

NAWIC

CT
Business
MAGAZINE

Women in Construction

Building for the Future

BY TERRY CASEY

NAWIC PROFILES



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Jane Milas joined NAWIC's Hartford Chapter just three years ago, but it didn't take long for her to really get involved. She now serves as a director on the local NAWIC board. At first Milas wanted to meet more women who held the same interest in the industry that she had.

"It was very easy to become involved. People were extremely welcoming, especially to newcomers." She also was very impressed with the things that she saw being done by women in the industry.

Milas started with her current law firm 18 years ago and in 1996 became a partner. She earned an AB from Bryn Mawr College, MA degrees in anthropology and counseling psychology from Northwestern University and a JD degree from UConn.

Milas has always considered construction to be a very interesting area of law because she feels it can be very challenging and that her efforts can have a real impact on people's businesses. Milas carries a huge amount of respect for people in the construction industry. "Construction people as a whole are hard working, interesting people who have to be comfortable with risk."

Encouraging more women in the legal profession to consider construction law as a practice area is one of Milas' personal goals. Construction is not a field to which women tend to gravitate, nor do women seem to be encouraged by others to enter the field.

The biggest issue Milas faces in her job is the intense pressure that goes along with large construction projects because so much is at stake in terms of money and the number of parties involved. "Problem solving skills are particularly important, and you have to be able to put them into action, especially when you're under pressure. I look at it as a way to help me stay on top of my game at all times." □