

## Michelle F. Kantor

Member

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### Practice Focus

- Government Contracting
- Federal Government Small Business Programs
- Commercial and Construction Law Litigation
- Corporate Law
- Energy
- WBE/MBE/FBE/DBE HUBZone, SBA 8(a), SDVOSB, WOSB, EDWOSB and small business Certifications & Appeals

### Professional Experience

Michelle Kantor heads up the Construction Law practice group in the Chicago office of McDonald Hopkins LLC. Michelle has more than 24 years experience practicing in government contracting, construction, mechanics' lien law and litigation. She represents prime contractors, suppliers, subcontractors, design professionals, manufacturers, fabricators, consultants and owners in all procurement and construction related matters including, Federal regulatory compliance, mechanic's liens, bid protests, warranty and design liability claims, bond claims, delay claims, payment disputes, building code violations, and other business related disputes. She also acts as general counsel to companies regarding other legal needs.

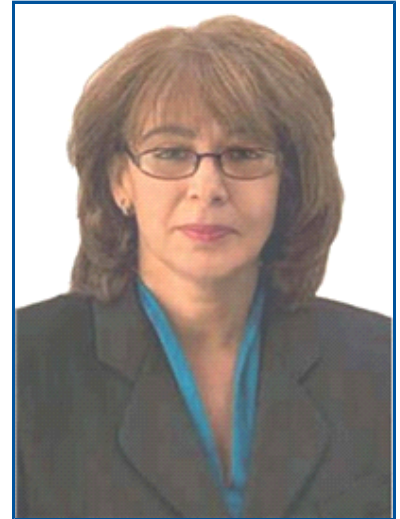
Michelle assists clients in Federal, State and local government contracting and procurement, SBA 8(a), HUBZone, SDVOSB, VOSB, WOSB & EDWOSB, MBE/DBE/WBE certifications and appeals, Federal and State government Mentor-Protégé submissions, Mentor-Protégé agreements and diversity supplier programs. Michelle prepares and negotiates Joint Venture and teaming agreements, construction and design professional agreements and other commercial and government project agreements.

Michelle formerly chaired the Construction Law Group at a prior law firm, was principal of a construction law practice and was an associate attorney in a construction litigation firm for several years and was General Counsel of a construction technology company. Michelle has also served as Deputy Director for the City of Chicago, Department of Construction and Permits and Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Buildings, Plan Examination & Permit Issuance where she managed permit issuance and was Internal Counsel for three years.

Michelle serves as General Counsel to the Federation of Women Contractors. Michelle is a graduate of the Construction Management Training Institute sponsored by Turner Construction and has been an instructor for the program since 2000. Michelle was Chairperson of the Chicago Bar Association/YLS Construction Law Committee for four years. Michelle also served on the advisory board for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Contractor Development Program, where she was also an Instructor. Michelle is also an invited member of the American Council of Engineering Companies, Legal Council Forum.

Michelle designed and implemented the training instruction for the MGM MIRAGE & Perini Building Company Las Vegas, CityCenter Project Construction & Business Management Training Program, where she was also an Instructor. She is also an arbitrator for the Cook County Court, Mechanics' Lien Arbitration program. Michelle holds a bachelor's degree from Bradley University, her law degree from Loyola University School of Law and Mediator Certification from DePaul University, Conflict Resolution Center.

Michelle's publications include Heath Care Alert: Construction Contracts for Medical Facilities 2011, McDonald Hopkins LLC Client Alert, The ABC's of Diversity Certifications & Teaming Arrangements: Opportunities for Large and Small Contractors and Suppliers, ASA Chicago Edition, Winter 2010 "Contracting with the Government", 2009 Smart Business Magazine. "Outsourcing Professional Services: Legal Issues to Consider" NAPM Chicago



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## Michelle F. Kantor

Purchaser Magazine, 2002. She is a frequent speaker at seminars, conventions, webinars & trade associations nationwide.

### Education

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- DePaul University Dispute Resolution Center, Mediation Training Certification (2001)
- Loyola University of Chicago Law School, J.D. (1987)
- Bradley University, B.A. (1981)

### State Admissions

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- Illinois

### Court Admissions

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- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois Trial Bar
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- Department of Veteran's Affairs - VA Accredited Attorney
- U.S. Federal Court of Claims, Washington D.C.

### Professional Associations

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- Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing (Member)
- Society of American Military Engineers (Member)
- HACIA - The Hispanic American Construction Industry Association
- Chicago Bar Association, Mechanics' Lien Subcommittee
- Federation of Women Contractors (General Counsel)
- Veteran and Military Business Owners Association
- Women Construction Owners & Executives (WCOE)

### Publications

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- "The ABC's of Diversity Certifications & Teaming Arrangements: Opportunities for Large and Small Contractors and Suppliers," *ASA Chicago Edition*, Winter 2010
- "Contracting with the Government," *Smart Business Magazine*, 2009
- "Structuring Construction Deals, Key Legal & Practical Issues to Address," *Inside the Minds: Aspatore Books*, 2007
- "Construction Contract Fundamentals," *Lorman Education*, May 2005
- "Outsourcing Professional Services: Legal Issues to Consider," *NAPM Chicago Purchaser Magazine*, 2002

### Presentations

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- *International Teaming and Joint Ventures*, United States and South Africa International Women's Business Conference, Chicago, October 2011
- *Teaming and Joint Ventures*, WBENC, Chicago, October 2011
- *Women-Owned Small Business Contracting Program*, WBDC, Chicago, October 2011
- *Mentor Protégé Agreements Workshop Facilitator*, SAME Great Lakes Regional Conference, October 2011
- *Joint Ventures & Federal Mentor Protégé Programs*, Veteran's Service Elite National

