TEE IT UP
For a Winning Year in Your Bar Association

2016 Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference

July 15-16
The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples
WE APPRECIATE OUR FELLOWS!
They believe the justice system works best when it works for everyone.

Become a Fellow Today.
You can pledge online at:
www.FloridaBarFoundation.org/Fellows

Florida Bar Foundation Fellows are lawyers and members of the general public who have taken a pledge – a promise to provide greater access to justice by helping to build The Florida Bar Foundation Endowment Trust and fulfill the Foundation’s mission.
Links with Bar leaders.

Florida Bar President Bill Schifino joins us for a team huddle and a chance to dialogue on what’s on the horizon for The Florida Bar, Saturday, July 16. This session is sure to be a winner with this all-star Bar leader. He and other VIPs top-off a Bar Leaderboard that will rival the Masters!

A game-changing opening round.

Great golfers use the right club at the right time. They don’t use a putter off the tee, and they don’t use a nine iron on the green. They assess the situation and choose the right club. You could say that great golfers adapt their game to the course.

Working effectively with different types of people is a lot like golf. It requires that you suit your game to whatever the situation calls for. In this session, you’ll gain insight into how you like to play the game. You’ll learn to recognize how others play. After this session, you’ll never again try to putt your way out of a sand trap.

A game night you will love.

We’re bringing back blackjack, roulette, craps, poker and Texas Hold ‘Em table games for a Par-TEE with a twist. Join us for an evening of networking fun over casino games, a photo booth and SHOLF (golf shuffle board) – where even a beginner can make a hole-in-one. Topped off with a Naples Dinner at sunset, Friday night’s event is a sure bet for a great time!
### Florida Bar Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference & Wm. Reece Smith Jr. Leadership Academy

**July 15-16, 2016 • Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort**

**Friday, July 15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>VBLC Registration and Sponsor Tables</td>
<td>Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<td>10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>VBLC Early Bird Roundtable Discussion</td>
<td>Tiburon 1</td>
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<td>Sarah Cortvriend, Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee Chair</td>
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<td>E. Ashley Hardee, Voluntary Bar Conference Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>VBLC Optional Lunch (available for registrants who paid additional $47 at time of registration only)</td>
<td>Tiburon 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>VBLC/LA OPENING SESSION</strong></td>
<td>Tiburon 2-3</td>
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<td>Welcome and Introductory Remarks</td>
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<td>Sarah Cortvriend, Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee Chair</td>
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<td>E. Ashley Hardee, Voluntary Bar Conference Chair</td>
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<td>1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker: Don’t be a Duffer! Play a Better Game: Skills You Need to Build Your Championship Team</td>
<td>Tiburon 2-3</td>
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<td>Nora Riva Bergman, J.D., Practice Advisor, Atticus, Inc.</td>
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<td>2:10 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAKOUTS - Joint Sessions with The Wm. Reece Smith, Jr. Leadership Academy</td>
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<td>2:10 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>VBLC/LA BREAKOUT SESSION 1</strong></td>
<td>The Preserve</td>
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<td>Session A</td>
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<td>Follow-Through: Transitioning from Local Voluntary Bar Leadership to Florida Bar Leadership</td>
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<td>Panelists:</td>
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<td>Lorna Brown-Burton, The Florida Bar Board of Governors 17th Circuit Representative, Voluntary Bar Liaison; Past President, Young Lawyers Section of the Broward County Bar Association; Past 17th Circuit Representative, Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar</td>
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<td>Sarah Cortvriend, Chair, Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee; Past President, Palm Beach County FAWL</td>
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<td>Michelle Suskauer, The Florida Bar Board of Governors 15th Circuit Representative; Past President, Palm Beach County Bar Association; Past President, Palm Beach County FAWL</td>
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<td>3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>VBLC/LA BREAKOUT SESSION 2</strong></td>
<td>Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<td>3:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>VBLC/LA BREAKOUT SESSION 2</td>
<td>The Preserve</td>
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<td>Session A</td>
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<td>Pro Lessons: How to Make Mentoring Programs Work for Your Bar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nicole Hessen, Past President, Palm Beach County FAWL</td>
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<td>Michelle Studstill, President-Elect, Brevard County Bar Association</td>
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<td>Kimberly Homer, Executive Director, Orange County Bar Association</td>
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<td>Jody Shulman, Director, Miami-Dade FAWL</td>
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<td>Braulio Rosa, Executive Director, Broward County Bar Association</td>
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**19th Hole: Beverage Station**

**19th Hole:**

- **Beverage Station** (Ballroom Foyer)

**3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**3:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
Session B  Tiburon 3
Greens Maintenance: Technology for Bar Associations - Tips and Programs to Help Run An Effective Association
Panelists:
Adriana Linares, Law Tech Partners
Patience Burns, Executive Director, Palm Beach County Bar Association

Session C  Royal Palm
Keeping Your Bar Budget Under Par: Developing a Budget for Your Bar Association
Panelists:
Nora Riva Bergman, J.D., Practice Advisor, Atticus, Inc.
Thomas G. Burns, Certified Public Accountant

4:10 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  VBLC/LA BREAKOUT SESSION 3
Session A  The Preserve
Filling in the Pipeline: Identifying, Recruiting, and Training Leadership to Build Your Association
Panelists:
Jane Muir, Past President, Coral Gables Bar Association
Lillian Ewen, Past President, St. Lucie County Bar Association
Patricia Elizée, President, Haitian Lawyers Association

Session B  Tiburon 3
When You Just Can’t Clone Yourself: Outsourcing to Maximize Your Bar’s Potential
Panelists:
Lisa McKnight Tipton, APR, PR Florida Inc.
Joann Gore, Executive Director, Tallahassee Bar Association

Session C Royal Palm
Approach Shot: Effective CLE Programming & How to Host a Bench Bar Conference
Panelists:
Vivian Cortes Hodz, President, Tampa Hispanic Bar Association
John Kynes, Executive Director, Hillsborough County Bar Association
Jessica Malloy, Education Compliance & Accreditation Manager, The Florida Bar

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Games
Fore the Love of the Games: VBLC/LA Dinner and Entertainment Palms Court/Tiburon 1
An evening of networking fun over casino-style games, a photo booth, and golf shuffle board – where even a beginner can make a hole-in-one with the help of pros who will teach you how to play the games! Topped off with a champion dinner of West Coast Florida favorites!

