

Submission Guidelines
specific to
Journal of Legal Affairs and Dispute Resolution in Engineering and Construction

CONTENT (ARTICLE TYPES)

In addition to article types in other ASCE Journals, the *Journal of Legal Affairs and Dispute Resolution in Engineering and Construction* publishes the following content.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Scholarly Papers (rather than Technical Papers)

Scholarly Papers are original, well-researched, referenced, and analyzed papers typically ranging from 4,250 to 9,750 words. Papers address the subject matter's impact on the execution of engineering and construction projects. Articles discussing jurisprudence fall into this category.

Features

Feature articles describe a subject of current public interest and are written to apprise the readership of the main issues and developments in this matter. Features are typically 3,500 to 8,500 words in length.

Case Studies

These articles study any legal affairs or dispute resolution case in detail and depth. Usually, the full history of the case and arguments presented by plaintiff and defendant must be lucidly stated. A timeline of events helps to understand the case. The ramifications and broader impact of the case are necessary. A section on lessons learned further makes the picture clear. Case studies must range from 4,000 to 9,500 words in length.

Legal Notes (rather than Technical Notes)

Legal notes emphasize the specific practice and application of laws. They are usually 2,250 to 9,000 words in length.

OTHER ARTICLES

Forum

These article types focus on opinions. They need not be necessarily as well researched as scholarly articles. However, we recognize that forum articles play a very important part in the overall understanding of law as applied to construction and engineering projects. The word length should be 1,500 words and typically go up to 3,500 words.

Synopses of Court Verdicts

Synopses are write-ups on a recent court verdict, typically ranging from 1,500 to 3,500 words, that trace the history, developments, and outcome of the court verdict and explain its effect on contract administration. These can be considered as a shorter version of the case study type of articles.

Conference Reviews

Conference reviews are short yet full accounts or descriptions of any conference, seminar, or symposium on law and dispute resolution. This review must discuss a recent event. The length of such articles must be between 750 and 3,000 words.

Letters to the Editor

Short letters range from 400 to 1,500 words; longer letters are up to 4,000 words. Letters should meet a high technical and scientific standard and be referenced, where possible, especially the longer letters.

Discussions and Closures

These may be submitted for Features, Scholarly Papers, Case Studies, and Legal Notes.

Please see Chapter 1 of the ASCE Author Guide for yet other allowed article types: <http://ascelibrary.org/doi/book/10.1061/9780784479018>.

STYLE REQUIREMENTS

The legal content of this journal's material necessitates some differences in style and in citation formatting and organization.

Abstracts

Abstracts are unequivocally the most important part of any paper. Many readers read only the abstract. Thus, the abstract should summarize all the information in the paper in approximately 150 words. Abstracts must be precise, to the point, and interesting. The abstract is not an introduction: it should be informative. The abstract must contain the background, aims, method, results, and major findings and conclusions—all in one paragraph.

Avoid the stereotypical abstract styles found in other engineering journals. In the *Journal of Legal Affairs and Dispute Resolution in Engineering and Construction*, the author is encouraged to tell more of a story—about cases that have happened. The editor encourages authors to present the abstract as a short and gripping story.

Système International (SI) Units

In this journal, Système International (SI) units are not required in nontechnical descriptive material; however, in technical material, the use of SI units and units acceptable in SI is mandatory.

Endnote Numbers

Superscript endnote numbers are allowed in the text of this journal. See below for more details on endnotes. Footnotes are not used in other ASCE journals.

Conclusions

The conclusions must be substantive and must highlight the major features and findings of the paper. It is not sufficient to say "it is important for the administrators to understand the law." The authors must present details of the analysis, and where applicable, they should include a substantive summary.

Future Research

The article must emphasize and focus on what is being done and what has been done or is expected. The author should leave interpretation of future needs and possible research to

readers and other researchers. Hence, a separate section, sub-section, or statements on Future Research are not allowed.

Limitations and Recommendations

The authors should delineate any research limitation that is within the scope of the article and must explain all limitations in the text. The *Journal* encourages Recommendations for practical implementation.

No Country Name in the Title

The Journal does not endorse country/region/city names in the title.

Additional Writing Tips

For additional writing tips for the Journal, please visit [https://ascelibrary.org/doi/10.1061/\(ASCE\)LA.1943-4170.0000337](https://ascelibrary.org/doi/10.1061/(ASCE)LA.1943-4170.0000337). Authors must adhere to the guidelines given there.

CITATIONS AND REFERENCES

Citations in this journal are divided into five categories and are printed under the heading “References” in the following order:

- (1) List of Cases
- (2) List of Statutes
- (3) Endnotes
- (4) Bibliography, and
- (5) Works Cited

Authors need not use all these categories, but endnotes are highly encouraged for legal affairs papers. Excepting endnotes, each section should be arranged alphabetically.

List of Cases. When plaintiff vs. defendant information is mentioned in the text, use italics, as shown in the following examples:

Excavation-Construction, Inc., v. United States
Community Heating & Plumbing Co., Inc., v. Kelso

And then, the list of cases should include the full citation at the end of the paper. Note that the case name is not italicized in the full citation:

Excavation-Construction, Inc., v. United States, ENG BCA 3851
(1984).
Community Heating & Plumbing Co., Inc., v. Kelso, 987 F.2d 1575 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

List of Statutes. The list of statutes gives specific state or federal statutes pertaining to legislation, as shown in the following:

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101–336, § 2, 104 Stat. 328 (1991).

Endnotes. Endnotes may include commentary and other remarks, as shown in the following:

⁷ Idle capacity; because of delay, staff are not fully engaged in productive work for the delayed project during the delay period.

If a court case is included in the list of cases and has already been cited in the text, its short form may be subsequently cited in an endnote, as shown in the following:

²⁷ Excavation-Construction.

The *Journal of Legal Affairs and Dispute Resolution in Engineering and Construction* is the only journal that uses endnotes.

Author-Date Format

For other citations and references, the *Journal of Legal Affairs and Dispute Resolution in Engineering and Construction* uses the same author-date format found in other ASCE journals. See Chapter 5 of the ASCE Author Guide (<http://ascelibrary.org/doi/book/10.1061/9780784479018>) for details.