

16th Annual End of Year Federal Contractor Update

January 25, 2024 – Milwaukee, WI



About the Speakers

William Hughes, Attorney, Husch Blackwell



Bill Hughes is a shareholder in the Milwaukee office of Husch Blackwell LLP. He is a member of the firm's Construction Services Team and has expertise in all aspects of construction and public contract law. Bill represents construction managers and prime and subcontractors on construction issues, including the drafting and negotiating of construction contracts. He has extensive experience in the award, protest, and litigation of competitively bid and publicly awarded contracts, and he counsels federal contractors on all aspects of government contracts including the Federal Acquisition Regulations, audits, bids, changes, costs, claims, intellectual property rights, terminations and negotiations. He also has extensive arbitration and litigation experience representing clients in recovering damages or defending against claims on both private and public contracts. As a former U.S. Government attorney, Bill is one of the few Wisconsin attorneys with the experience necessary to represent clients in matters involving federal contract law. Bill serves as a Wisconsin Procurement Institute Board Member. <https://www.huschblackwell.com/professionals/william-hughes>

Michael Schrier, Partner, Husch Blackwell



Michael represents federal contractors, grant recipients, and companies and institutions doing business with or having matters before the U.S. Government.

In a diverse array of matters including Construction Litigation and Labor & Employment, Michael is a tenacious advocate for government contractors. He has extensive experience advising and litigating employment-related matters for federal contractors including Davis-Bacon Act, Service Contract Act, federal contractor Paid Sick Leave, federal contractor minimum wage, and OFCCP matters. Michael represents clients in Contract Disputes Act, Miller Act and breach of contract claims in federal and state trial and appellate courts and in bid protests before the U.S. Court of Federal Claims and U.S. Government Accountability Office. In addition, he advises government contractors, federal grant recipients, educational institutions and foreign governments on Federal Acquisition Regulation compliance, facilities and security clearances, False Claims Act, Buy American Act and debarment/suspension.

Thanks to his appellate training, Michael has a gift for finding the legal vulnerabilities in a case. He views litigation as a complex chess match where he can outsmart opponents not only on the facts of a matter, but also on the legal framework and the finer points of the law in question.

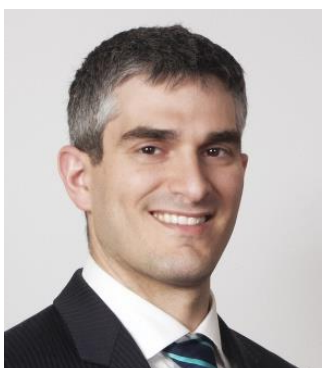
In addition to his work with the complexities of government contracting and labor and employment law, clients appreciate that Michael has significant experience as a commercial litigator, in intellectual property and trademark matters, and challenging federal agency rulemaking and adjudications under the Administrative Procedure Act. Over more than 25 years of practice, he has also defended employers against trade secret misappropriation, breach of noncompetition and nondisclosure agreements, employment discrimination and retaliation (under a variety of federal and state statutes including Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and False Claims Act), wrongful termination, Fair Labor Standards Act, ERISA, OSHA, and unfair labor practice claims in federal and state trial and appellate courts and administrative hearings. Clients also appreciate Michael's pragmatism: he puts himself in the client's shoes when he's mapping out a strategy, aiming to ensure that every legal victory truly is a win for the client's business and budget. <https://www.huschblackwell.com/professionals/michael-schrier>



**Emily Constantine, Associate General Counsel - Federal Government
Contracts & Litigation, WPS Health Solutions**

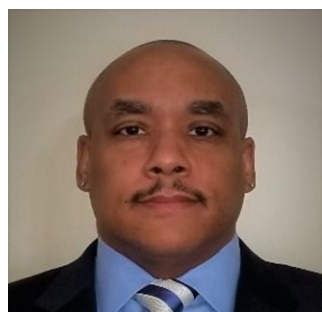
Emily Constantine is Associate General Counsel at WPS Health Solutions, a nationally regarded benefits administrator for a variety of U.S. government programs. Previously, Emily worked in the Government Contracts practice group at Husch Blackwell LLP, and as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