Saturday, July 16

7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast and Round Tables with the Leadership Academy/Tiburon 1
Optional round table - Staffed bars with 1,000+ members
Discussion leaders:
Braulio Rosa, Executive Director, Broward County Bar Association
Kim Homer, Executive Director, Orange County Bar Association

Optional round table - Staffed bars with less than 1,000 members
Discussion leaders:
Holly Lipps, Executive Director, Sarasota County Bar Association
Michelle Studstill, President-Elect, Brevard County Bar Association
Bryan Lober, President, Brevard County Bar Association

Optional round table - Non-staffed bars
Discussion leaders:
Sue Revell, Executive Director, Manatee County Bar Association
Colin McMichen, Past President, Bay County Bar Association

9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m. Best Links: A Conversation with 2016-17 Florida Bar President Bill Schifino/Tiburon 2-3
10:00 a.m. – NOON The Wm. Reece Smith, Jr. Leadership Academy Meets Blue Heron
10:00 a.m. – NOON 19th Hole Beverage Station Ballroom Foyer
10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. VBLC BREAKOUT SESSION 4
Session A  The Preserve
Pro Shop Essentials: ABA and Florida Bar Programs, Diversity, Other Resources, Etc.
Panelists:
Karyn Linn, American Bar Association
Arnell Bryant-Willis, Diversity Initiatives Manager, The Florida Bar
Steven Rubin, Board of Legal Specialization and Education
Jeff Doran, Public Information Coordinator, The Florida Bar
Course credit.

This year’s conference has several tools you’ll want to have handy as you chart your course for success as an officer or director of your bar association. Not only have we brought together the best resources and pros on timely topics, the conference is also good for 5.0 hours of Continuing Legal Education credit from The Florida Bar.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 1508240N

TITLE: 2016 Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference

LEVEL: Intermediate

APPROVAL PERIOD: 07/15/2016 - 1/15/2018
The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division

A Proud Sponsor of the 2016 Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference

Mark your calendars for the 2017 Affiliate Outreach Conference, at Disney’s Grand Floridian Resort and Spa, January 13-14, 2017. Grant monies will be awarded to affiliates who present a project and reimbursement funds are available for affiliate members to attend the conference.

The Voluntary Bar Associations in Florida offer their support and sincerest condolences to the Orlando community and everyone affected by the tragic events of June 12.

#OrlandoUnited

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer announced the formation of the OneOrlando Fund, to raise and receive money to help those families most affected by the Pulse shootings. To contribute visit oneorlando.org

- The Orange County Bar Association & Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association, Inc., have established a Victims’ Legal Assistance hotline for pro bono lawyer referrals. Victims and family members: Call 407-422-4537, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- Attorneys who wish to volunteer pro bono services may download an application at orangecountybar.org
Meet the 2016 Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference Discussion Leaders, Speakers and Panelists

SARAH CORTVRIEND, committee chair, is a shareholder at Carlton Fields’ West Palm Beach office. Cortvriend’s focus is on real property and commercial litigation, representing national lenders in commercial foreclosures and national title insurance underwriters in matters including title insurance claims, closing protection letter coverage, title agent defalcations, forgeries, lien priorities, insurer bad faith, quiet title, and equitable subrogation. AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, Cortvriend was recognized as a Super Lawyer in 2013-2016, and as a Rising Star from 2010-2014 by Florida Super Lawyers and has been listed in Florida Trend’s Florida Legal Elite. She is a member of FAWL, the FAWL Past Presidents’ Advisory Council, and served as chair of a Florida Bar Grievance Committee in Palm Beach County. Cortvriend is a graduate of Leadership Palm Beach County Class of 2010, Guardian Ad Litem for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit and serves on the board of directors of the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County and the Hanley Center Foundation.

dcottviend@carltonfields.com

DANNY ALLER is Public Information Coordinator for Social Media at The Florida Bar. In this position he manages the daily process to expand the reach of The Florida Bar’s immensely popular social media pages. Prior to coming to the Bar, Aller worked in journalism as a sports reporter for 10 years at a variety of newspapers in Florida and Georgia. During this tenure, he had interaction with the sports information staffs and athletic offices at various different levels — from high school, to college to the pros. Since coming to the Bar, Aller has helped various Sections, groups and members learn and utilize social media platforms to connect and reach their audience. He has introduced new platforms and been at the forefront of helping Bar members adapt to new technology to strengthen communication and outreach through social media. During his two-year tenure, The Florida Bar Twitter followers have grown from 800 to 6,000 and The Florida Bar Facebook followers have grown from 1,200 to 13,000. Aller holds a degree in English from Florida State University.

