



# John M. Sperati

## PARTNER

jsperati@smithdebnamlaw.com

919.250.2122

### AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Commercial Creditor Bankruptcy
- Construction Law
- Creditors' Rights & Collections
- Equipment Leasing & Finance
- Foreclosure & Real Estate Litigation
- Real Estate Law
- Business Litigation

### GET IN TOUCH

[jsperati@smithdebnamlaw.com](mailto:jsperati@smithdebnamlaw.com)

 919.250.2122

#### Raleigh

The Landmark Center  
4601 Six Forks Road  
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Raleigh, NC 27609

### MY PROFILE

John Sperati, a partner with the firm, concentrates his practice in commercial creditor bankruptcy, foreclosure and real estate litigation, structured settlement transfer, judgment domestication and enforcement, [construction litigation](#), commercial litigation, [equipment leasing and finance](#) and [creditors' rights](#).

John uses the knowledge he gained working in the construction industry prior to law school to assist in the effective representation of his clients. His practical knowledge of the industry allows him to effectively communicate with and advise his clients to develop real world solutions for legal problems. John's clients include general contractors, custom homebuilders, subcontractors, owners, sureties, suppliers of materials and labor, developers, engineers, demolition and salvage contractors. His representation of clients includes the protection of rights to payment on private and public construction projects, filing and enforcement of liens and bond claims, defense/prosecution of warranty claims, representation in civil litigation, arbitrations and mediations, recovery of equipment and vehicles for leasing companies.

Prior to joining Smith Debnam, John was a member of another North Carolina firm focused on construction law and he brings that strong background and knowledge to serve Smith Debnam's client base. John was recently listed as a Rising Star in *North Carolina Super Lawyers®* that recognizes accomplished, young attorneys. John was nominated by fellow lawyers, who have personally observed him in action — whether as opposing counsel or co-counsel, or through other firsthand courtroom observation.

### MY CREDENTIALS

#### Admissions

- North Carolina
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern, Middle, and Western Districts of North Carolina
- 4th Circuit Court of Appeals

#### Education

- J.D. North Carolina Central School of Law, *cum laude*, 2003
- B.A. Parks and Recreation Management, Western Carolina University, 1991

### **Professional Affiliations**

- Wake County Bar Association
- North Carolina Bar Association
- NCBA Construction Section
- American Bar Association
- Professional Construction Estimators Association
- ABA Construction Section
- [American Council of Engineering Companies North Carolina](#)
- Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, Member Leadership Raleigh 2012-2013

### **Awards & Recognition**

- Listed as a Rising Star in [North Carolina Super Lawyers® 2012](#)

### **Civic Involvement**

- TKE Alumni Association
- Bridge II Sports - Board of Directors

### **Representative Cases**

- Martin & Loftis Clearing & Grading, Inc., v. Saieed Construction Systems Corp. 168 N.C. App.542; 608 S.E.2d 124 (2005)

## **ARTICLES & INSIGHTS**

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March 19, 2012

[Twice in One Month, Federal Decisions Have Strengthened Subcontractors' and Suppliers' Lien Rights in NC](#)

February 27, 2012

[Mammoth Grading, Inc. Decision Impacts Lien Rights of North Carolina Subcontractors and Suppliers](#)

February 25, 2011

[Possible Lien/Bond Law Revisions may substantially Change Lien Rights in North Carolina](#)

September 21, 2010

[Possible Impact on North Carolina Lien Waivers](#)

March 6, 2009

[Holy Cow! They Can Take My Land?](#)

## **NEWS**

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January 15, 2021

[Smith Debnam Podcast Creditors' Corner LEGAL TALK Ranked Top 15](#)

## Consumer Law Podcasts to Follow in 2021

November 1, 2019

[Smith Debnam Named in 2020 "Best Law Firms" by U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers®](#)

September 7, 2018

[Smith Debnam Laces Up for Backpack Buddies at 2018 North Hills 5k](#)

September 19, 2017

[John Sperati to Present on Construction Contracts](#)

August 10, 2017

[Smith Debnam Brings Full-Court Press to Raise Awareness](#)

August 12, 2014

[Smith Debnam Teams Up for a Good Cause](#)

February 1, 2013

[John Sperati named partner at Smith Debnam](#)

November 6, 2012

[Leadership Raleigh: John Sperati joins Class of 2012/2013](#)

September 7, 2012

[Wheelchair basketball for a good cause](#)

March 30, 2012

[Three Smith Debnam Attorneys Selected as 2012 Rising Stars in North Carolina Super Lawyers®](#)

August 17, 2011

[John Sperati presents Law of Construction Defects and Failures](#)

April 24, 2009

[John M. Sperati Joins Smith Debnam](#)

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