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David Zvenyach, Principal, TandemGov & Author, GovContrActually

Dave Zvenyach is an expert on federal technology procurement and is the principal of TandemGov, a consulting firm that helps organizations navigate government contracting while playing to their strengths. He also writes GovContrActually, weekly newsletter that provides insights into government contracting through irreverent hot takes and humor. He has served in various roles during three presidential administrations, including most recently as an appointee leading the Director of Technology Transformation Services at the General Services Administration. Dave is also a lawyer and a software developer and was once named DC's Legal Hacker of the Year. He lives just outside of Madison with his spouse, two kids, and a dog. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/vdavez/>



**Nathaniel T. Millsap, Jr, Director, Security & Cyber, Fincantieri Marinette
Marine**

Nathaniel T. Millsap Jr. ("Nate") is the Director, Security & Cyber for Fincantieri Marinette Marine and holds responsibility for the Information Technology, Export Compliance, and Security Departments. Nate focuses on cybersecurity, classified information management, U.S. export controls and advocating the use of technology to support strategic decision making. He also actively supports a member of the President's National Infrastructure Advisory Council as their substantive point of contact. Nate's Security team was a proud recipient of the 2017 Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency's James S. Cogswell Award. Prior to joining Fincantieri in 2011, he served as the Program Manager for

Government Contracts and Security at Cree, Inc. and was previously an active-duty U.S. Navy Intelligence Officer. Nate earned an M.S. in Management from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and a B.S. in History from the U.S. Naval Academy. Nate serves as a Wisconsin Procurement Institute Board Member. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nathaniel-millsap-6722a679/>



Eric Ness, WI District Director
U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

Eric Ness is the District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Wisconsin District with locations in Madison and in Milwaukee. As District Director, Eric is responsible for the delivery of SBA programs throughout Wisconsin. Eric joined the SBA in 1990 as a Commercial Loan Officer where he had the opportunity to work in both processing and liquidation of loans. He has served as Finance Chief and Assistant District Director for Economic Development. In December of 2001, Eric assumed the position of Wisconsin District Director. Prior to coming to SBA, Eric worked for Impact Seven as a Business Analyst and was General Manager of Western Wisconsin Development Corporation in Northwestern Wisconsin. Eric graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Degree in Agricultural Engineering and later obtained a Master's in Business Administration from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/eric-ness-19a94216/>

Jason Rathsack, Senior Contract Specialist, Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA)

Jason Rathsack is a Senior Contract Specialist with DCMA Central Region (CR). DCMA CR oversees 10 Contract Management Offices responsible for providing acquisition insight to DoD in support of over \$500B in contracts across 23 states. Mr. Rathsack previously served as the Group Lead, Business Operations for DCMA Milwaukee, which is responsible for contract administration of approximately 1,500 active Department of Defense (DoD) contracts and grants in Wisconsin, Northern Indiana, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Mr. Rathsack's previous positions include serving as an Administrative Contracting/Grants Officer with DCMA Milwaukee and a Contract Price/Cost Analyst with DCMA Chicago providing direct support to DoD contracting officers in review and recommendations associated with proposal analyses, review of contractor business systems, cost accounting standards, and incurred cost disputes. Mr. Rathsack also performed cradle to grave contract specialist duties for the US Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC), and the US Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Mr. Rathsack is an active member of NCMA and has served on the NCMA WI Chapter Board for 7 years, most recently elected Vice President. Mr. Rathsack has a DAWIA Level III Certification in Contracting, a B.S. in Economics/Business, and a Masters of Public Administration (MPA) from UW Milwaukee where he previously served as President of the MPA Alumni Chapter. Jason served on the WI CNMA Chapter Board. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jason-rathsack-8950ba8/>



Daryl Zahn, CFCM, Senior Manager, Contracts and Compliance
DRS Naval Power Systems, Inc.

