



**Kenneth M. Alweis**  
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**OFFICE**

Syracuse

**PRACTICE AREAS**

Business and Commercial  
Class Action Litigation  
Construction  
Product Liability  
Retail and Hospitality  
Transportation



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Kenneth Alweis is a highly experienced trial attorney with more than 30 years of experience in state and federal court. He represents some of the country's largest contractors, construction managers, shopping center developers, owners, and retailers in construction and commercial disputes, negligent security and liability claims, tenant litigation, and land use and zoning disputes.

Ken is highly experienced in commercial and class action litigation. In one example of Ken's class action experience, he led a multidisciplinary team of attorneys to a summary judgment dismissal of an attempted class-action lawsuit against our client, a financial institution.

Ken is a key partner in the firm's Retail, Hospitality, and Development Practice Group, a team of attorneys that provides innovative and creative legal and consulting solutions to help clients avoid disputes and manage risk. His experience allows him to assist clients in terms of lease and construction contract preparation and drafting, indemnification and insurance consulting, risk management, and land use permitting and application. Ken and this team have created a niche in these areas that few law firms in the nation can match for its level of sophistication and dedicated focus. As the dynamics of the retail environment are ever-changing, Ken builds on his experience to stay at the forefront of the latest issues that are unique to the retail and development industries.

In addition to matters related to the retail industry, Ken has extensive product liability, catastrophic injury litigation, and employment litigation experience. He regularly represents manufacturers of industrial and consumer products in state and federal court and has defended many personal injury, property damage, and fire cases involving alleged manufacturing and design defects and warning claims. He has also represented employers in all types of employment-related litigation in state and federal courts as well as in arbitration on matters involving harassment, employment discrimination, civil rights claims, and breach of contract. Ken is also frequently retained by other attorneys to serve as an arbitrator and mediator in federal and state court matters.

Ken possesses an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell and was selected for inclusion in New York *Super Lawyers* each year since 2008.

**Honors**

- Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rating: AV Preeminent
- *Super Lawyers, Corporate Counsel Edition*
- *The Best Lawyers in America, Commercial Litigation, 2018*
- Upstate New York *Super Lawyers, 2008–17*
- Pro Bono Service Award – United States District Court for the Northern District of New York

**Professional Affiliations and Training**

- Federal Court Bar Association, Northern District of New York
- Associated Builders and Contractors, NYS Board of Directors, Member; CNY Regional Council, Member
- Associated General Contractors
- USLAW Network
- Vice-Chair, Retail and Hospitality Law Practice Group, 2017
- Secretary, Retail and Hospitality Law Practice Group, 2015–17
- Co-Chairman, USLAW Network Retail and Hospitality Law Exchange, Chicago, IL, October 2015
- Co-Chairman, USLAW Network Spring 2015 Conference, Retail Track, San Antonio, TX, April 2015
- Syracuse Jewish Federation: Board of Directors (2006–11)
- Department of Labor OSHA-10 Construction Training

- Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM)

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#### Admitted to Practice

- New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals - Second Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Northern, Western and Southern Districts of New York
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western District of New York

#### Civic Activities

- Member, Zoning Board of Appeals, Town of Dewitt

#### Education

- State University of New York at Buffalo Law School, J.D., 1985
- Binghamton University, B.A., 1982

#### Publications/Presentations

- Moderator, "Common Problems Arising with Commercial leases," USLAW 2016 and 2017
- Chairperson and Speaker, "Labor Law Claims, Coverage and Litigation," New York State Bar Association, 2016
- Chair "Labor Law Claims, Coverage and Litigation," New York State Bar Association CLE, Syracuse, NY, December 15, 2016
- Presenter, "Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises," New York State Surety Bond Assistance Program, February 24, 2015
- Contributor, Shale Watch Blog - A Review of the Legal Developments Arising Out of Hydraulic Fracturing: <http://shalewatchblog.com>
- Editor, USLAW Network's *Retail Compendium of Law*, 2014
- Presenter, "Top Ten Additional Insured Considerations," IRMI Construction Risk Seminar, San Diego, CA, November 2013
- Author, "A Guide to the Unwary: Construction Manager Liability Under New York Labor Law Section 240(1)," *Progress! Under Construction*, November 2013
- Presenter, Risk Management Conference, Syracuse, New York, June 18, 2013
- Co-Author, "Private Property or Public Forum? How the Occupy Movement Implicates Free Speech and Property Rights in Retail Spaces," *USLAW*, Spring/Summer 2012
- Presenter, "NY Construction Site Accident Update: Labor Law Section 240, Indemnity Agreements and Insurance," Associated Builders and Contractors, October 2011
- Presenter, "Contract Drafting for Construction Projects," Cazenovia College, April 2011
- Presenter, "Bed Bugs: Will They Really Eat our Brand Name," USLAW Network, Spring Conference, Phoenix, AZ, March 2011
- Panelist, "Landlord/Tenant Gumbo - Spice is Nice but Can You Take the Heat," USLAW Network, Spring 2010 Conference, Miami, FL, March 2010
- Chairman and Moderator, "Strictly Retail," Defense Research Institute (DRI), Chicago, IL, March 2010
- Moderator, "Retail Decisions and Verdicts," USLAW Network Spring Conference, Charleston, SC, March 2009
- Presenter, "Get the Green Edge: How to Underwrite and Insure 'Green' Exposures & Grow Your Book," Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of NY, Inc., "Capital Event," February 2009
- Presenter, "Construction Site Accidents - The Trial of a Labor Law Case," New York State Bar Association, November 2008
- Speaker, "Products Liability: An Overview," Central New York CPCU Society, November 2008
- Panelist, "Responding to the Catastrophic Mass Injury Claim: Avoid Adding to the Catastrophe," USLAW Network, Fall Conference, Las Vegas, September 2008

- Presenter, "Construction Site Accidents Under NY Labor Law," Syracuse Claims Association, May 2008

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