## Michelle F. Kantor

Convention, Chicago, July 22, 2011

- *Federal Teaming, Joint Ventures and Subcontracting Workshop 1, Federal Certifications and Audits Workshop 2, Key Federal Contracting Laws, Workshop 3, SAME Midwest Small Business Expo, March 16-17, 2011*
- *Small Business Symposium, Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), Feb. 18, 2011, Phoenix, AZ.*  
Topics presented: *New Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB) and the 8(m) Program; Small Business Set-Aside Certification Criteria and Audits; New Federal 2010 Small Business Jobs Act Presentation; Key Federal Contracting Laws that Everyone Must Know.*
- *Key Federal Acquisition Rules Relating To Procurement and Set-Aside Contracts, National Web Seminar for National Society of Professional Engineers, February 15, 2011*
- *Key Federal Acquisition Rules Relating To Procurement and Set Aside Contracts, Women Construction Owners and Executives (WCOE) Annual Conference, February 7, 2011, Washington DC*
- *Joint Ventures, Mentor/Protégé Programs & Strategic Partnerships, WBDC, Chicago, IL January 2011*
- *New Women-Owned Small Business (WOSB) SBA Rules , WBDC Chicago Dec. 2, 2010*
- *Minority, Women Business and Federal Certification & Set-Asides, Alliance for Illinois Manufacturing, Chicago, November 2010*
- *Women in the Federal Contracting Market: Strategies for Prosperity and Success, National Webcast, October 2010*
- *SDVOSB Certification Criteria and Protecting Your CVE, SDVOSB, Elite Conference, Foxwoods, Ct, August 19 2010*
- *Construction Law & Contracts, USDOT Bonding Program, Chicago, July 2010*
- *Construction Law, Contracts & Certifications, Turner Construction Management Training, Chicago, July 2010*
- *Construction Contracts & MBE/WBE/DBE Certifications, Illinois Tollway Authority Conference, May 2010*
- *Federal Government Contracting and Legal Issues, Structural Engineers Association of Illinois, February 2010*
- *Construction Law and DBE Certification Rules, Illinois Department of Transportation, February 2010*
- *Government Certification Rules– Getting Certified & Rules To Keeping Your Certifications, Annual Conference, Illinois Department of Transportation, Springfield, IL March 2010*
- *Federal and Public Government Contracting National Web Seminar Part 2, November 2009*
- *Federal Government Contracting National Web Seminar Part 1, October 2009*
- *Minority, Women and Small Business Certifications, WCOE National Convention, Las Vegas, September 2009*
- *Construction Law and Contracts Turner, Construction Management Training, Chicago, July 2009*
- *Mechanics Liens and Bonds Claims: Public and Private Projects, Federation of Women Contractors, April 2009*
- *Legal Issues for Engineers, Half-Moon Seminars, Wheaton, IL April 2009*
- *Federal and Local Government Small Business Set-Aside Programs and Certification Rules, Federation of Women Contractors, April 2009*
- *Construction Law and Contracts, Chicago Urban League. Chicago, March 2009*
- *Killer Liability Laws that Affect Contractors: Tips to Reduce Exposure World of Concrete, Las Vegas, NV February 2009*
- *Construction Law and Contracts: Protect Your Bottom Line, Illinois Department of Transportation Chicago, February 2009*
- *E-SEALS, EMAIL, AND PROJECT COLLABORATION: PROTECT YOUR DESIGNS AND DATA,*

## Michelle F. Kantor

ACEC, National Web Seminar, August 2008

- *Construction Contracts and Construction Law: Some Nuts and Bolts*, Turner Construction Management Training Program, Chicago, June 2008
- *Legal And Practical Ways To Protect Electronic Design and Documents*, Construct 2008 Convention, Las Vegas, NV June 2008
- *Drafting the Scope of Work*, BOMA Chicago, Brown Bag Lunch, June 2008
- *Negotiating Service Contracts: ISM-CV*, Greensboro, NC, June 2008
- *Construction Law and Contracts*, U.S. Department of Commerce, Contractor Model Development Program, Chicago, February 2008
- *Construction Contract Terms and Conditions: Protect Your Bottom Line!* World of Concrete, Las Vegas, Nevada, January 2008 & February 2007
- *Purchasing & Contract Writing*, NAPM-DENVER Denver, Colorado November 2007
- *Design Professional and Consulting Agreements: Key Terms & Conditions to Negotiate*, SEA01 Chicago, November 2007
- *Construction Law and Claims: The Fundamentals*, BOMA Chicago, November 2007
- *Construction Law & Contracts*, MGM Mirage and Perini Building Company, Construction and Business Management Training Program, October 18-19, 2007
- *Understanding and Negotiating Construction Contracts*, METALCON International Convention, October 2007
- *Construction Law & Dispute Resolution*, U.S Department of Commerce, Illinois Model Contractor Development Program, July 2007
- *Contract Terms & Conditions: How to Identify Risks and Avoid Disasters*, CSI Convention, LV June 2007
- *Legal Ways to Protect and Send Design and Construction Documents Electronically*, Construction Specifications Institute, June 2007
- *E-Construction, Software Licenses and Project Management Websites: Key Legal and Practical Issues*, AEC Technology Strategies Conference, June 2007
- *Design Liability and Copyright Protection: Legal Issues and Practical Tips for Engineers*, National Society of Professional Engineers, Webinar, May 2007