



# Join A Network of Specialists: Become Board Certified In **Criminal Trial Law**

**The Florida Bar's certification program is consistently recognized as a national leader among other state programs.**

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*Board certified lawyers are:  
"Evaluated for professionalism and tested for expertise."*

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## **Florida Bar board certification can benefit you in the following ways:**

- ★ *Certification provides an objective measure that a potential client can rely upon when selecting a lawyer.*
- ★ *By becoming board certified, you join an existing network – and a directory of lawyers at [FloridaBar.org/certification](http://FloridaBar.org/certification) – of specialists who frequently refer others to specialists in their fields of practice.*
- ★ *Certification may enhance the stature of your law firm and can result in lower malpractice insurance rates. Florida Lawyers Mutual Insurance Co. offers a 10 percent discount to board certified lawyers.*

## **Minimum standards for criminal trial law certification, provided in Rule 6-8.3, include:**

- Practice of law for at least 5 years;
- Substantial involvement in the specialty of criminal trial law- 30% or more- during the 3 years immediately preceding application;
- Handling of at least 25 contested criminal cases, with 20 jury trials, tried to a verdict, 15 which involved a felony, and 10 as lead counsel;
- 45 hours of approved criminal trial law certification continuing legal education in the 3 years immediately preceding application;
- Peer review; and,
- A written examination.

**If you're considering board certification in criminal trial law, applications must be postmarked by October 31 for the following year's exam. Standards, policies, applications and staff contacts are available online at**

**[FloridaBar.org/certification](http://FloridaBar.org/certification).**