
Certificate)

Bar Admissions

- Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania, 2009
- United States District
Court, Eastern District of
Pennsylvania, 2017
- United States District
Court, Middle District of
Pennsylvania, 2021
- State of New Jersey,
2015
- United States Court of
Appeals for the Third
Circuit, 2023

Representative Cases

- *Ristenbatt v. Western Glass Supply, Inc.*, 2021 U.S. Dist. Lexis 151059 (M.D. Pa. Aug. 9, 2021): Obtained dismissal in products liability action alleging significant personal injuries against client.
- *Haslam v. Greenpointe Construction, Inc.*, No. 190402261 (Phila. Ct. of Com. Pls. Oct. 7, 2021): Obtained summary judgment dismissing all claims against architect client in litigation involving significant construction defect and water infiltration damages.
- *Utermohlen v. Douglass Village, LLC*, No. 22-03065 (Berks Co. Ct. of Com. Pls. Aug. 15, 2022) and *Toroney v. Douglass Village, LLC*, No. 22-03883 (Berks Co. Ct. of Com. Pls. Aug. 15, 2022): Obtained dismissal of real estate agent client in separate litigations via granting of preliminary objections as to claims for violation of the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, Fraudulent Misrepresentation and Negligent Misrepresentation.
- *Commonwealth Realty Co. LLC v. Thompson Masonry Contracting Co., Inc.*, No. 2020-C-0683 (Lehigh Ct. of Com. Pls. Oct. 14, 2022): Obtained summary judgment dismissing all claims against engineering firm client from claims for substantial damages related to water infiltration.
- *Kowalski v. Murphy*, No. 2021-05489-RC (Chester Co. Ct. of Com. Pls. Mar. 20, 2023): Obtained summary judgment dismissing claims against real estate agent client alleging negligence and violations of the Real Estate Seller Disclosure Law.

Publications

- Everything Under the Sun: Strategies for Protecting Design Professionals from Claims Arising from Solar Panels
- Strategies for Minimizing Risk and Protecting Design Professionals from The Rising Occurrence of ADA and FHA Claims
- Helpful Tips for Assessing and Navigating the Risks Inherent in Being the Successor Design Professional on a Project
- The Importance of Contractual Termination Provisions
The Importance of Copyright Protections to the Design Professional: A Case Study

Affiliations

- Villanova University Alumni Association, Member
- Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (“CLM”), Member
- Society of American Registered Architects (“SARA”), General Counsel and Affiliate’s Board Member
- Professional Liability Underwriting Society (“PLUS”), Member

Awards

- The Best Lawyers®: Ones to Watch (Construction Litigation, Construction Law, Product Liability Litigation - Defendants), 2021 – present
- Marquis Who’s Who in America

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