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Michael Best Prevails on Subcontractor Dispute Appeal

Wisconsin Law Journal

Two attorneys at Michael Best & Friedrich prevailed in a \$1.1 million subcontractor dispute in front of the Court of Appeals.

The case had the appellate court consider the application of the economic-loss doctrine and the distinction between tort and contract law in *Mechanical, Inc. v. Venture Electrical Contractors, Inc.* The dispute was one of first impression in Wisconsin, the firm said in a press release.

The two companies were subcontractors working on a research-laboratory addition to the Great Lakes Research Facility at UW-Milwaukee. Each received separate but similar subcontracts from J.P. Cullen, the general contractor, in 2012.

Upon the completion of the project, Venture asked for more than \$1 million from Cullen for costs related to delays and untimely performance. Venture blamed Mechanical and other subcontractors for its losses. Cullen denied the claim, saying it was untimely and Venture's subcontract precluded recovery for delay.

To read the entire Wisconsin Law Journal article, [click here](#).

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