daller@floridabar.org

SHEILA BIEHL is a trial lawyer who received board certification from The Florida Bar in August 2011 in the field of business litigation. She is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and owns her own law firm, Sheila Biehl, P.A., which she established in 2000. Biehl has served in many leadership roles, including past president of the Martin County Bar Association, past chair for Florida Bar 19th Circuit Grievance Committee, and past president of the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast. Biehl is admitted to practice in Florida State Courts, the United States District Courts for the Southern District of Florida, Middle District of Florida, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. She currently serves as a member of The Florida Bar’s Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee.

sbiehl@sheilabiehl.com

NORA RIVA BERGMAN is a law firm coach and certified Atticus Practice Advisor. A licensed attorney since 1992, Bergman has practiced as an employment law attorney and certified mediator and has served as an adjunct professor at both Stetson University College of Law and the University of South Florida, teaching courses in alternative dispute resolution and negotiation. Bergman has been a speaker at conferences for the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys, the National Association of Bar Executives, The Florida Bar and other national and regional legal organizations. She also served for eight years as the Executive Director of a voluntary bar association with over 1,200 members. Bergman is a graduate of the Leadership Development Institute (LDI) at Eckerd College, and is certified in the Conflict Dynamics Profile® developed by the LDI to help individuals and organizations learn how to deal with conflict constructively. She is also certified by Target Training International in both DISC and EQ. Bergman is a graduate of Villanova University’s Lean Six Sigma Program and is certified by Villanova as a Lean Six Sigma Sensei. She is also a member of the Thought Leader Team at Law Without Walls, an international program for law students founded by the University of Miami School of Law. She is the author of 50 Lessons for Lawyers: Earn More – Stress Less – Be Awesome. Bergman received an undergraduate degree in journalism from the University of South Florida and her J.D. from Stetson University College of Law.

nora@atticusonline.com
nora@reallifepractice.com
SCOTT BERRY began practicing law October 2001. He is Board Certified in Criminal Trial Law by The Florida Bar Board of Specialization and Legal Education. Berry is admitted to The Florida Bar, the District of Columbia (Inactive), the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. His legal career began at the Office of the Public Defender for the 15th Judicial Circuit. As an assistant public defender, he also served as the Resource Director for the county court division where he supervised new attorneys in the office, assisting them in trial preparation and teaching them the importance of professional representation. He worked as a public defender for 9.5 years. Berry has been in private practice since 2011 and became the founding partner of Scott Berry Law, P.A. in February 2016. He represents clients in federal and state court who are being investigated or have been arrested for criminal charges. He also handles juvenile delinquency cases, sealing and expunction proceedings, witness representation, and grand jury investigations. Berry is a past president of the Palm Beach Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and a chapter representative to the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He is active in the Palm Beach County Bar Association, the Florida Lawyer’s Network, and the Wellington First Chapter of NPI. He received his J.D. from the University of Connecticut and his B.A. in History and Justice from American University.

scott@scottberrylaw.com

LORNA E. BROWN-BURTON is an AV-rated attorney licensed to practice law in Florida since 1987 and the Southern District of Florida since 1990. Her primary area of practice is workers’ compensation defense. Brown-Burton was elected to The Florida Bar Board of Governors, representing the Seventeenth Circuit, for 2012 to 2013, and was re-elected for the 2013-2015 and 2015-2017 terms. Brown-Burton is a member of the Workers’ Compensation Section of The Florida Bar. She served two 3-year terms on Florida Bar Grievance Committees. Previously, she was on the Board of Governors of the Young Lawyers Division. Brown-Burton has owned and operated her own firm since February 2004. In 2014, a merger formed Brown-Burton & DeMicco, PLLC. She also is an adjunct professor at Broward College in the Paralegal Degree Program. She is active in legal aid and is a past board member and president of Broward County Legal Aid. She is involved in many civic activities, including the Leadership Broward Foundation, where she has served as an officer and on the Board of Directors; Broward Women’s Alliance, where she is president for the September 2015-to-August 2016 term; and Rotary Fort Lauderdale South, where she is president for the July 2015-to-June 2016 term. She is a board member of the Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida, where she served as chair for 2013-2015 and was re-elected chair for 2015-2017. She is a graduate of the University of Florida and earned her J.D. from the Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law. She has been a member of the Shepard Broad College of Law Board of Governors since 2014.

lornab@lebburtonlaw.com

ARNELL BRYANT-WILLIS is the Diversity Initiatives Manager for The Florida Bar and has a diverse background in leadership roles in both the public and private sector. Bryant-Willis received an Associate’s degree from Hillborough Community College, a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Florida State University and a Master’s degree in education from Florida A&M University. Prior to coming to The Florida Bar, Bryant-Willis was vice president of operations for EW Bryant Associates, a consulting and training firm, where she developed and conducted training in leadership, team building and diversity in addition to facilitating roundtable discussions and strategic planning sessions for clients. Her prior work includes serving as operations director for the Office of Supplier Diversity at the Florida Department of Management Service, as special project coordinator and chief of the Bureau of Training for the Florida Department of Labor & Employment Security, and in positions with the Volusia County Department of Corrections and the Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. She was division chief for the Department of Employment Services in the District of Columbia from 1980-82. Her public service experience ranges from gubernatorial appointments to the Governor’s Council on Farmworker Affairs (1986-87), the Florida Coordinating Council on the Americans with Disabilities Act (1993-95), the Florida School to Community Transition Project (1995) and the Building Codes Study Commission (1997-98), to being a member of Florida’s first Youth Council operated by the Workforce Development Board under Enterprise Florida.

