

Introduction

The Construction and Public Contracts Law Section

WILLIAM R. MAUCK, JR.

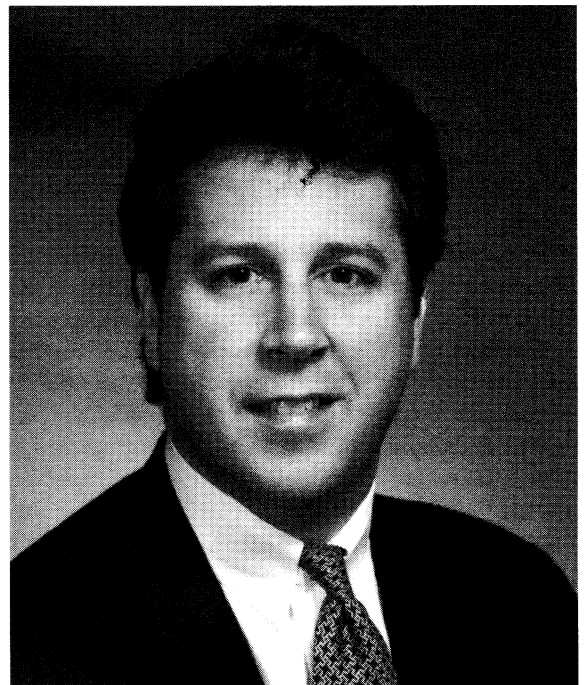
THE Construction and Public Contracts Law Section is one of the newer substantive law sections of The Virginia Bar Association, but in its short history, it has grown to include nearly 150 members.

Founded in 1992, the Section, like other substantive law sections of the VBA, works to monitor, initiate and promote legislation which affects the construction industry and matters of public contracts law. Since its inception, the Section has considered a number of legislative proposals and can claim credit for the passage or modification of several statutes in areas of professional licensing, right to arbitration and public procurement. At the conclusion of each session of the General Assembly, the Section produces a summary of all legislation concerning issues of importance to our members which was acted upon during the session.

In addition to legislative initiatives, the Section presents an annual continuing legal education seminar, usually held each winter at the Annual Meeting of the VBA in Williamsburg. This past January, the Section presented, in conjunction with the Real Estate Law Section, a timely, informative and well-attended presentation on the 1997 Edition of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Form A201, the keystone of the AIA form contract documents.

With this issue of the *VBA Journal*, devoted entirely to articles dedicated to issues arising in construction and public contracts law, the Section adds to its list of accomplishments. This issue represents the first time in recent years when the *VBA Journal* has focused on a particular practice area for an entire issue. And while practitioners in the areas of construction and public contracts will undoubtedly find this issue valuable, the articles which follow should also be of interest to the general readership of the *VBA Journal*.

The Section is continuing to strive for increased membership and greater involvement in its activities. Membership in the Section can be obtained by sending \$15.00 to The Virginia Bar Association, 701 East Franklin Street, Suite 1120, Richmond, Virginia 23219.



William R. Mauck, Jr., is a shareholder in the law firm of Williams, Mullen, Christian & Dobbins in Richmond, where his practice in civil litigation consists primarily of construction claims and disputes. He has been chairman of the Construction and Public Contracts Law Section of The Virginia Bar Association since 1996. Mr. Mauck received both his undergraduate and law degrees from Washington and Lee University.