

News Release

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Atkinson Andelson Loya Ruud and Romo Recognized by Chambers USA

Two Top Construction Attorneys Receive Individual Rankings

CERRITOS, Calif. —Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo (“AALRR”) is pleased to announce that it has once again been included in the 2015 Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business. This prestigious guide ranks the nation’s leading firms and lawyers through a client-focused research methodology based upon thousands of interviews with clients, attorneys, and third-party experts.

AALRR was recognized as a leader in the practice area of construction, garnering a band three ranking and is identified for its strength in both the public sector and private sectors. Law firm departments are ranked on the qualities of their lawyers, in addition to the effectiveness and capability of the department as a whole – its strength and depth.

Two partners from the firm’s Irvine office were also recognized for their contributions in the construction practice. Partners [Michael J. Baker](#) and [Mary A. Salamone](#) were both named in the third band of the guide’s practitioner rankings. Individual lawyers are ranked on the basis of their legal knowledge and experience, their ability, their effectiveness, and their client-service.

Baker is a veteran trial lawyer with over two decades of experience representing public and private owners in all facets of construction law. He has represented architects, engineers, owners and contractors in over 40 trials and contested hearings throughout the State of California. These hearings have involved hundreds of millions of dollars in claims concerning contract performance, professional negligence, contractor default and claims for economic losses due to extended time for performance, and economic impact due to disruption in the design and construction process. Baker is a nationally recognized author, having published over 250 articles. He also frequently lectures on construction law issues and is a recognized expert in design and engineering law.

Mary Salamone has dedicated her entire career exclusively to the area of construction law and has acquired an in-depth knowledge regarding all aspects of construction projects and disputes on behalf of owners, designers and contractors. Her practice encompasses a wide array of construction industry matters such as contract drafting and negotiations, competitive bidding,

scheduling and delay issues, defaults and terminations, change order management and statutory payment claims. Ms. Salamone is typically called upon by clients and the firm for her in-depth construction law expertise and litigation skills when there are high-stake, complex disputes involved. She has handled easily over \$1 billion in claims and has worked on notable projects such as the Walt Disney Concert Hall, University of Phoenix Stadium (home to the Arizona Cardinals), Middle Harbor Redevelopment - Port of Long Beach, and Aladdin Hotel and Casino (now known as Planet Hollywood). She is AV® Preeminent rated by LexisNexis/Martindale Hubbell and has been honored as a Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America, which recognizes only one-half of one percent of all trial lawyers. Ms. Salamone also serves as a Neutral on the Large and Complex Case Panel for the American Arbitration Association.

About Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

With 35 years of unwavering commitment to client service, [AALRR](#) has become one of California's leading law firms. Our diverse team brings a seasoned perspective to California's complex legal landscape for [private](#) and [public](#) entities, with particular strength in the areas of education, [labor and employment](#), [construction](#), [complex litigation](#), [corporate](#), taxation and bankruptcy. Our public sector clients include more than 400 K-12 school districts, community college districts and universities, as well as cities, counties and special districts. We also represent businesses of all shapes and sizes, from "mom and pop" companies to publicly traded corporations. At 150 lawyers and growing, we maintain eight offices in [Cerritos](#), [Fresno](#), [Irvine](#), [Pleasanton](#), [Pasadena](#), [Riverside](#), [Sacramento](#), and [San Diego](#). For more information about us, visit our website at www.aalrr.com and sign up for our blogs, www.aalrreducationlaw.com and www.aalrremploymentlaw.com.

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