
W&S Wright, Constable & Skeen, LLP

Attorneys At Law

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Michael A. Stover, *Partner*

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Areas of Practice

Surety & Fidelity, Construction Law, Government Contracts, Insurance Defense, Litigation,



Michael Stover joined Wright, Constable & Skeen to help lead the Surety & Fidelity law practice at the firm which has become one of the most well recognized practices regionally in the surety industry.

“I’ve known and worked with Mike for several years and have work with him on construction and surety cases. He is extremely knowledgeable, aggressive when necessary but practical when necessary to resolve cases. He is a very capable trial lawyer as well. I’ve recommended him to several of my surety clients,” said Michael Saba, Vice President of Guardian Group, Inc.

Mr. Stover practices predominately in Surety and Construction law, but is also experienced in government contracts, small business, and general litigation. He is well distinguished professionally for his work, earning recognition as a Super Lawyer in Surety Law in 2015, “The Best Lawyers in America” list for Construction Law from 2013 - 2015. He also holds the AV Preeminent 4.9 out of 5.0 Peer Review rating on Matindale-Hubbel and the highest rating on AVVO.

Mr. Stover is very active in a number of legal and professional groups and has held a variety of leadership roles. He is a Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation and a former member of the Maryland State Bar Association Board of Governors, Executive Committee and former Chair of the Young Lawyers’ Section. Regional and national memberships include the American Bar Association’s Fidelity & Surety Law Committee, Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Surety Claims Association, the Surety Claims Institute, the National Bond Claims Association, the American Bar Association and the Forum on the Construction Industry and Public Contract Law Section.

Mr. Stover is a lifelong resident of Maryland who grew up in Severna Park and studied both as an undergraduate and as a law student at the University of Maryland. He played football in high school and married his high school sweetheart. They have seven children, who naturally occupy the majority of their time spent outside of the office.

Selected Professional Affiliations

- Co-Founder, Director and Vice President, Philadelphia Surety Claims Association
- Member: American Bar Association, Torts and Insurance Law Practice Section, Fidelity and Surety Law Committee.
- Member: Surety Claims Institute
- Member: National Bond Claims Association

- Member: Maryland State Bar Association
- Former Chair Young Lawyers Section, Maryland State Bar Association
- Former Member of the Board of Governors and Executive Committee, Maryland State Bar Association
- Member: ABA Forum on the Construction Industry
- Member: ABA Public Contract Law Section

Articles/Publications/Presentations

- Co-Author: New Standards Affecting the Surety's use of Section 523 – Non-Dischargeability in Bankruptcy, Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2014.
- Contributing Author: The Bond Default Manual, 4th Ed., Chapter 4, Financing the Principal, Fidelity and Surety Law Committee of the Tort and Insurance Practice Section, American Bar Association (M. Pipkin, C. Smith, T. Vollbrecht, B. Wilcox, Eds. 2015). Presented at the ABA, FLSC Spring Meeting, La Jolla, California 2015.
- Speaker: Ethics – Joint Representation of the Surety and the Principal, presented at the ABA Mid-Winter Meeting of the Fidelity and Surety Law Committee, New York 2014
- Panelist: The Ethics of Joint Representation of Sureties and Principals, audio webinar sponsored by the Fidelity and Surety Law Committee of the TIPS/ABA, December 2012.
- Co-Author: *Contract Funds in Escrow – Watch out for the Principal's Judgement Creditors*, Presented at the Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2012.
- Contributing Author to the Law of Commercial Surety and Miscellaneous Bonds, 2d Ed., Chapter 20, The Commercial Surety's Collateral in a Principal's Bankruptcy Case, Fidelity and Surety Law Committee of the Tort and Insurance Practice Section, American Bar Association (B. King, R. Towle and S. Arena, Jr., Eds. 2012). Presented at the ABA, FLSC Spring Meeting, Hilton Head, South Carolina 2012.
- Co-Author: The Commercial Surety's Collateral in a Principal's Bankruptcy Case, Presented at the Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2011.
- Co-Author: Current Precedent and Ethical Issues Regarding the 45 Day Provision in the AIA A-312 Payment Bond, Presented at the Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2010.
- Author: Do You Have Trust Issues? The Surety's Use of Trust Fund Rights in Bankruptcy, Surety Claims Institute 2009.
- Co-Author: Federal and State Regulatory Structures for Public-Private Partnerships, Presented at the ABA Mid-Winter Meeting of the Fidelity and Surety Law Committee, New York 2009.
- Co-Presenter: Hot Topics For The Performance Bond Surety, Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2008.
- Co-Author: Fundamentals of Electronic Discovery and the New Federal Rules, Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2007.
- The Surety's Reservation of Rights, Presented at the Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2006.
- Salvage Investigation – Resources and Options, Presented at the Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2005.
- Look Who's Bringing Home The Bacon – How Recent Decisions Interpreting the Davis-Bacon Act Can Negatively Affect The Surety, Presented at the Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 2003.
- Discovery of Electronic Information, MSBA Bar Journal 1999.
- Perils and Pitfalls in Payment Bond Claims, A Discussion of Unusual Case Law, Presented at the Northeast Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference, New Jersey 1997.

Recognitions

- Listed in **The Best Lawyers in America®**, for Construction Law, 2013-2016
- **Maryland Super Lawyers®** 2015
- **Martindale-Hubbell's** 2014 Washington D.C. & Baltimore's Top Rated Lawyer
- **AV Peer Review Rated, Martindale-Hubbell** 4.9 out of 5.0

Education

- University of Maryland School of Law, J.D. 1991, with honors
- University of Maryland, B.S. 1987

Bar Admissions

- **State Courts:**
 - Maryland
- **Federal Courts:**
 - U.S. Court of Federal Claims
 - U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
 - U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
 - U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland