OUTLOOK

With the building boom continuing into 2018, winter brought a flurry of events, publications, press coverage, new lawyers, promotions and well-earned recognition for Zetlin & De Chiara LLP. The building industry continues to anticipate a mandate to fix the country’s infrastructure and, with recent weather patterns, solutions for resilience. As construction employment rises, the labor shortage remains top of mind. Tax reform affects owners, developers, architects, engineers and insurers alike. Finally, as the industry settles into a new year, we begin to look ahead at the technological breakthroughs reshaping the way we build. Zetlin & De Chiara looks forward to helping the members of the construction community prosper in these exciting times.

Upcoming Events

COMMERCIAL OBSERVER

Jaimee Nardiello will Moderate Panel at Commercial Observer’s Annual Retail Forum

Jaimee Nardiello will moderate “Developing an Experience: How The Industry Is Shifting Its Approach to Retail,” on Thursday, April 19th from 7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. The conversation will focus on how the retail industry is addressing the changing demands and market, as well as new approaches to design, technology and platforms being used to enhance customer experiences and the retail market.

Nardiello will lead the discussion on how retailers and owners are reinventing their spaces with consumers in mind in order to attract and keep customers engaged. The panel will address the shift from bricks and mortar to online retail, and analyze retailers who have embraced new strategies and are adapting to a changing marketplace. Panelists will share their companies’ approaches to shifting from traditional to experiential retail, and explain how this experiential shift in consumer behavior has affected their plans for investment, growth and development.

THE PANELISTS
Lauren Adams Director of Strategy and Principal, Gensler
Michael Goldban Head of Retail Leasing, Brookfield Properties Office Division
Jeffrey Weinhaus President and Chief Development Officer, Equinox
Jeffrey D. Roseman Executive Vice President, Newmark Knight Frank Retail
**Thought Leadership**

**Tim Hegarty**, Partner, was quoted in the Globe St.com article "$1.5B Ownership Buyout in Marriott Edition Hotel." He explained that construction partnership buyouts are “definitely not uncommon, certainly not rare.” It is in the current owners’ best interest to have the project built as quickly and expeditiously as possible as time is money. “Usually ownership issues are resolved prior to commencement of construction but once the wheels are going it is not in anyone’s interests to cause delays,” he added…

**Michael Zetlin**, Co-Founding Partner, led a discussion on Lower Manhattan’s latest makeover at Commercial Observer’s *The New Face of Downtown*. He was joined on the panel by **Ric Clark**, Brookfield Property Group & Brookfield Property Partners; **Jessica Lappin**, Alliance for Downtown New York; **David Levinson**, L&L Holding Company; **Bruce Mosler**, Cushman & Wakefield, Inc.; **Larry Silverstein**, Silverstein Properties; and **Matt Straz**, Namely. The panel explored downtown’s influx of TAMI and residential tenants, the neighborhood’s retail and hospitality booms, the benefit of access to transportation and the challenges of updating older buildings.

**Carol Patterson**, Senior Partner, moderated CREW New York’s Annual Powerful Women in Real Estate Program and Luncheon. She was joined on the panel by **Daria Salusbury**, Salusbury & Co.; **Frances Delgorio**, Jack Resnick & Sons; and **Lisa Bevacqua**, Silverstein Properties who discussed their positions as powerful women in the world of commercial real estate.

**Raymond Mellon**, Senior Partner, spoke to architects at The Zoning Advisory Council & Brooklyn AIA: *Understanding the NYC Department of Buildings* on the process of excluding Architects and Engineers from Limited Supervisory Check, Professional Certification programs and total exclusions from all filings.

**Bill Chimos**, Partner, moderated a discussion on Liability for Building Foundations: A Geotechnical Dilemma at the ACEC New York 2018 Winter Conference. The panelists were **Thomas Coghlan**, Integro Insurance Brokers; **Allan Paul**, AECOM Tishman; and **Theodore von Rosenvinge**, Geodesign Inc. who convened to resolve disputes around the intersection of geotechnology and engineering, and debated when liability starts and ends and how structural issues can be avoided in the future.
James Terry, Partner, spoke at PLI's 19th Annual Commercial Real Estate Institute on selecting the proper delivery system, the trend in construction of Public Private Partnerships, issues with inconsistent treatment across jurisdictions and critical risk-shifting provisions in construction contracts, including a discussion on dispute resolution clauses.

