

# McElroy Deutsch

## Louis R. Pepe



### Of Counsel

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### Curriculum Vitae

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**LOUIS R. PEPE** is a litigation attorney who focuses his practice on business torts and contract disputes and construction contract cases. He represents his clients in state and federal courts as well as in arbitration, mediation and other ADR proceedings.

Mr. Pepe received a B.Mgt.E. degree and an M.S. in Management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a J.D., *with distinction*, from Cornell Law School. He is admitted to the practice of law in Connecticut and before the United States Supreme Court and numerous federal district courts and courts of appeal.

He has taught in seminars presented by the Connecticut Bar Association on trial practice and has presented seminars in business and construction litigation throughout the country. Mr. Pepe has also taught a course on arbitration at the University of Connecticut Law School.

Mr. Pepe is a former president of the Connecticut Bar Association (2005-2006), a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American College of Construction Lawyers, an Associate of the American Board of Trial Advocates, and a Fellow in the Connecticut Bar Foundation and the American Bar Foundation.

He is a member of the American Arbitration Association's panels for Large, Complex Commercial Cases, International Cases, and Mega Project Cases, and its Construction Master Mediator Panel. He is also a member of the arbitration panel of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution.

## Awards

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- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Rated (2024) - Martindale-Hubbell's highest peer rating standard. This is given to attorneys who are ranked at the highest level of professional excellence for their legal expertise, communication skills, and ethical standards by their peers. A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#) (No aspect of the advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court).
- Recognized in Chambers USA in the area of Construction (2025). A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#). (No aspect of the advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court).
- Listed in Best Lawyers® (1995-2026), a Woodward/White, Inc. business and partners with U.S. News & World Report, in the areas of Arbitration, Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Construction Law, and Mediation. He was also recognized as the 2019 "Lawyer of the Year" for Bet-the-Company Litigation and Construction Law in the Hartford area. A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#).
- Listed in Super Lawyers® (2006-2022), a Thomson Reuters business, in the areas of Construction Litigation, Business Litigation, and Alternative Dispute Resolution. A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#).
- Recipient, Professional Service Award, Lower Naugatuck Valley Bar Association (2006). A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#) (No aspect of the advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court).
- Recipient, President's Award for Excellence, Hartford County Bar Association (2006)
- Recipient, Sons of Thunder Coalition's Man of Excellence Award (2009)
- Recipient, Connecticut Italian-American Bar Association Achievement Award (2009)
- Recipient, Lifetime Recognition Award, Connecticut Construction Institute (2011)
- Recipient, Connecticut Bar Association John Eldred Shields Distinguished Professional Service Award (2015 - 2016). A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#) (No aspect of the advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court).
- Recipient, *Connecticut Law Tribune* Professional Excellence Award (2016). A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#) (No aspect of the advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court).

- Recipient, Connecticut Bar Foundation Distinguished Service Award (2017). A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#) (No aspect of the advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court).
- Recipient, Connecticut Bar Association Edward F. Hennessey Professionalism Award (2017). A description of the standard or methodology on which the accolade is based can be found [HERE](#) (No aspect of the advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court).

## Cases

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*Results may vary depending on your particular facts and legal circumstances*

- Counsel to EPC Contractor for prosecution and defense of claims involving construction of a 500 MW offshore wind farm in the UK (LCIA Arbitration, London).
- Successful prosecution and settlement of claims in an ICC arbitration for \$700 Million and extensions of time on behalf of an international EPC contractor against the owner of a \$1 Billion crude oil upgrader project in Venezuela.
- Recovery in international arbitration of \$9 million on behalf of the EPC contractor for a power recovery system in a St. Croix oil refinery.
- Recovery of \$21 million for the developer of a casino for an Indian Gaming Commission that wrongly terminated the developer's management agreement.
- Representation of a structural steel contractor in a corporate defamation case in which the contractor claimed destruction of its bonding capacity and subsequent loss of business, which resulted in a jury verdict of \$11.6 million -- the largest jury verdict ever obtained in Connecticut to that time.
- Representation of a general contractor in federal court suit for breach of an oral contract to award to it a project, which resulted in a jury verdict of \$2.25 million in his favor.
- Successful defense of an international EPC contractor against the owner's claim for cost overruns arising out of the design and construction of a \$100 million gold ore processing facility in Chile.
- Representation of an international EPC contractor in \$65 million claim for additional compensation (and defense of owner's counterclaim) arising out of an oil refinery project in Singapore.
- Representation of international EPC contractor against owner's claims for cost overruns arising out of the design and construction of a \$1.1 billion gold/ore processing facility in Argentina.
- Representation of a national general contractor in negotiations with its surety/lender for the restructuring of a \$30 million debt and pursuit of claims in joint effort with surety.
- Representation of a general contractor on a claim against the state arising out of the construction of a large hospital and medical research center, which required a fourteen-month

trial and resulted in a judgment in favor of that client for \$11 million.

- Prosecution of claims for a surety that completed three large public housing projects after the bonded contractor was wrongfully terminated. The federal court suit resulted in a settlement of more than \$20 million from the owner of the projects.
- Representation of a general contractor against a Connecticut municipality for claims arising out of the construction of a wastewater treatment plant, which involved 20 arbitration hearings over a full year and resulted in an arbitration award of nearly \$1.65 million.
- Representation of a plaintiff claiming wrongful termination of a construction management contract, which resulted in a jury verdict of \$1.4 million plus punitive damages.

## **Industries**

Construction

Corporate

International

## **Practices**

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Appellate Practice

Construction

International Arbitration

Litigation

## **Education**

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (B.S. Management Engineering 1964)

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (M.S. 1967)

Cornell University School of Law (J.D. with distinction 1970)

## **Admissions**

State of Connecticut

Supreme Court of the United States

U.S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut

U.S. District Court, EDMI

U.S. District Court, EDNY

U.S. District Court, SDNY