

# How Mechanics Liens WORK IN ARIZONA

## For Publicly-owned Property

As a contractor or material supplier, it is important to know what your options are for protecting your income when working on any project. When it comes to publicly-owned property, filing a mechanics lien on the project may not be an option; however, you may be able to file a **Bond Claim**.

## What is a Bond Claim?

Just like a mechanics lien (which is used only for privately-owned properties), bond claims are used to ensure payment when working on publicly-owned or government properties. A payment bond is usually issued by an insurance company or financial institution at a state-determined value.

IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA, THE BOND MUST EQUAL THE PROJECT PRICE.



**20**  
DAYS

You **MUST** file a prelien within 20 days of issuing supplies or starting work. Just like when you are filing a lien for privately-owned property, you need to issue a preliminary notice in order to be able to stake your bond claim.



**90**  
DAYS

You **MUST** send notice of your bond claim within 90 days of final issuing of supplies or labor. While this is not explicitly stated, it is safe to assume that the notice must be received within this 90 period in order to ensure your rights are protected. If the contractor does not receive the notice of bond claim within the specified period of time, you may lose your right to act on it.



**1**  
YEAR

You **MUST** file a lawsuit on the payment bond within a year of completing your work on the project. It is important to note that if you worked only on the early stages of the project, then this 1 year mark may come before construction concludes. Make sure your dates are correct and act sooner rather than later.