

Bond Claims on California PUBLIC PROJECTS

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 a publicly-owned state, city or county properties. A payment bond is usually issued by an insurance company or financial institution at a state-determined value. When filing a bond claim, you are staking a claim to a certain amount from the payment bond issued.

20
DAYS



You **MUST** send a prelien within 20 days of supplying materials or labor. Just as you would send a prelien for privately-owned property, you need to send a prelien notice in order to submit a Bond Claim.

30
DAYS



You **MUST** file a Bond Claim within thirty 30 days after the recording of a Notice of Completion. If the company files a Notice of Completion, Notice of Acceptance, or Notice of Cessation, then you have 30 days to serve them with your Bond Claim. If no notice is filed, you have 90 days after project completion to submit your Bond Claim. Otherwise, you may lose rights.

90
DAYS

6
MONTHS



After the filing of the Bond Claim, you have 6 months to take legal action. If a Notice of Completion, Acceptance, or Cessation has been filed, then you have 30 days plus 6 months to file suit. If no notice has been filed, then you have 90 days after project completion plus 6 months to file suit.