



## Joe D. Tolbert

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jtolbert@belaw.com

### Practices

Litigation

Construction Law

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### Certification

Board Certified,  
Construction Law, Texas  
Board of Legal  
Specialization

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### Education

**J.D.** Texas Tech  
University School of  
Law, 1990, *cum laude*,  
Order of the Coif

**B.S.** Texas A&M  
University, 1983, *cum  
laude*

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### Bar Admissions

State of Texas, 1990

**Joe Tolbert** has represented businesses and individuals for over 31 years. He counsels clients on a variety of business issues and has an active trial practice in the areas of commercial litigation and construction law. Throughout his career, he has protected his clients' interests when negotiating contracts and in resolving legal disputes that his individual and corporate clients experience. As part of his trial practice, he has been the lead attorney in numerous mediations, trials, and arbitrations related to business and construction disputes. Mr. Tolbert also represents homeowners' associations assisting with compliance, governance, and litigation issues.

Mr. Tolbert is Board Certified in Construction law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization- a mark of excellence and distinguishing accomplishment achieved by fewer than 100 practicing attorneys in the state of Texas. Board Certified attorneys in Construction Law are specialist in transactions and relationships among contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, owners, architects, engineers, governmental entities, insurers, sureties and lenders regarding development, design and construction on public and private projects. To achieve board certification, Mr. Tolbert was required to pass a rigorous examination and demonstrate extensive expertise and knowledge in his specialty area. He must also engage in a continuous course of study in his specialty.

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals,  
Fifth Circuit

U.S. District Court,  
Northern District of  
Texas

U.S. District Court,  
Eastern District of Texas  
U.S. District Court,  
Southern District of  
Texas

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### **Memberships**

State Bar of Texas

Fellow, Texas Bar  
Foundation

Fellow, Tarrant County  
Bar Association

Mr. Tolbert is rated AV Preeminent by *Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review* signifying the highest level of professional excellence and adherence to the highest ethical standards – a distinction achieved by fewer than 5% of attorneys nationwide.

### **Professional Recognition**

Rated AV Preeminent, *Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review*

Named Top Construction Lawyer of Tarrant County by *Fort Worth, Texas Magazine* (2001-2021)

President, Tarrant County Young Lawyers Association  
(1994)

Associate Editor, *Texas Tech Lawyer Review* (1989-1990)

### **Experience**

*Dallas/Fort Worth Intern. Airport Bd. v. Inet Airport Systems, Inc.*, 821 F.3d 643 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2016)

Successfully represented DFW Airport Board on appeal in multi-million dollar contract dispute with contractor

Represented engineering firms and owners in negotiating contracts for a wide variety of development

*Tower Residential I Condominium Association, Inc., et al. v. The Tower Master Condominium Association, Inc., et al.*, 348<sup>th</sup> District Court, Tarrant County, Texas (2012)

Successfully represented retail owners in a lawsuit brought by condominium owners relating to largest downtown Fort Worth, Texas mixed retail and condominium development

*Carlos Aguilar, et al. v. Riverbend Estates of Fort Worth Homeowners Association*, 352<sup>nd</sup> District Court, Tarrant County, Texas (2012)

Successfully represented homeowners' association in enforcing restrictions and drafting required documents

**Presentations**

*Changes to the 2017 version of the AIA-A201, Halfmoon Education, Inc.*

*Construction law, HalfMoon Education, LLC*

*Construction Management/Design Build in Texas - Contractor Liability, Lorman Education Services*

*Construction Management/Design Build in Texas - Design-Build, Lorman Education Services*

*Construction Lien Law in Texas, Lorman Education Services*

*Construction Lien Law in Texas, Lorman Education Services*

*Construction Lien Law in Texas, Lorman Education Services*

*Texas Construction Law, HalfMoon Education, LLC*

*Construction and Mechanics Lien Issues in the Development Process, AIA Continuing Education*

*Construction Lien Law in Texas, Lorman Education Services*

*Liens and Bonds in Development, Lorman Education Services*

*Involuntary Mechanic's Liens in Texas - Legislative Update, Nuances and Practical Aspects of Uses and Defenses, Lorman Education Services*

*Construction Management/Design Build in Texas, Lorman Education Services*

*Construction Management/Design Build in Texas, Lorman Education Services*

**Community**

Trustee, Birdville Independent School District (2006 – present)

Councilman, City of North Richland Hills (Place 6) (2000-2004)

Commissioner, Planning and Zoning Commission, City of North Richland Hills (1999-2000)

Former Chairman of the Board of Directors, Christ's Haven for Children, Inc.

Board member and former Chairman of Board of Directors, Fort Worth Teen Court, Inc.