

## Contracts – Best Practices

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#### **Biography**

Brandon Zimmerman is a Contract Services Supervisor for Southern Nuclear Operating Company. In this role, he manages contract agents and buyers that handle major projects (e.g., cooling tower refurbishments/replacements, new construction projects, dry cask storage and high risk/specialty on-site services). Brandon joined Southern Nuclear in 2015 and served as the supply chain lead for the company's largest alliance agreement for maintenance and modification services with a contract portfolio in excess of \$700 million.

Prior to Southern, Brandon worked as a Senior Contracting Officer in the Coal & Gas Generation Contracts group at TVA in Chattanooga, served as in-house counsel for a construction company in Nashville and practiced as an associate attorney with a law firm in Birmingham. In each role, Brandon has been heavily engaged in drafting, negotiating and enforcing contracts. Brandon received his MBA, *summa cum laude*, from Middle Tennessee State University and his J.D. from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University.

### **Eric Peterson**

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#### **Biography**

Eric Peterson is a Principal Contracts Agent, Alliances for Southern Nuclear Operating Company. In this role, he serves as the key supply chain contact for business units regarding strategic vendor contracts, strategic vendor major projects, cyber security, A/E design & civil services and sensitive corporate contracts. Eric is a leading contributor to cost savings and avoidances, contract compliance, dispute resolutions, and supplier performance management. Prior to joining Southern Nuclear, Eric was a practicing attorney at a prominent mid-sized firm in Birmingham, Ala., where he focused on national and local commercial real estate, banking and corporate transactions, with special emphasis on terms and conditions. Eric received his bachelor's degree in economics, with minors in sociology and financial economics, from Vanderbilt University, and his J.D. from the College of William & Mary's Marshall-Wythe School of Law.

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### **Abstract – Contracts – Best Practices**

“I know what the contract states, but that is not what we meant.” How many times do we write contracts and the true intent is not captured or the parties walk away with contract gaps or two very different understandings? This breakout session will focus on some Contracting Best Practices and the “Repeat Offenders” list of clauses that result in real-time disputes and retrospective audit findings. The session will be valuable information for first time contract writers and seasoned CPOs alike.