



John James Rusk

New York, New York



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Primary Areas of Expertise

High End Residential Construct
Commercial Construction
Multi-family construction
high rise construction
Solar power construction
sub-surface construction

Current Employer-Title Rusk Renovations Inc. - President
Constructive Decisions, Inc. - President
ProSentry, Inc.- President

Profession Construction Professional - Construction Company Owner, General Contractor, Advisor to Subcontractors, Construction Consultant; Author - Construction Issues; Arbitrator, Mediator

Work History President, Rusk Renovations Inc., 1985-Present; Adjunct Professor in Construction Administration, Columbia University, 2007-2022, President ProSentry Inc. 2019-Present a risk mitigation as a platform technology company, President Constructive Decisions Inc. 2006-Present

Experience Construction professional with over 40 year's experience as a contractor, owner's representative and construction manager. An expert in the day to day realities of construction projects with a willingness and depth of dispute resolution experience to work with attorneys to intelligently streamline the process specifically for each case. Experience with high-end residential apartments, both traditional and modern; historic properties; dialysis facilities; high-end retail establishments; medical facilities; brownstones, wood houses, and "country houses"; fire and flood damage; imaging centers with MRI, cat scan, and x-ray; and commercial properties. Specific subject knowledge of demolition, foundation, shoring and structural steel and timber, concrete work, masonry, roofing, framing, gypsum wall board, plastering, decorative plaster, molding, custom cabinetry, stock cabinetry, kitchens, baths, drop ceilings,

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Neutral ID : 125869

The AAA's Rules provide the AAA with the authority to administer a mediation including, mediator appointment, general oversight and billing. Accordingly, mediations that proceed without AAA administration are not considered AAA mediations, even when the parties select an mediator who is on the AAA's Roster.

The information contained in this resume has been supplied solely by the individual mediator and may, or may not, be a complete recitation of their experience. The AAA assumes no responsibility for the content, completeness, accuracy, or reliability of the information contained in a mediator's resume. If you have any questions about a mediator's experience or background, you are encouraged to contact your case manager.

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lighting, plumbing, electrical, stone and tile work, custom furniture, upholstery, glass work, stainless steel work, lighting fixtures and other design elements, air filtration, water filtration, circadian lighting, Wellness. Winner of the Lucy G. Moses award from the New York Landmarks Conservancy for Outstanding Contributions Made in the Field of Architectural and Historic Preservation. Proficient in use of Zoom for virtual hearings.

Mediator Experience

Involved in over 300 construction mediations and arbitrations. Each mediation is designed with the collaboration of the attorneys to create a session which has the highest opportunity for success. Premediation briefs and document exchange are usually a part of the mediation, so that the parties understand each other's position by the time we sit down. Arbitrator for American Arbitration Association since 1993. Mediator since 1993. Specific dispute resolution experience as sole arbitrator, chairman of the panel and panel member with pay request, time, change order, project accounting, contract, workmanship, interior design, and decorating disputes. Other disputes include those among owners, general contractors, designers, subcontractors, and architects. Cases range from less than \$20,000 to over \$20 million. Owner, Architect, Developer, Municipality and Governmental Agency, Private and Public Schools, General Contractor, Subcontractor, Bonding Company, and vendors. Cases involving single family homes, multifamily residential and commercial buildings. Multi-party cases with up to 35 participants in a single mediation session. Cases with two, three, four and five parties. Certified Mediator, International Mediation Institute.

Representative Issues Handled as a Mediator

Representative issues include: construction accounting, quantum merit, unjust enrichment, unknown subsurface conditions, accusations of fraud, multiple causation issues, unsigned change orders, unsigned contracts, contract interpretation, subsurface water, improper liens, design errors, design professional "standard of care," pay requests, wrongful termination, warrantees, failure to make timely payments, "pay when paid," time keeping, cost plus contracts, schedules, masonry and steel structure, excavation, mold, questions regarding quality of cabinetry, paint, flooring, structure, mechanical systems, architectural, engineering, and interior design. Has particular expertise in emotionally charged issues, especially among parties who had productive relationships at one time.