Power Systems, Inc. located in Menomonee Falls, WI. DRS Naval Power Systems, Inc. provides power distribution, power conversion, motor controls, drives, and automation / control equipment for Naval and marine requirements operating as both a prime contractor to the US Navy and a sub-tier contractor to Naval shipbuilders and supporting companies. Daryl has worked in Federal contracting for over 30 years, having worked for Astronautics Corporation of America, Eaton Navy Controls and DRS

Naval Power Systems, Inc. with experience administrating contract actions for prime contracts, subcontracts to prime customers, as well as contracts for commercial customers. Daryl is an active member of the Wisconsin chapter of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) being a long-time board member, including Executive Board positions as Secretary, Vice President, President, and is presently the chapter Treasurer. In this position, Daryl facilitates yearly training for persons looking to gain certification as Certified Federal Contract Managers (CFCM) or just looking to gain a better understanding of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). Daryl serves as an advisory board member to the Wisconsin Procurement Institute and has recently been added to the Board of Directors for the National Defense Industrial Association Great Lakes Chapter (NDIA-GL). <https://www.linkedin.com/in/zahn-daryl-05756b29/>



Megan McKinney, Director, Strategic Development, ICTECT

Ms. McKinney applies her 20+ years expertise within the aerospace and defense industries to Ictect, Inc. As the Director of Strategic Development at ICTECT, she is an integral team member focused on growing customer relationships and delivering Ictect's patented software solution to modernize document workflows, increase the speed and efficiency of the publishing process, and reduce training needs all while providing significant cost savings. Ms. McKinney is an active member of the National Defense Industrial Association's (NDIA) Member Leadership Council (Past Chair) and the NDIA Great Lakes Chapter (Board Member, Co-founder and Past President). <https://www.linkedin.com/in/megan-l-mckinney/>

Ictect, a Wisconsin-based technology-innovator, is a rapidly growing software company serving the defense and commercial markets. Ictect brings Intelligent Content and Artificial Intelligence to your documents! They do this with tools you use every day, such as Microsoft Word. They seek to improve workflows and streamline performance by providing a better way to professionally edit, transform, and publish to multiple formats. They serve customers within the Department of Defense, corporations, associations, and individual authors like you. Ictect is a Microsoft partner and an SBA-certified 8(a) company.



Aina Vilumsons, President / Executive Director
Wisconsin Procurement Institute (WPI) – Wisconsin's APEX
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Benjamin Blanc, Government Contract Specialist, Wisconsin
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The **Wisconsin Procurement Institute (WPI)** – www.wispro.org - is Wisconsin's APEX Accelerator with a mission to serve as the axis for existing and new business to strengthen the defense and government industrial base by accelerating innovation, fostering ingenuity, and establishing resilient and diverse supply chains. WPI is celebrating 37 years of service to all of Wisconsin's 72 Wisconsin counties. Last year WPI provided technical assistance to 1300+ active clients, added 900+ new clients, hosted / participated in 100+ webinars, workshops and conferences and was credited with assisting clients receive over \$1.9 billion in contract awards.



The National Contract Management Association (NCMA) – www.ncmahq.org founded in 1959, is the world’s leading professional resource for those in the field of contract management. The organization, which has over 22,000 members, is dedicated to the professional growth and educational advancement of procurement and acquisition personnel worldwide. NCMA

strives to serve and inform the profession it represents and to offer opportunities for the open exchange of ideas in neutral forums.



The National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) – www.ndia.org - drives strategic dialogue in national security by identifying key issues and leveraging the knowledge and experience of its military, government, industry, and academic members to address them. NDIA, comprised of

its [Affiliates](#), [Chapters](#), [Divisions](#), and 1,780 corporate and 65,000 individual members, is a non-partisan, non-profit, educational association that has been designated by the IRS as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization—not a lobby firm—and was founded to educate its constituencies on all aspects of national security. NDIA formed from a merger between the American Defense Preparedness Association, previously known as the Army Ordnance Association, founded in 1919, and the National Security Industrial Association, founded in 1944. For more than 100 years, NDIA has provided a platform through which leaders in government, industry, and academia can collaborate and provide solutions to advance the national security and defense needs of the nation.