Gretchen is Of Counsel in the firm’s Construction and Public Contracts department. She concentrates her practice in construction law and design professional liability.

As a civil engineer with hands-on experience in complex construction projects, Gretchen understands the technical intricacies of construction-related claims, and also appreciates the non-technical concerns of clients faced with such claims.

Her practice involves construction-related claims and litigation on both publicly- and privately-funded construction projects, as well as design professional liability related to construction. She has experience reviewing and negotiating contracts with an eye for minimizing liability for clients and devising solutions to issues that arise during construction. In the event disputes cannot be avoided, Gretchen can provide assistance preparing claims on both public and private contracts; when necessary, litigating, arbitrating, or mediating those claims; and collecting any resulting judgments.

In addition to her experience with the core issues affecting construction projects, Gretchen is familiar with important secondary concerns faced by contractor and design professional clients, including: obtaining and maintaining licensure with the contractor and design professional licensing boards under Virginia’s Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation and in other jurisdictions; defending against workers’ compensation claims brought before the Virginia Workers Compensation Commission and the United States Department of Labor; and complying with the federally-mandated E-Verify program, regarding which Gretchen has authored several articles and given presentations.

Gretchen also has helped clients apply for business development assistance from the United States Small Business Administration, including through the SBA’s 8(a) Business Development and Woman-Owned Small Business Programs.
Notable Accomplishments:

- Certified Engineer in Training ("EIT")