



## JOSEPH P. ASSELTA

*Forchelli Deegan  
Terrana LLP*

Joseph P. Asselta is a partner at Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP and chair of the firm's Construction Law Practice Group.

Asselta represents clients in all segments of the construction industry including owners, developers, financial institutions, design professionals, general contractors, construction managers, government contractors, trade contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, equipment rental companies, and insurers and sureties, on both public and private projects.

He has prosecuted and defended numerous small and multimillion-dollar claims relating to non-payment, extra work, delays, changed and unforeseen conditions, design and construction defects, defaults, terminations, mechanic's liens, prevailing wages and project labor issues, and insurance coverage and performance and payment bonds, in both state and federal courts and administrative agencies, arbitration, and mediation.

A significant portion of Asselta's practice includes the review, drafting, and negotiation of construction contracts and related project documents. He also listens to his clients' issues and concerns and counsels them on practical, cost-saving strategies to avoid and resolve disputes during their projects.

Asselta also provides his clients with representation and advice in connection with their corporate, commercial, real estate and insurance needs.

"As the Coronavirus pandemic will clearly continue into 2021, a property owner who hires a construction contractor should ensure that its contract contains language dealing specifically with how work is to pro-

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*in  
Commercial & Residential Real  
Estate Law  
and  
Forensic Accounting*



ceed under the current health threat and generally with how pandemics are to be handled," Asselta said. "The contract should incorporate COVID-19 safety protocols governing the performance of physical work and the contractor should acknowledge that it has factored those protocols (and others which are reasonably anticipatable) into its contract price."

"In addition, in the event of another future shutdown or partial shutdown due to COVID-19 or some other pandemic, the agreement should spell out exactly what happens and whether the contractor can claim an extension of time and/or additional costs from the owner," he said.

Prior to joining the firm, Asselta was co-managing partner of Agovino & Asselta, LLP.

He is a graduate, cum laude, of St. John's University School of Law. He earned a bachelor's degree, cum laude, from Georgetown University and attended Phillips (Andover) Academy.

Asselta is admitted to practice in New York and Massachusetts and has received permission to appear pro hac vice on behalf of clients in New Jersey.

He is a member of many professional organizations including the Nassau County Bar Association; New York State Bar Association, Real Property Law Section; New York State Bar Association, Committee on Real Estate Construction; New York State Bar Association's Construction and Surety Law Division and the American Bar Association, Construction Law Forum and Fidelity and Surety Law Committee.

Founded in 1976, Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP is one of Long Island's largest and most distinguished law firms. Headquartered in Uniondale, the firm employs 60+ attorneys across more than a dozen practice groups. The firm is committed to providing exceptional service to a broad range of national, regional and local clients.