ABryant-Willis@floridabar.org

PATIENCE BURNS has been with the Palm Beach County Bar Association since December 1980, serving as its executive director since 1989. She previously worked for The Florida Bar from 1978 to 1980. She has served on numerous National Association of Bar Executives and Florida Bar committees for the past 30 years. She also serves on the board of directors for the Florida Association of Bar Executives and for the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. She has served as a consultant for the American Bar Association’s Division of Bar Services by participating in several local bar operational reviews. In 1999, she was awarded a Special Service Award by the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County during its Pro Bono Recognition Evening. In 2005, she earned the designation of Certified Association Executive by the American Society of Association Executives. In 2012, she was awarded the inaugural Marshall R. Cassidy Sr. Award from The Florida Bar for...
outstanding support of the legal profession. In 2016, she was awarded the Suzanne Foley “Serving Justice” Award from the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County.

pburns@palmbeachbar.org

TOM BURNS is a Certified Public Accountant with more than 35 years' experience. He has worked in both private and public accounting and currently owns his own consulting firm in West Palm Beach. His previous practice included accounting and tax work for individuals, businesses and nonprofit organizations. For more than 25 years, he has had an ongoing non-paid position as an accounting consultant for the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

tgburnscpa@gmail.com

LINDA DOGGETT was elected by Lee County voters to serve as Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller for Lee County in November 2012. She was sworn in to office on January 8, 2013, for a four-year term. Doggett holds a Bachelor’s degree in Management Information Systems (MIS) from Hodges University and is a longtime veteran of the Lee County Clerk’s Office. Doggett held various leadership positions including Information Technology Director, Courts Department Director, and Chief Operating Officer. As Clerk, Doggett oversees a staff of 340 employees serving a local Lee County population of approximately 661,115 citizens as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners, Auditor, County Recorder, and Comptroller. Over the years, Doggett has served the citizens of Lee County by leading the office to better technology and efficiencies. Doggett is currently serving as commission member, Florida Commission on Access to Civil Justice; Board of Directors, Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers; Technology Committee, Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers; Technology Strategic Planning Committee, chair, Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers; Performance Improvement & Efficiency Committee, Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers; Indigent Access Commission and United Way Board of Directors, Lee County.

ldoggett@leeclerk.org

JEFF DORAN is Public Information Coordinator for The Florida Bar. In this role he serves as the contact and liaison for more than 280 local, state and national bar associations in Florida. He staffs the Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee and coordinates the annual Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference. Doran is also staff for the Law Related Education Committee and recently helped launch the JustAdulting mobile app for Florida’s graduating seniors. Prior to joining The Florida Bar, he enjoyed 28 years in state-level association management, creating organizational value for volunteers and advancing a progressive political climate for business and industry. He holds a J.D. from Nashville School of Law and a B.S. in Communications from Middle Tennessee State University.

jdoran@floridabar.org

PATRICIA ELIZÉE is the managing partner of Elizée Hernandez Law Firm, P.A., an immigration and family law firm in Miami. Elizée previously worked at Americans for Immigrant Justice (formerly Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center) as a staff attorney and University of Miami Legal Corp Fellow. Elizée is a Class II Florida Bar Leadership Academy Fellow and a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Dade County Bar Association, The Florida Bar Family Law Section, and the Haitian American Chamber of Commerce. She is the current president of the Haitian Lawyers Association.

patricia@elizeehernandez.com

JUDGE MARY EVANS was elected to the circuit court bench by the voters of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit in 2014. She received an A.A. from Edison State College and a B.A. from Florida Gulf Coast University. Judge Evans attended her J.D. from Stetson University College of Law in Saint Petersburg. She was admitted to The Florida Bar in 2003, was a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator and was admitted to practice in U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida. Judge Evans was an attorney practicing with two prominent Southwest Florida family law firms before starting her own private family law practice in 2011 and continuing until her election to the bench. She is the 2013 past president of the Lee County Bar Association, member of the Lee County Bar Association Executive Committee for five years, past chairperson of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit Mock Trial Program and is past chairperson of the LCBA Family Law Section. She has served The Florida Bar as a state member of the Family Law Section Continuing Education Committee and as a member of The Florida Bar Speakers Bureau on the subject of merit retention. Judge Evans’ service to the community includes serving as a pro-bono attorney with the Florida Attorney Ad Litem program, a mentor for the PACE Center for Girls, Volunteer with the Quality of Life Center Free Legal Clinic and serving on the Lee County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.

JMacAlister@CA.CJIS20.ORG

LILLIAN EWEN is the senior appellate staff attorney for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, overseeing all appeals from county court as well as petitions for writ of certiorari for local administrative cases on behalf of the judiciary. She was fellow in the inaugural class of The Florida Bar Leadership Academy and currently serves on
the Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee. As president of the St. Lucie County Bar Association, Ewen oversaw a rapid expansion of the membership and the events calendar, including the planning and execution of several judicial investitures. She is a founding member of the executive committee of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Professionalism Panel and is active in the Justice Major B. Harding American Inn of Court. She has been a guest lecturer at Indian River State College and currently serves on the board of directors for the Humane Society of St. Lucie County.

ewenl@circuit19.org

KAREN FAST started as membership manager at the Orange County Bar Association in 2010. She was promoted to strategic marketing manager in 2012 and has assisted in the development of the Orange County Bar’s educational programs Leadership Law, New Lawyer Training Program, Paralegal Boot Camp Transform Your Law Practice and the Bench Bar Conference. Fast oversees Sponsorship and Advertising, Membership and the Events Department for the Orange County Bar Association. Fast came to the position with over 25 years of sales and marketing experience within the hospitality industry. She was the sales and marketing manager for other restaurant groups including The Capital Grille and The Palm. With a B.A. in Graphic Design from The American University in Washington, D.C., Fast has a background that has enhanced advertising and promotional pieces used to assist sales growth. After leaving the hospitality industry in 2008, Fast attended the Notter School of Pastry Arts in Orlando.

