



Arabella Okwara

Associate

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Related Services

Construction ■ Litigation ■ Government Contracts ■ Commercial Construction

Arabella Okwara is an associate in Alston & Bird's Construction & Government Contracts Group. She has represented owners, contractors, and subcontractors on both public and private works, and assists clients in litigation and transactional matters. She also provides counseling to government contractors regarding procurement protests and compliance issues.

Before joining the firm, Arabella gained experience as a legal intern for the New York Civil Liberties Union, a law fellow for a firm in New York, and an intern for both the Federal Judicial Center and the Rhode Island Public Defender Office.

Arabella earned her J.D. from Harvard Law School, where she served as a student attorney for the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, the lead articles editor for the *Blackletter Law Journal*, and the secretary for the Harvard Black Law Students Association. She received her B.A. in political science, summa cum laude, from Howard University, where she served as vice president of the student government.

Representative Experience

- Representing a joint venture in an action to enforce capital call obligations of a defaulting joint-venturer on a \$2.3 billion public-private partnership project with the Florida Department of Transportation to revamp a 21-mile portion of Interstate 4 in Orlando, FL.
- Representing an engineering services company in an ad hoc arbitration in defense of claims arising out of the development of two biomass plants in Georgia. The claims exceed \$250 million and involve disputes concerning plant design, construction, and performance.
- Representing commercial and residential developers during a variety of construction disputes, mechanic's lien claims, bond and indemnification claims, and contractual disputes of all forms.
- Representing various entities in drafting and reviewing construction contracts and various construction notices for large-scale projects.
- Represented government contractors in post-award protests at the federal and state levels, including at the Government Accountability Office and tribunals in Georgia and Kentucky.

Professional & Community Engagement

- Hope for Youth Inc., board of directors
- Georgia Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, board of directors

- Gate City Bar
- Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys
- Atlanta Bar Association

Education

- Harvard University (J.D., 2020)
- Howard University (B.A., 2017)

Languages

- American Sign Language

Admitted to Practice

- Georgia