



**JEFFREY A. SYKES**

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Jeffrey A. Sykes assists clients nationally including public and private owners, public utilities, a state commerce commission, designers, construction managers, developers and major contractors including EPC contractors. He is both a transactional lawyer and a litigator.

As a transactional lawyer, clients benefit from his construction litigation experience. His understanding of the construction industry and how disputes arise allow clients to avoid or economically resolve disputes through appropriate contract provisions. He has drafted and negotiated many types of design and construction contracts. His contracts are scaled to project size, fairly allocate risk, provide for dispute avoidance and early dispute resolution and align the interests of project stake holders to promote project success. Project values have ranged from several million dollars to several billion dollars.

As a litigator, clients benefit from his cost effective strategies. He focuses on his clients' goals, develops an early and thorough understanding of the issues and proactively manages case staffing, activities and budget. He also pursues innovative approaches to early resolution when possible. Claim amounts have ranged from several million dollars to over \$500 million.

Mr. Sykes has litigated disputes concerning terminations for convenience and for default, design errors and omissions, deficient construction, differing site conditions, delay, disruption, acceleration, loss of productivity, cumulative impact and cardinal change. Other matters have included bid protests, warranty rights, liens and stop notices, claims against sureties and insurance carriers and the prosecution of claims under both the California and federal Civil False Claims Acts.

Mr. Sykes' project experience includes power plants (nuclear, coal, gas, biomass and renewable), process plants, wastewater and water treatment plants, manufacturing facilities, international airports, a major highway project, hospitals, detention and court facilities, telecommunication systems, university and public housing, high rise buildings, a convention center, sports complexes and other special purpose buildings.

Mr. Sykes has lectured throughout the country and abroad on topics relevant to the construction industry and has provided in-house claims and project management training for public and private clients. He is ranked as a leading California construction lawyer by *Chambers USA*, is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Construction Law) and is included on the Northern California *Super Lawyers* list.

Mr. Sykes earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from The Ohio State University College of Law in 1977 and his B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Kent State University in 1974. He is admitted to the State Bar of California and to all federal courts in California.