karenf@ocbanet.org

JUDGE JOSEPHINE GAGLIARDI was appointed to the Lee County bench by Governor Jeb Bush in 2006. As a county judge, she hears civil concerns with jurisdictional amounts below $15,000 and criminal misdemeanor matters. She also hears traffic and municipal ordinance violations. For the past eight plus years, she along with another judge have volunteered to handle cases for the Felony Adult Drug Court program. This program assists addicts to recover, attain sobriety and become productive members of society. Judge Gagliardi is a member of the Florida Courts Technology Commission, the Florida Court Education Council, Florida Bar Rules of Judicial Administration Committee, and she is the editor of the Courier, the newsletter of the Conference of County Court Judges of Florida. Judge Gagliardi is very active in her community volunteering her time with the Boy Scouts of America, and the PACE Center for Girls advisory board. She is a member of Rotary South, and other legal and civic organizations. She enjoys volunteer teaching and has taught bond, post judgment and landlord tenant issues to her fellow county court judges. She earned her Bachelor’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh and her Juris Doctor from Antioch School of Law.

JOANN GORE is executive director of the Tallahassee Bar Association. She joined the Tallahassee Bar Association in 2003 as a part-time assistant executive director and served in that role until 2012, when she was promoted to executive director. Gore graduated with her Masters of Science degree in Communication from Florida State University in 1989. She began her career in the communication/public information arena as the Director of Communication for a statewide credit union. She has served as the public information officer for the “Florida’s Prepaid College Program,” marketing director for Killearn Properties and a consultant for several law firms.

gorej@tallahasseebar.org

E. ASHLEY HARDEE, conference chair, is a senior trial court staff attorney in the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, where she has served for the past 21 years. She has served as president of three voluntary bar associations: the Florida Council of Past Bar Presidents (2014, 2015), the Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association (2001, 2014), and the Brevard County Bar Association (2009-2010). In the Brevard County Bar Association, Hardee founded the popular “CLE series” programming and chaired it from 2004 until 2007, in addition to serving as a Director (2004-2006), Secretary (2006-2007), Treasurer (2007-2008), and President Elect (2008-2009). In the Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association, Hardee has been very active since its inception in 2000, chairing several committees, including the ethics committee, newsletter committee, and conference and education committee in addition to serving on the board of directors for several terms. Hardee taught several courses as an adjunct legal professor for the University of Central Florida. She has been active in her circuit’s local Inn of Court. Ashley is also actively involved in the Justice Teaching program and advancing civics education. In 2008, the Supreme Court of Florida appointed Hardee to the Florida Court Personnel Committee and she continues to serve on that committee. From 2005 until 2007, she served on the Postconviction Rules Subcommittee for the District Court of Appeal Performance & Accountability Committee. She also was appointed to The Supreme Court of Florida’s workgroup on legal resources. Among her awards, Hardee received the Brevard County Bar Association’s Professionalism Award for Government Lawyers in 2005, and was named the Brevard County Bar Association’s Board Member of the Year in 2004, 2005, and 2006. She received the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit’s Employee of the Month Award in 2002. Ashley received the Vassar B. Carlton Inn of Court’s Mentor of the Year Award in 2009. In 2011, the Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association awarded Ashley the Kathy Pugh Leadership Award in addition to recognizing her in 2003 for outstanding service. In 2015, the Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association awarded Ashley the statewide “Lifetime Achievement Award.”

ashley.hardee@flcourts18.org
NICOLE HESSEN has focused her professional life on representing injured workers in workers’ compensation claims. A frequent speaker and interview subject, she is extremely involved in the legal community, as well as her local community in various capacities as a volunteer, member, and mentor. Hessen is AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has held board of director positions for many organizations including but not limited to president of the Palm Beach County Chapter of FAWL (2014-2015), Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association Board of Directors (2013-2015), Susan G. Komen Board of Directors (2014-2015), Palm Beach Bulls Youth Travel Basketball Board of Directors (2014-2016), Boys & Girls Club-Welington (2014-2016) and Palm Beach County Bar Association Workers’ Compensation Co-Chair (2008-2014). She has received several awards including: 2014 Kennie Edwards Memorial Award, 2014 Labor and Employment Attorney of the Year by Lifestyle Media Group, 2013 Rising Star by Super Lawyers, 2013-2016 Florida Legal Elite by Florida Trend, and 2015-2016 Super Lawyer. Hessen is the co-founding partner and shareholder of Hedler & Hessen, P.A. in West Palm Beach.

Nicole@Injuredworkersonly.com

VIVIAN CORTES HODZ is a partner at Cortes Hodz Family Law and Mediation, P.A. She has practiced family law exclusively for her entire career. Vivian received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology in 1999 from Florida State University and her Juris Doctor in 2002 from Florida State University College of Law. She worked as a staff attorney for Bay Area Legal Services as well as an associate in two small firms before opening her own practice in 2008. In addition to her family law litigation practice, Hodz is a Supreme Court Certified Family Law mediator and conducts mediations for other attorneys and pro se litigants. Hodz is the President of the Tampa Hispanic Bar Association, a board member of Bay Area Legal Services, a graduate and fellow of Class II of The Florida Bar Leadership Academy, and membership chair of the Executive Council of Family Law Section of the Hillsborough County Bar Association. She was appointed to the Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee of The Florida Bar in 2015 and serves on the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee for The Florida Bar. She is an active member of the Hillsborough Association of Women Lawyers, the Hispanic Professional Women’s Association, and Run Tampa. Hodz is a 2012 graduate of Leadership Tampa. Vivian has been recognized by Super Lawyers Magazine as a “Rising Star” in Family Law in 2015 and 2016. Hodz, born to parents of Cuban and Puerto Rican descent, strives to provide legal services in Spanish, both as an attorney and as a mediator.

