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# Siegfried, Rivera, Lerner, De LaTorre & Sobel, P.A.

## Construction Lawyers, Holding Players to Their Promises

When a general contractor and its performance bond surety abandoned the developer of a condominium project in South Florida, the developer was forced to finish the project himself. Siegfried, Rivera, Lerner, De LaTorre & Sobel, P.A. helped him hold the contractor and surety responsible. In a case involving technical construction, surety and accounting issues, the construction law firm recovered all the developer's damages, including attorney fees and interest, making its grateful client whole.

"This was an important case for developers and sureties," says Steve Siegfried, founding shareholder of Siegfried Rivera. "Surety companies have to know they cannot walk away from their obligations on construction bonds."

When a general contractor building an airport terminal refused to pay a subcontractor extra money for work the subcontractor was already obligated to provide, the sub abandoned the project and forced the general contractor to finish its work. This time, Stuart Sobel, from Siegfried Rivera, took his trial team to Philadelphia, where, after a three-week trial in federal court, the general contractor recovered all monies it had paid out in completing the work, with interest.

Sobel takes his team all over the country, seeking, as he says, "the truth that lies at the heart of every matter we try or arbitrate." In 2010, his team was in Paris arbitrating a complex commercial dispute before the International Chamber of Commerce.



Steve M. Siegfried  
Founding Shareholder



Stuart H. Sobel  
Shareholder

developers, general and trade contractors, design professionals and insurance companies. Even now, with construction and development in a slump, the firm helps clients minimize risks, improve business practices and maintain profitability.

Siegfried and Sobel are nationally recognized. Siegfried wrote the widely read legal manual *Introduction to Construction Law and Florida Construction Law* and has taught construction law for decades at the University of Miami Law School.

**"We try to improve the construction industry by holding participants accountable."**

– Steve Siegfried  
Founding Shareholder

Both he and Sobel are Fellows of the American College of Construction Lawyers, the most prestigious organization of its kind, and both regularly lecture the legal profession and construction industry on best practices. They sit as neutrals on large and complex cases for the American Arbitration Association and are certified mediators.

Siegfried Rivera has helped facilitate some of the largest projects around the country, including the Miami and Philadelphia international airports, various sports stadiums, convention centers and courthouses. They are also deeply involved locally, working on the Port of Miami Tunnel Project and various condo/mixed-use projects in South Florida.

"We try to improve the construction industry by holding participants accountable," Siegfried says.



"When our client is wrong, we try to help them see the benefit of taking responsibility early, and avoiding trial or arbitration," Sobel says. "But when our client is right, we enjoy holding their adversary to their promises in court."

For over 30 years, Siegfried Rivera has provided cost-effective solutions for its client base of public and private owners,

[www.siegfriedlaw.com](http://www.siegfriedlaw.com)

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