Land Laws and Ethics for Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors

Princeton, NJ - Friday, April 17, 2020

Learn the role of the engineer and surveyor in eminent domain law and condemnation actions.

Understand applicable state and federal site contamination laws, and explore liability and remediation.

Get tips on finding existing land use regulations and learn about seeking zoning variances or rezoning.

Learn to comply with New Jersey rules of professional conduct.

Discuss case law on adverse possession.

You’ll be able to:

- Learn the role of the engineer and surveyor in eminent domain law and condemnation actions.
- Understand applicable state and federal site contamination laws, and explore liability and remediation.
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- Learn to comply with New Jersey rules of professional conduct.
- Discuss case law on adverse possession.

Learning Objectives

Eminent Domain

Overview of Eminent Domain law
- Source of power
- Traditional public projects (ie. road widening, public school, etc.) and redevelopment projects
- Overview of legal process to take property
- Litigating the right to take property - Litigating amount of just compensation

Engineers and Surveyors – what is your role?
- Pre-litigation analysis - Highest and best use analysis
- “Reasonable probability” - Testifying as an expert witness

Tips and pitfalls for acting as an expert witness

Site Contamination Law

Discovering existing soil and/or groundwater contamination
Understanding applicable rules and regulations
Understanding liability issues
Exploring remediation and brownfield redevelopment

Land Use Law

Understanding land use law
Governmental power and authority to zone
Comprehensive land use planning and zoning
Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment jurisdiction
Finding existing land use laws and regulations
Seeking zoning variances or rezoning Types of approvals
The engineer’s role in land use hearing Post-approval
Outside agencies – timing and role Participating in land use litigation and appeals
Two takeaways – simple and important, but often skipped

Complying with Rules of Professional Conduct

Complying with New Jersey rules of professional conduct
Sealing of documents
Standards for responsible charge of engineering work
Unauthorized practice of engineering
National Societies of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors’ Codes and Canons

Understanding Adverse Possession

The history of adverse possession
Statutory law
Case law on adverse possession
Maintaining a claim for adverse possession
- Statute of limitations - Elements of a claim
Defending against a claim for adverse possession
Practical location of boundaries

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Continuing Education Credits

Professional Engineers
6.5 CPC Credits Including 1.0 Ethics Hour

Land Surveyors
NJ Approval Pending
Seminar Information

Hyatt Regency Princeton
102 Carnegie Center
Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 987-1234

Registration: 8:00 - 8:30 am
Morning Session: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Lunch (On your own): 12:45 - 1:45 pm
Afternoon Session: 1:45 - 4:30 pm

Continuing Education Credit Information
This seminar is open to the public. HalfMoon Education is an approved continuing education provider for New Jersey engineers (Approval No. 26GP0000070900), and this course offers 6.5 CEC credits/continuing education hours, including 1.0 CEC Ethics hour, to professional engineers licensed New Jersey. HalfMoon Education has applied to the New Jersey State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors for course approval for professional land surveyors, which is under review. Professional engineers and land surveyors seeking continuing education credit outside New Jersey will be able to apply the hours earned at this seminar, in some cases. Refer to specific state continuing education rules to determine eligibility. Due to state-specific content, this course is not eligible for New York engineers or land surveyor continuing education credit. Attendance will be monitored, and attendance certificates will be available after the seminar for most individuals who complete the seminar and provide their certificates not available at the seminar will be mailed to participants within fifteen business days.

Mr. Forshner served as special land use counsel to municipalities and to the New Jersey Builders Association. He is the former chair of the New Jersey State Bar Association’s Land Use Section. Mr. Forshner regularly speaks on zoning and planning, redevelopment, affordable housing, sustainable energy, land use, eminent domain, and land real estate transactions.

Wendy Testa, Partner at Wilson Elser
Ms. Testa focuses her legal practice on insurance coverage and defense litigation as well as risk management services in the areas of professional liability, construction/construction defects, general liability, product liability, contract drafting, negotiating and disputes; and employment practices. She has also litigated matters alleging violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and advised clients on best practices in this area of the law. Ms. Testa is experienced in the defense of architects, engineers and surveyors and is a member of the firm’s design professional practice. She performs contract review and drafting services for design professionals and engages in contract negotiations on behalf of these clients. Ms. Testa received her J.D. degree from Widener University School of Law.

Christopher D. Hopkins, Counsel with Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer P.A.
Mr. Hopkins’ practice consists of representing developers and investors in connection with the acquisition, disposition, leasing, development and re-development of commercial real property. His practice runs the gamut of real property transactions, from financing and redevelopment to affordable housing development, condominium association formation and returning contaminated properties or “Brownfields” to beneficial use. The breadth of his practice also extends to counseling clients on land use matters and on a variety of environmental regulatory compliance and permitting issues, including PREA, compliance with New Jersey’s cleanup program, Superfund and other liability concerns. Mr. Hopkins participates in a number of industry organizations including the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties, where he sits on the legislative affairs committee, the New Jersey Builders Association and the National Brownfield Association.

Additional Learning

Webinar Series
Foundation Damage and Repair
• Design & Geo-Environmental Loading, Building Codes, Soil Properties
  Webinar, March 4, 2020, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CST
• Foundation-Slab Wall Design and Construction
  Webinar, March 5, 2020, 1:00 - 2:30 PM CST
• Evaluation of Foundation-Slab Damage and Repair Alternatives
  Webinar, March 5, 2020, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CST
• Evaluation of Foundation Wall Damage and Repair Alternatives
  Webinar, March 5, 2020, 1:00 - 2:30 PM CST

For more information and other online learning opportunities visit: www.halfmooneseminars.org/webinars/

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Registration
Land Laws and Ethics for Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors
Princeton, NJ - Friday, April 17, 2020

How to Register
Online:
www.halfmooneseminars.org

Phone: 715-835-5900
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Mail: HalfMoon Education Inc., PO Box 278, Altoona, WI 54720-0278

Complete the entire form. Attach duplicates if necessary.

Tuition
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