Hear more from Terry on the importance of client relations
https://www.youtube.com/embed/OMh2g8O-ysg?rel=0

Zetlin & De Chiara LLP hosted Tax Reform for the Architecture, Engineering and Construction Industries, featuring a panel of tax experts from Anchin, Block & Anchin who discussed changes in rate, itemized deductions, accounting method, depreciation and deductibility of M&E. Panelists included Phillip Ross and Paul Gevertzman of Anchin’s Architecture, Engineering and Construction Industry Group.

Community Involvement

Our firm is committed to building our communities by supporting a number of worthwhile organizations

Queens Centers for Progress
The QCP provides person-centered services and support to children and adults who have developmental disabilities, with the goal of promoting independence, community involvement and quality of life. The QCP aims to support each person in making the most of his or her talents, abilities, and interests. They provide services for people of all ages. Currently, 1500 people are receiving ongoing services from the QCP.

SARA - Sean F. Mellon Memorial Architectural Scholarship Dinner
The Society of American Registered Architects awards this annual scholarship to provide financial support to an architectural student in an undergraduate or graduate program. The Seventh Annual Sean F. Mellon Memorial Architecture Scholarship was presented to Meghna Majethiya from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

American Heart Association
Hard Hats with Heart
This event brings together construction, real estate, engineering and architecture professionals, along with New York’s top corporate partners, for a program on the health impact work of the AHA. Hard Hats with Heart will benefit the American Heart Association’s work to build healthier lives free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

Senior Partner Ray and Pat Mellon pictured with 2017 Scholarship winner Meghna Majethiya.
In the spirit of Women’s History Month, we salute our female lawyers for being inspiring role models and leaders in the historically male-dominated fields of construction, real estate and law. We salute Jaimee Nardiello, Carol Patterson and Joeann Walker for the recognition and honors they received as “Leading Ladies,” “Powerful Women,” “Leading Women Lawyers,” “Barrier-Breakers” and “Top Young Professionals.”

Partner Jaimee Nardiello was elected President of CREW New York, a 250+ member organization dedicated to the advancement of professional women in commercial real estate through networking, education and leadership development. She was also selected a Crain’s “Leading Women Lawyers” for their inaugural list recognizing women who lead distinguished careers while demonstrating outstanding civic and philanthropic commitments in NYC and beyond. Nardiello was also honored at City & State’s 7th Annual Above & Beyond Awards as an Outstanding Woman in Real Estate. Additionally, Nardiello was named a Mann Foundation “Leading Lady.” The Mann Charitable Foundation’s Leading Ladies honors women who have pushed boundaries in the apparel, real estate and finance industries.

Senior Partner Carol Patterson was named a Barrier-Breaker by the Commercial Observer, an honor presented to women working towards demolishing the glass ceiling and making way for others in the commercial construction or design industry. Patterson was recognized for her many successes as a veteran construction industry litigation and transactional attorney in a male-dominated field, as well as having served as a past president of the Association of Real Estate Women (now CREW New York).

Associate Joeann Walker was selected an ENR Top Young Professional, an honor awarded to deserving, up-and-coming leaders under the age of 40 in construction and design. She was recognized as a resource for clients seeking certification as minority- or women-owned business enterprises, and commended for her pro bono assistance to clients ranging from refugees to individuals making racial profiling claims against law enforcement.

Congratulations to Jaimee, Carol and Joeann on these great honors.

Roy Schwartz has been promoted to Principal. Since joining the firm in 2013, he has focused his practice on construction and commercial litigation. He has successfully litigated complex construction matters around the country, and his experience also includes representing clients in ADR proceedings.

Elissa Rossi has joined the firm as an Associate Principal. With experience as a litigation and contract attorney in a broad array of practice areas, as Executive Director at the Department of Housing Preservation and Development and as an Assistant Attorney General in the Enforcement Section at the Office of the Attorney General in the Real Estate Finance Bureau, Rossi brings valuable insight to the firm.

Chengdong (C.D.) Xing has joined the firm as an Associate (pending Admission). C.D. served as Legal Counsel for China State Construction Engineering Corp. Ltd (CSCEC). C.D. is fluent in Mandarin, Shanghainese and English. His practice focuses on complex construction disputes and contractual matters.

Anthony Riverso has joined the firm as an Associate (pending Admission). As a recent graduate, Riverso has already been published twice by the New York Law Journal with articles entitled “Priority of Insurance in Construction Accidents” and “Proper Objections at a Personal Injury Deposition.”