

# Construction Liens (OR)

A Practical Guidance® Practice Note by William Fig, Sussman Shank LLP



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This practice note provides an overview of construction lien concepts and related construction-law resources, organized around the life cycle of a lien claim in Oregon. It introduces the governing framework and outlines what types of property and improvements may be implicated, including distinctions between private projects and work associated with public or governmental interests. It identifies categories of participants who may assert lien rights—such as contractors, design professionals, and suppliers—and notes how licensing status and project context can affect eligibility. The document distinguishes residential from commercial projects and

contrasts new construction with alteration or repair, including how that distinction can influence the relative positioning of competing interests.

It also summarizes key procedural components including preliminary information and contracting requirements for certain residential work, the principal steps involved in preserving and recording a lien, and the typical information included in lien documents. Additional sections address post-recording notices, priority considerations, and the general process for enforcing a lien through foreclosure, as well as common risk areas that can impair lien claims, such as information demands, lien waivers, and joint-check practices.

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Bill is an experienced litigator who knows how to obtain practical, goal-oriented results for his construction and business clients. With over two decades of representing contractors, suppliers, and owners in Oregon and Washington, Bill has significant knowledge of the construction laws in the Pacific Northwest. And, over his career, has earned a solid reputation within the construction law bar. As the Chair of Sussman Shank LLP's Construction Group and the former Chair of the Oregon State Bar Construction Law Group, Bill is the "go to" person for all things construction, including lien and bond foreclosure actions, breach of contract claims, and construction contract review and drafting.

In addition to his construction law practice, Bill has extensive experience representing business owners in disputes of all types. Bill has successfully litigated a wide range of business matters from an employment dispute between a doctor and his employer to a dispute between owners of a cannabis company. Bill is also a member of the firm's agribusiness group and assists several Oregon agricultural supplier clients with their ag lien and account receivable collection needs and general contract drafting and review.

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