



Jessica L. Sharron

Counsel

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Related Services

Litigation ■ Construction ■ Government Contracts ■ A/E/C Industry Investigations and Enforcement Team ■ Commercial Construction ■ Administrative Law

Jessica Sharron is counsel in Alston & Bird's Construction and Government Contracts Group. In Jessica's government contracts practice, she represents government contractors across a variety of industries, including health care, banking, telecommunications, and construction in all aspects of the government-contractor relationship. Jessica advises clients on compliance with federal, state, and local procurement rules and regulations, including the Federal Acquisition Regulation, agency supplements, and state equivalent rules. She handles adversary proceedings such as pre- and post-award bid protests before state and local agencies and the Government Accountability Office, breach of contract claims including under the Contract Disputes Act, False Claims Act litigation, and government investigations. Jessica's experience also includes advising clients on the Freedom of Information Act and similar state laws, negotiating government prime contracts and subcontracts, providing counseling on General Services Administration and U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs FSS schedule contracts, and serving as special counsel in M&A transactions involving government contractors.

In Jessica's construction practice, she represents owners, developers, and contractors in both litigation and transactional matters relating to public and commercial construction projects. Her experience includes drafting and negotiating construction contracts, and litigating contract disputes and construction claims involving professional negligence, delays, disruptions, changed conditions, prevailing wage issues, and contract terminations.

Representative Experience

Government Contracts

- Advising clients across a variety of industries such as hospitality, manufacturing, real estate development and management, health care, and retail on the CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program, including evaluating eligibility requirements, restrictions, exclusions, and forgiveness.
- Counsel to one of the nation's largest health care insurers on state procurement matters, state bid protests, and open records litigation in more than a dozen states.
- Specialty government contracts counsel to myriad buyers and sellers in M&A transactions involving the purchase and sale of government contracts and/or government contractors.
- Represented a major U.S. financial institution in the resolution of a Court of Federal Claims action to recover \$14 million in damages arising out of a financial services contract with the Department of Defense.
- Represented a health care distributor in compliance and pricing issues related to its contracts with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Defense Logistics Agency, and other federal agencies under the FSS and ECAT programs.

- Represented a medical supply manufacturer related to the development of its internal policy manual on compliance with domestic source restrictions in federal contracts.
- Represented a large IT information technology company in a General Services Administration Office of Inspector General GSA Schedule 70 audit and advocated for the dismissal of the government's demand for payment.
- Represented four technology companies sued under the False Claims Act for alleged violations of certain domestic source restrictions; the suits were dismissed with prejudice after pre-answer motions.

Construction

- Outside construction counsel to the developer/owner/operator of several private-member social clubs and co-working spaces in Los Angeles, Miami, Austin, Washington, D.C., and New York.
- Represented an Asian utility in a \$400 million ICC arbitration arising out of the construction of a nuclear power generating facility.
- Counsel to a luxury residential developer on projects located in various cities around the country, including Atlanta, Boston, Oakland, San Diego, and Oceanside, CA.
- Represented the owner in litigation against a general contractor in the renovation of property in West Hollywood, CA.
- Counsel to an Engineering News-Record top 10 contractor in connection with the grading and structural work package for the new home stadium for the Los Angeles Rams and Los Angeles Chargers NFL teams.
- Represented a large general contractor in a public records dispute with the Washington State Attorney General involving information related to public projects.

Publications & Presentations

Publications

- "Coping with Chinese Telecom Ban's Unclear Requirements," *Law360*, August 19, 2020.
- "Government Contractors May See Changes in Cybersecurity and IT Procurement," *Cyberspace Lawyer*, Vol. 22, No. 8, September 2017.
- "Policing Breach of Contract with Fraud: Fourth Circuit Adopts Implied Certification Theory of Liability Under the FCA," *Pratt's Government Contracting Law Report*, Vol. 1, No. 3, June 2015.
- "In Wisconsin, FCA Liability May Apply to E-Rate Program," *Law360*, May 22, 2015.
- "USAC Turns Up the Heat on E-Rate Price Requirement," *Internet Telephony*, June 2014.

Professional & Community Engagement

- American Bar Association
- Design-Build Institute of America
- American Health Lawyers Association

Accolades

- Ranked nationally in *Chambers USA* for Government Contracts
- Recognized as a Southern California Rising Star in the area of Government Contracts by *Super Lawyers*
- Recognized among the "2020 Top Women Attorneys in Los Angeles" by the *Los Angeles Business Journal*

Education

- Santa Clara University (J.D., 2007)
- University of Notre Dame (B.A., 2003)

Admitted to Practice

- California