

# Construction Liens and Construction Litigation

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## **UPDATE: Does the COVID-19 Suspension Order Affect Construction Liens & Statutory Holdbacks?**

On April 7 we posted an article discussing issues created in the construction industry as a result of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (the “Suspension Order”) issued on March 20th. There has been a great deal of debate among construction lawyers and in the construction industry as to the exact impact of the Suspension Order on the *Construction Act* timelines and limitations. However, all of that debate has been put to rest as the Attorney General just released a letter on April 9th advising the Suspension Order has been amended to:

“...lift the suspension of limitation periods and procedural time periods under the *Construction Act*. This will allow for the release of holdback payments to contractors and subcontractors in the normal course.”

As set out in the April 9 letter, the suspension of all *Construction Act* timelines will be formally lifted as **April 16**, to give the industry time to prepare and implement the changes.

Feel free to contact our Construction Team if you have any questions or would like to discuss the above.

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