vivian@corteshodzlaw.com

KIMBERLY A. HOMER serves as the executive director of the Orange County Bar Association (OCBA) in Orlando. Previously, she served as the director of the OCBA’s Foreclosure Mediation Program while simultaneously serving as the assistant executive director of the OCBA. She began working for the Orange County Bar Association in May of 2010. Homer has a J.D. from Cumberland Law School in Birmingham, Alabama, and has been admitted to practice law in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, and Montana. Her legal background includes work as a Georgia Legal Services attorney, serving as an assistant district attorney in the Northern District of Georgia, and working as a sole practitioner in Georgia, Alabama, and Montana. In addition to being an active member of the Orange County Bar Association and the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers, Homer serves as a volunteer attorney for the Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association, Inc. She was a member of the Orange County Public Schools Leadership Orange Program and enjoys serving on the Valencia College Paralegal Studies Advisory Committee. Homer is also a member of the National Association of Bar Executives.

khomer@ocbanet.org

MARC HULING is a partner with the Roetzel firm in Naples. Huling focuses on business litigation, representing clients in a variety of matters involving business tort and contract litigation. He represents financial institutions, developers, municipalities, employers, corporations and individuals in business contract and injury disputes. Huling is president-elect of the Collier County Bar Association (CCBA); president of the Collier County Bar Foundation; and board member and past president of Collier County Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division. In addition to his involvement with CCBA, Huling is active in several other professional and philanthropic organizations, serving as president of the Collier County Trial Lawyers Section and as a board member and past chair of the Collier County Law Library Trustees and a member of the American Inns of Court, Thomas Briggs Section. He is also a member of the Coastal Conservation Association and the Gulf Coast Runners. A graduate of Emory University and the Florida State University College of Law, where he served on law review, Huling has earned an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory and has been selected as a “Florida Super Lawyers - Rising Star” by Florida Super Lawyers magazine every year since 2009.

mhuling@ralaw.com
JOHN F. KYNES has served as executive director of the Hillsborough County Bar Association since 2011. His background includes more than 19 years of public affairs and administrative experience at the federal, state and local levels. From 2000 to 2006, Kynes served as district director for then U.S. Rep. Jim Davis in Tampa. Previously, Kynes served as director of intergovernmental relations for the City of Tampa and as an assistant to Florida Lieutenant Governor Buddy MacKay in Tallahassee. From 1983 to 1987, Kynes worked as a legislative aide to U.S. Sen. Lawton Chiles in Washington, D.C. Kynes holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Florida and a master’s degree in journalism and public affairs from American University in Washington, D.C. Active in the community, Kynes serves on the development council of Bay Area Legal Services and the Salvation Army, and he previously served on the board of Tampa Bay Little League and the foundation board of the Moffitt Cancer Center.

ADRIANA LINARES is a legal technology consultant with her company, LawTech Partners. The firm’s services include technology and security audits, law practice management consulting and training on law office software as well as internet security and privacy training. Prior to launching LawTech Partners, she spent several years in the IT departments of two of Florida’s largest law firms. She is a frequent speaker at national technology conferences and a regular contributor to legal blogs and publications. Linares has a Bachelor’s degree in geography from Stetson University, a Master’s degree in Corporate Communication and Technology from Rollins College, and speaks fluent Spanish. She is an IAPP Certified Information Privacy Technologist. Today she serves as a technology consultant to The Florida Bar Board of Governors, is the vice-chair of the 2016 ABA TECHSHOW, and board member of the Florida Justice Technology Center and the Center for Law Practice Technology at the Florida Coastal School of Law. She also hosts the New Solo podcast and The Florida Bar Podcast on the Legal Talk Network.

KARYN LINN is the director of Outreach and Education for the ABA’s Division for Bar Services. She serves as the program manager for the ABA Bar Leadership Institute and is trained to facilitate strategic planning and leadership development sessions. Linn frequently meets with bar leaders and executive staff to share information about ABA resources, best practices in nonprofit administration and national trends in association management. Linn is a frequent speaker at bar leadership conferences and for the Division for Bar Services Bar School webinar series. She is a member of the American Society of Association Executives, Association Forum of Chicagoland and National Association of Bar Executives. Linn began her tenure at the ABA with the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section. She joined the Division for Bar Services in 1996 as the Field Service Representative. Prior to the ABA, Linn worked at the Chicago Bar Association.

JOHNNY KYNES

HOLLY LIPPS served as executive assistant of the 950-member Sarasota County Bar Association from 2011-2015. In October 2015, she was selected as the new executive director. Prior to joining the SCBA, Lipps worked as operations manager for Jung Charters & Yacht Sales, and general manager of the Café Barrister. She has studied and played the harp for 30 years, and is a member of the National Harp Society.

JESSICA MALLOY graduated from Florida State University in 2011 and is the education compliance and accreditation manager in the Legal Specialization and Education Department of The Florida Bar. She has been employed by The Florida Bar since 2015. As the education compliance and accreditation manager, Malloy ensures timely and accurate processing of education compliance requirements, delinquencies, reinstatements, and CLE submissions for accreditation. In addition, she serves as the staff custodian managing the records of the department in a manner that complies with all applicable laws, rules and industry standards.

