

# Vic L. McConnell



**Vic L. McConnell, PE, LEED® AP**

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**Vic L. McConnell** is a partner with Smith Cashion & Orr, PLC, and represents owners, developers, contractors and design professionals with a concentration in the areas of construction litigation and design professional malpractice defense.

Mr. McConnell received a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Auburn University in 1990 where he was a member of the *Chi Epsilon* civil engineering honor society and the School of Engineering Student Council. While at Auburn, Mr. McConnell worked for Harbert International, Inc., of Birmingham, Alabama, as a Co-op engineer and was assigned to several large construction projects including the ORMESA IE geothermal power plant in El Centro, California. The ORMESA geothermal complex is considered a pioneering advancement in the successful generation of clean, sustainable and

renewable energy. Mr. McConnell was also employed as a summer engineer intern with the Construction Management Division of Wilson, Miller, Barton & Peek in Naples, Florida.

After graduating from Auburn, Mr. McConnell was employed as a design engineer with several engineering-consulting firms in the southeast including Miller-Sellen Associates in Orlando, Florida, and Sain Associates, Inc., in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. McConnell's engineering experience includes drainage, utility, mass grading and infrastructure design, as well as, environmental permitting for commercial, industrial, and residential developments.

In 1996, Mr. McConnell received a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. In 1998, Mr. McConnell received a Master of Science degree in Environmental Management from Samford University and a Juris Doctor degree from Samford's Cumberland School of Law. While at Cumberland, Mr. McConnell received awards for academic excellence in legal research and writing and was Vice President of Cumberland's Environmental Law Society. Following law school, Mr. McConnell joined Smith Cashion & Orr, PLC, as an associate and became a Member of the firm in 2005.

Mr. McConnell is a registered Professional Engineer (inactive) and is a LEED® AP. Mr. McConnell is currently a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National and Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers and the U.S. Green Building Council (Middle Tennessee Chapter). He currently chairs the Legislative and Government Affairs Committee for the TSPE Nashville Chapter. He is also a member of the American, Tennessee and Nashville Bar Associations as well as ABA's Forum on the Construction Industry and ABA's Section of Litigation Committee on Construction Litigation. Furthermore, he is a member of the Defense Research Institute and is a Board Member of the Tennessee Association of Construction Counsel. Mr. McConnell also serves on the Green Building Committee of the ABC Middle Tennessee Chapter and is the ABC Ambassador to USGBC.

Since 2004, Mr. McConnell has taught "Construction Law and Contracts" as an adjunct professor for Vanderbilt University's School of Engineering. Mr. McConnell is also a contributing co-author to *State-by-State Guide to Construction Contracts and Claims*, Chapter 45 (Aspen Publishers). Mr. McConnell often provides lectures on design professional liability and construction law issues before the Tennessee Bar Association, American Society of Civil Engineers, and Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers and on behalf of Vanderbilt University, Lorman Education Services, National Business Institute and Half Moon, LLC. Some of the seminars presented by Mr. McConnell include *Managing Construction Projects*, *What To Do When Construction Projects Go Bad*, *The Fundamentals*

*of Construction Contracts, Minimizing Design Professional Liability Exposure, AIA Contracts, and Legal Issues in Green Building.*

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**Education:**

- B.S. in Civil Engineering, Auburn University, June 1990
- M.S. in Civil Engineering, University of Alabama at Birmingham, August 1996
- M.S. in Environmental Management, Samford University, December 1998
- J.D., Samford University Cumberland School of Law, December 1998

**Bar Admissions:**

- United States Supreme Court
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts of Tennessee
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky
- Kentucky Supreme Court
- Tennessee Supreme Court

**Honors & Distinctions:**

- Chi Epsilon Honor Society, Auburn University
- School of Engineering Student Council, Auburn University
- Academic Excellence Award, Legal Research & Writing, Cumberland School of Law
- Vice President, Environmental Law Society, Cumberland School of Law
- Professional Engineer (inactive)
- LEED® AP
- Chair, Legislative & Government Affairs Committee, TSPE ( Nashville Chapter)
- Board Member, Tennessee Association of Construction Counsel
- Co-Author, State by State Guide to Construction Contracts and Claims, Chapter 45 (Aspen Publishers).
- Adjunct Professor, Construction Law & Contracts, Vanderbilt University