PALLETT VALO LLP
Lawyers



"Provides practical and timely advice."

Maria Ruberto

Partner

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289.805.3441

Email

Maria Ruberto is Head of Pallett Valo's Construction Practice. Her practice is dedicated to infrastructure and construction law. Focusing on the resolution of disputes in the construction industry, she represents all players including owners, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and sureties.

From negotiating construction agreements up to project close, Maria provides legal advice and representation on a wide variety of construction matters. She appears regularly before all Ontario courts on motions, applications and trials, and represents clients in various forms of alternative dispute resolution, including mediation, adjudication and arbitration.

As a certified specialist in construction law, she assists clients with addressing construction-related disputes from the early stages of a project, throughout its course and up to the end of the project.

Maria is typically involved in complex multi-party proceedings where liability is hotly contested. Her practical advice is regularly sought in the areas of liens, breach of trust, performance bonds, labour and material payment bonds, contract preparation and the resolution of all types of construction disputes whether by way of litigation or by other dispute resolution mechanisms. She has been appointed as carriage counsel representing multiple subcontractor lien claimants on complex construction lien litigation matters.

Recognized by the *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* as a leading lawyer in construction law, Maria is also a Fellow of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers and was a Regional Representative on the Ontario Bar Association's Construction and Infrastructure Executive for many years. Every year since 2021, she has been recognized by *Best Lawyers in Canada*™ in the field of Construction Law and was named "Lawyer of the Year" for Construction Law in 2023.

A frequent speaker for the Osgoode Certificate in Construction Law Course, Maria also presents industry seminars and seminars for clients.

PALLETT VALO LLP 2027
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Best Lawyers

2026
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Expertise

- Commercial Litigation
- Construction & Infrastructure
- Bond Claims
- Construction Disputes
- Construction Insolvency
- Construction Insurance Coverage and Defence, including Professional Liability Coverage
- Construction Litigation
- Contract Disputes
- Creditor Remedies
- Deficiency Claims
- Delay and Loss of Productivity Claims
- Drafting and Negotiating Construction Contracts
- Leaking Buildings Claims
- Lien Claims
- Mediation, Arbitration, Adjudication and Litigation of Construction Disputes
- Procurement/Tender Disputes
- Product Liability and Construction Materials-Related Claims
- Professional Negligence Claims
- Risk Management, Project Delivery and Procurement Strategy
- Trust Claims

Industries

- Architecture and Engineering
- Construction
- Insurance
- Land Development
- Municipal/Government
- Public Infrastructure

Education

B.A. (Hons.), York University (2000)
LL.B., University of Ottawa (2004)

Called to the Ontario Bar, 2005

Awards

- Best Lawyers® Recognizes Eleven Pallett Valo Lawyers Across Multiple Practice Areas
- Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized in the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure 2026
- Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized in the 2026 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory
- Best Lawyers™ Accolades for Twelve Pallett Valo Lawyers
- Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized in the 2025 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory
- Fourteen Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers®
- The 2024 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory Recognizes Four Pallett Valo Lawyers
- Best Lawyers™ Accolades for Eleven Pallett Valo Lawyers
- Another Pallett Valo Lawyer Certified as a Specialist by the Law Society of Ontario
- The 2023 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory Recognizes Four Pallett Valo Lawyers
- Seven Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers™
- Pallett Valo Lawyers Are Once Again Recognized in the 2022 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory
- Six Pallett Valo Lawyers Are Recognized in the 2022 Edition of Best Lawyers™ and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch™
- Three Pallett Valo Lawyers Are Once Again Recognized in the Annual Publishing Of the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory
- Four Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers®
- Three Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized in the 2020 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory
- Four Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized In The 2018 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory
- Four Pallett Valo Lawyers Recognized in the 2019 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory

Memberships

- Member, The Advocates' Society
- Member, Canadian Bar Association and Ontario Bar Association, Construction Law Section
- Member, Toronto Construction Association
- Member, Peel Law Association
- Member, Vaughan Chamber of Commerce
- Former Regional Representative, Ontario Bar Association, Construction and Infrastructure Law Section Executive

Publications

- The Only Constant in the Construction Industry Is Change – Amendments to Ontario's Construction Act in Force as of January 1, 2026 February 2026

- Pallett Valo Llp Is a Listed Representative in Three Cases January 2025
- Prejudice to Innocent Third Parties Not an Absolute Bar to Rescission September 2022
- Roundup of Law Firm Hires, Promotions and Departures: June 3 Update June 2020
- Pallett Valo Partner Inducted as Fellow of Canadian College of Construction Lawyers June 2020
- Maria Ruberto Inducted as a Fellow of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers June 2020

Other Publications and Presentations

- Maria Ruberto – Pallett Valo Women Leadership Interview
- Speaker, The Only Constant Is Change: Ontario *Construction Act* Amendments & CCDC Contract Updates, Pallett Valo – June 2026
- Speaker, Ontario Construction Liens – Advanced Issues and Strategies, Osgoode Hall Law School – March 2026
- Speaker, The Overhaul of Ontario's Construction Act: What Bill 216 Means for Payment, Adjudication and Risk Allocation; 18th Annual Conference on Navigating Risk in Construction Projects & Contracts (East); Canadian Institute – February 2026
- Speaker, Adjudication and Prompt Payment, Power Up Your Practice: The Future of Construction Law, Canadian Italian Advocates Organization (CIAO) – April 2025
- Speaker, Amendments to Ontario's *Construction Act:* What's New and How Will the Changes Work, Critical Updates for Construction Law and Practice in Ontario, Osgoode Hall Law School – April 2025
- Instructor, The Anatomy and Mechanics of a Lien Action in 2025, The 6th Annual Legal Guide to Managing Construction Liens in Ontario, Osgoode Hall Law School Professional Development – February 2025
- Speaker, OGCA 14th Construction Symposium, Ontario General Contractors Association – April 2024
- Speaker, The Anatomy and Mechanics of a Lien Action in 2024, 5th Annual Legal Guide to Managing Construction Liens in Ontario, Osgoode Hall Law School – February 2024
- Speaker, The Anatomy and Mechanics of a Lien Action in 2023, 4th Annual Legal Guide to Managing Construction Liens in Ontario, Osgoode Hall Law School – April 2023
- Speaker, The Anatomy and Mechanics of a Lien Action in 2022, 3rd Annual Legal Guide to Managing Construction Liens in Ontario, Osgoode Hall Law School – April 2022
- Speaker, Bidding, Tendering, Liens & Claim Issues – "Construction Liens: Fundamental Principles & Advanced Issues", The Osgoode Certificate in Construction Law: National Edition- February 2022

Recognition

- Certified by the Law Society of Ontario as a Specialist in Construction Law
- Selected by peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in Canada*™ annually since 2021 in the field of Construction Law and named "Lawyer of the Year" for Construction Law in 2023
- Recognized as a Leading Practitioner in the area of Construction Law by the Canadian Legal LEXPERT Directory
- Fellow, Canadian College of Construction Lawyers

Pallett Valo LLP will, upon request, provide this information in an accessible format.

GGi INDEPENDENT MEMBER