COLIN L. MCMICHEN is an associate with Manuel & Thompson, P.A., a plaintiff’s personal injury firm in Panama City. In addition to personal injury, McMichen also represents landowners in eminent domain actions. He has been actively involved in the Bay County Bar Association since moving to Panama City.
in 2008, and he has served as the president (2014), vice president (2013), treasurer (2012), and secretary (2011). In addition to the Bay County Bar Association, McMichen is a member of the Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee, St. Andrews Bay American Inn of Court, and the Florida Justice Association. He is also a longtime member of the Kiwanis Club of Downtown Panama City. McMichen earned his law degree from the Florida State University College of Law, and he is admitted to practice in Florida and Alabama.

colin@manuelthompson.com

KATHERINE HURST MILLER is a partner at the law firm of Cobb Cole in Daytona Beach, where she practices insurance defense, insurance agent defense and condo/HOA law. Miller is the president of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division (YLD). As a member of the YLD Board of Governors, she chaired the Affiliate Outreach Conference Committee (twice) and the Local Bar Affiliate Committee, among other committee chairmanships. She had an active role in the YLD’s first health and wellness initiative for young lawyers in 2015 and in the programming for the first year of the YLD’s Commission for Women in the Profession in 2016. Miller has also been involved with her local voluntary bars, having served as the Young Lawyer representative on the Volusia County Bar Association and as the president of the Volusia Flagler Association for Women Lawyers. She attended Stetson University College of Law and Vanderbilt University.

katherine.miller@cobbcole.com

JANE MUIR is the managing partner of Gersten & Muir, P.A. in Miami, a business law firm that practices corporate formation, transactions and commercial litigation. Muir has served as treasurer, president-elect, president and immediate past-president of the Coral Gables Bar Association, and has served as a member of the board of directors of the Dade County Bar Association (DCBA), as well as on the DCBA executive committee 2010-2013 and 2014-2016. She was honored by The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division with the 2015 Lynn Futch Most Productive Young Lawyer Award. The award honors a young lawyer who is not a member of the YLD Board of Governors, who has worked most diligently in the past year in Bar activities or law-related public activities, and who has an excellent reputation for legal abilities and integrity.

jane@gerstenmuir.com

KATHLEEN C. PASSIDOMO is a member of the Florida House of Representatives, representing District 106, Naples. In the House, Rep. Passidomo is the chair of the Civil Justice Subcommittee, vice chair of the Judiciary Committee and serves on the Insurance and Banking, Transportation & Ports, and Veteran & Military Affairs subcommittees. In her professional career she is a partner in the law firm Kelly, Passidomo & Alba LLP. Rep. Passidomo is a past president of the Collier County Bar Association and the Collier County Women’s Bar Association and the founding chairman of the Collier County Juvenile Justice Council. She also served as a chairman of the Florida Commission on the Status of Women in 2006 and as vice-chairman of the Collier County Foreclosure Task Force. Rep. Passidomo is a graduate of Leadership Florida Class XII, Leadership Collier Class of 1991, and Leadership Marco Class of 2013. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of Hodges University and is a founding director of the Collier County Senior Resource Center, Inc. In 2010, she received the Attorney of the Year Award by the Legal Aid Service of Collier County and the Ad Miller Service Award by the Naples Area Board of Realtors. In 2000, she and her husband were co-recipients of the Naples Daily News Collier County Citizen of the Year award.

Kathleen.Passidomo@myfloridahouse.gov

MESHON T. RAWLS received a B.A. degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Florida and a J.D. degree from the University of Florida College of Law. Most of her legal career has been devoted to advocating for the rights of children. She is a Master Legal Skills Professor and the director of the Gator TeamChild Juvenile Law Clinic at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. As the director of Gator TeamChild she supervises law students who provide representation to children primarily in delinquency, dependency, and educational proceedings. Prior to joining the University of Florida Levin College of Law, she worked at the Eighth Judicial Circuit Public Defender’s Office for seven years, where she represented indigent clients in the juvenile, misdemeanor, and felony divisions. She has also been certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a County Court Mediator. Currently, she serves as the president-elect of the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association. She will begin her term as president in June of 2017. She is the past president of the Josiah T. Walls Bar Association, a graduate of the Florida Bar Leadership Academy Class II, a fellow of the Florida Bar Foundation, and the coordinator for the Alachua County Restoration of Civil Rights project. She was most recently appointed to two Florida Bar committees - the Juvenile Law Certification Committee and Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee.

rawls@law.ufl.edu

SUE REVELL has served as executive director for the Manatee County Bar Association for 25 years. With a membership of 350, the Manatee Bar is considered small by some local bar standards and the office is staffed on a part-time basis. She co-chaired the 2001 and the 2011 Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference held in Sarasota. A member of the Florida Council of Bar Executives and
The Florida Bar’s Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee, she shares a sense of pride in the evolution, growth and measurable success of this conference over the years. Prior to joining the MCBA, she was vice president for Membership Development with the Manatee Chamber of Commerce. A native Floridian and community activist, Revell supports local organizations with a focus on community development and women’s health issues.