Mediator Style & Process Preferences

I first work with the attorneys to establish an objective, business-like relationship with each other. I ask both sides to prepare spreadsheets of their claims and counterclaims with a position paper keyed to those claims with

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supporting documents attached. I read these position papers carefully and develop a strategy for the mediation session.

With both sides well prepared and organized for the session, we work through the dispute quickly, issue by issue. The aim is not to reach agreement during these discussions, but to understand the case from both sides and to have a glimpse of what the case would look like if it didn't settle.

The parties are then often separated to make an objective review of their chances on various issues and to make a reasoned settlement offer. Offers are usually exchanged and settlements are usually reached.

Being a construction industry insider and a very experienced construction dispute resolution professional, I am able to speak clearly to practical construction reality as to evaluate the pros and cons of a case when asked. I enjoy the process of resolving disputes and have often worked to make it possible for warring factions to resume their business relationships.

Technology Proficiency	Excellent in the use of AI, Excel, Zoom, Teams, ProCore. Substantial understanding of security and technology in general.
Education	Carnegie Mellon University (B, Fine Arts-1984).
Professional Licenses	Home Improvement Contractor, New York City, 1990-Present.
Professional Associations	Painting and Decorative Contractors of America; Better Business Bureau; Remodeler's Advantage; Conseil International du Batiment pour la Recherche (L'Etude et al Documentation); International Mediation Institute (IMI) Certified Mediator, Luxury Property Forum, Design Leadership Network, Ultra High Net Worth Institute, Trusted Advisors
Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements	Moderator: Light and the Living Collection: Designing for Art, Sculpture, and Space” at the Institute of Classical Art and Architecture January 2026 Panelist: I Thought That Was Your Job: The Shifting Roles of Architects, Attorneys, Construction managers & Owner’s Representatives Sponsored by Rusk Renovations at the AIA Brooklyn February 2026 Moderator: Nuts and Bolts of New York II: Working in New York for Designers Sponsored by Rusk Renovations at the Royal Automobile Club, London February 2026 Lecturer: Master Class DLN Risk Mitigation and Conflict Resolution in Design

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Practice webinar & White Paper January 2026

Panelist: Guardianship of Wealth: A New Era of Security & Risk Mitigation

Panelist, sponsored by TPS and Planeta Design Boston Oct. 2025

Lecturer: Calming the Concerned Townhouse Client September 2025 for
Douglas Elliman Lydia Sussek Team

Lecturer Masterclass: The Nuts and Bolts of Working In New York City,
Luxury Property Forum November 2025

Panelist: Illuminating the Evolving Kitchen Landscape” at the Hafele NY
Showroom. November 2024

Lecturer: Best Practices for Family Offices Managing Renovations in NYC and
its Environs for the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants,
Family Office Group July 2024

"The Benefits of Alternative Dispute Resolution for Resolving Construction
Disputes," Rusk Breakell & Eckman, White Paper for New York Dispute
Resolution Lawyer, Summer 2011;

Faculty, AAA Spring Construction Conference, Mediation: It's Not New, So
What's Next?, 2011,

Over 10 presentations of Managing Risk for Architects and their Clients,
Contractors and Subcontractors since 2006;

Co-presenter, "Breaking the Impasse, Moving from Stalemate to Settlement in
Mediation," American Arbitration Association, October 2004;

speaker, "Ethics in Alternative Dispute Resolution," American Arbitration
Association, 2002;

ON TIME AND ON BUDGET, A HOME RENOVATION SURVIVAL
GUIDE (How to make allies of your architect and contractor), Doubleday, June
1996;

articles on causes of construction inefficiencies and appearances on the Today
Show, Good Day New York, WALL STREET JOURNAL, NEWSWEEK,
ELLE DECOR, LADIES HOME JOURNAL; columnist Taconic Newspaper
chain.

Citizenship

United States of America

Languages

English

Compensation

Hearing: \$700.00/Hr

Study: \$700.00/Hr

Cancellation Period: 0 Days

Comment: Cancellation policy: No charge for
cancellations.

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