

## Project Labor Agreements

The Supreme Court in Iowa has determined that a Project Labor Agreement may be permissible on public projects if it conforms to the precise structure and format approved in the decision of *Master Builders of Iowa v. Polk County*, 653 N.W.2d 382 (Iowa 2002) and if in implementation it does not infringe on the rights of non-union employees.

<sup>17</sup> To our knowledge, there have been two district court opinions which have addressed this issue. In one, *Hudson v. City of Mason City*, the court voided a contract let to a "local" contractor even though the contractor was not the low bidder. In another, the district court permitted a similar award to stand. The losing contractor appealed to the Iowa Supreme Court, which affirmed the lower court but the ruling was based on the protesting contractor's lack of standing, not the merits of the case. See *Garling Constr. v. City of Shellsburg*, 641 N.W.2d 522 (Iowa 2002).