## James M. Kobayashi

**ATTORNEY** 

FINCH THORNTON BAIRD

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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James (Jamie) Kobayashi represents clients in business and commercial litigation matters, claims and disputes, and mechanic's liens. The firm's clients include general and design-build contractors, subcontractors of large-scale public and private works, suppliers, sureties, and an interesting mix of small businesses.

## PRIVATE/PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT CLAIMS

In disputes between general contractors and owners, unforeseen conditions changing the nature of the work required, invariably result in the need for owner-approved change orders. General contractors and subcontractors also clash over responsibility for delay, disruption, and inefficiencies experienced on projects. Jamie understands these issues and how to help solve them. He also knows to consider client priorities when contemplating dispute resolutions, such as the client's desire to maintain business relationships or gain new work.

## MECHANIC'S LIEN, STOP PAYMENT NOTICE, AND BOND CLAIMS

The need for fair and prompt resolution of payment claims are regular occurrences for general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, and sureties. Each has their own set of priorities, too. To make sense of it all, demands knowledge of the statutory requirements for making claims and the provisions that allow for withholding funds when appropriate. Fully understanding the details of claims brought against the firm clients is imperative. From aggressively fighting trumped-up or illegitimate claims, to getting subcontractors and suppliers paid, to ensuring equitable distribution of claims among the surety or co-sureties, Jamie provides valuable assistance to accomplish client goals.

#### **GENERAL LITIGATION**

For businesses and individuals, Jamie assists in delivering legal counsel, practical advice, and aggressive representation to general litigation matters. These include product and services contract issues, home construction disputes, real property and business

### **PRACTICES**

- □ Construction Law
  - Claims & Disputes
  - Local Agency, Municipal
    & State Contracts
  - Federal Procurement & Claims
  - Prime Contracts & Subcontracts
  - Real Estate
  - Corporate
- □ Business & Commercial Litigation
- □ Business & Commercial Transactions

#### **ADMISSIONS**

□ California: State Courts

#### **EDUCATION**

- □ Boston College Law School, J.D.
- □ Loyola Marymount University, B.B.A., Marketing

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property rights, and more. Again, Jamie's ability to adapt arguments for novel factual circumstances benefit our clients' interests. Pre-litigation resolution of claims helps to minimize the duration and cost of legal services necessary. Clients maintain their rightful property rights, while illegitimate claims are most often dismissed or settled.

## **EXPERIENCE**

- Construction litigation
- Public and private works disputes
- Mechanic's liens, stop payment notices, and payment bond claims
- Delay, inefficiency, and extra work claims
- Subcontractor default issues
- Commercial sales
- General business litigation
- Land use, planning, and development issues