Sue.Revell@ManateeClerk.com

MATTHEW J. RIDGELY is the executive director of the Dade County Bar Association (DCBA), Florida’s largest voluntary bar association with approximately 4,800 members. His responsibilities include managing the day-to-day operations of the DCBA and directing a staff of seven employees. Ridgely joined the DCBA in 1985 as the membership services coordinator and was promoted to assistant director and DCBA Young Lawyers Section coordinator in 1988. During his tenure as YLS coordinator, he guided the YLS out of a deficit to its current annual budget of $70,000. In 1991, he was appointed building manager of the DCBA’s four-story office building in downtown Miami and oversaw all aspects of the property. In 2006, he was promoted to executive director. He served a three-year appointment on the Programs Committee of the National Association of Bar Executives, which is responsible for producing the Mid-Year and Annual Conference programs. He is a member of The Florida Bar’s Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee and Lawyer Referral Service working group and the Florida Council of Bar Executives. He has also provided consulting services to voluntary bar associations on topics include marketing, creating sections and non-dues revenue.
mridgely@dadecountybar.org

BRAULIO N. ROSA is the executive director of the Broward County Bar Association (BCBA) which is comprised of 3,200 members and has a budget of over $1 million. Rosa’s prior experience includes 18 years of working at high levels in local government and education overseeing various programs including marketing, advertising, community relations, special event management and strategic planning, as well many administrative programs. He is a member of The Florida Bar Voluntary Liaison Committee, Executive Committee of the 17th Judicial Pro Bono Committee, and the Broward College Paralegal Advisory Committee. He received his undergraduate degree from Florida Atlantic University (FAU) and has 2 master’s degrees from FAU: one in education and the other in public administration.
braulio@browardbar.org

STEVEN D. RUBIN is a sole practitioner specializing in real estate law and concentrating in other civil matters relating to real estate and commercial law. Rubin’s law office is located in Boca Raton. He is admitted to practice before all of the state courts in Florida, as well as various federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court, and is a Florida Bar Board Certified Real Estate Attorney. Rubin is currently a member of The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education.
steven@rubinlawflorida.com

WILLIAM J. SCHIFINO JR. is the 2016-17 president of The Florida Bar. Bill is managing partner of Burr Forman’s Tampa office and a board certified specialist in the area of business litigation. His practice focuses on a variety of litigation and trial practice, including securities litigation and arbitration, professional malpractice litigation, employment litigation and intellectual property litigation. He is also on the Board of Trustees for the University of Florida Levin College of Law. He is the past president of the Hillsborough County Bar Association (HCBA) and immediate past president of the Hillsborough County Bar Foundation. He also served as president of the HCBA’s Young Lawyers Division in 1994. Mr. Schifino has also been active in his community serving as a Director of Corporate Board of the Boys & Girls Club of Tampa Bay, Inc., the Florida Guardian Ad Litem Association, and as Coach, President, and Director of the Tampa Bay Little League, Inc.
WSchifino@burr.com

JODY SHULMAN serves as a director of Miami-Dade Florida Association for Women Lawyers, and chair of the Judicial Reception Planning and Sponsorship Committees. She has been a member of The Massachusetts Bar for 27 years, of which 17 years she was a litigator specializing in divorce, paternity, and family law matters. She also serves on the board of B’nai B’rith Justice Unit 5207 and Legal Services of Greater Miami, and serves on an Eleventh Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee. Jody is currently employed with U.S. Legal Support where she focuses her time on providing court reporting, record retrieval, transcription/translation, trial presentation, and e-discovery services to the legal community. She specializes in finding solutions for complex, class action and multi-district litigation cases. Lastly, she is co-founder of “Make a Difference Miami,” where she is committed to raising monies for both Dade Legal Aid and Legal Services of Greater Miami.
jshulman@uslegalsupport.com
MICHELLE PRUITT STUDSTILL is a partner in the law firm of Nassar & Studstill, PL, and practices exclusively in the area of family law. Studstill is currently the president-elect of the Brevard County Bar Association and has served in the role of secretary and treasurer with the Brevard County Bar Association in prior years. Studstill is also active in the Vassar B. Carlton Inn of Court, serving on the board of directors and as the CLE chair. She is also a member and past board member of the Brevard County Association of Women’s Lawyers.

MStudstill@familylawfl.com

MICHELLE SUSKAUER is the managing partner of The Suskauer Law Firm, a boutique criminal defense firm located in West Palm Beach. Suskauer began her legal career as an assistant public defender in West Palm Beach. She has been practicing in Palm Beach County since 1991 with a focus in criminal law in both state and federal courts. Suskauer is actively involved in the leadership of numerous local and state legal organizations. She serves on the Florida Bar Board of Governors, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. She currently chairs the Board’s Disciplinary Review Committee, and is past chair of the Communications Committee and the 2013 Annual Convention of The Florida Bar. Suskauer has served on the Executive Committee and Strategic Planning Committee of The Florida’s Bar Board of Governors for the past 3 years. She is past-president of the Palm Beach County Bar Association, past-president of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers – Palm Beach County Chapter and currently vice president of the Board of Directors of the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. Suskauer is an AV-rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbell. She has been recognized in the annual Florida Super Lawyers Magazine as one of Florida’s top criminal defense attorneys and by Florida Trend Magazine as one of Florida’s “Legal Elite” in its annual statewide poll of attorneys.

michelle@suskauerlaw.com

LISA MCKNIGHT TIPTON, APR is a nationally accredited Public Relations professional who implements communications and marketing strategies for legal associations, law firms, nonprofits and corporate clients. Her more than 30 years of public relations experience includes 12 years as a consultant to The Florida Bar, promoting its board certification program, its solo and small firm section and numerous special events. PR Florida Inc. is her communications consulting company. Tipton’s professional career spans the public and private sectors, encompassing diverse roles like congressional press secretary, adjunct professor, advocate for the homeless, social media coordinator, law firm marketer and fundraising events manager. Tipton has a public relations undergraduate degree from the University of Florida and a Public Administration Master’s degree from Florida State University.

lisa@prflorida.com

ZACK ZUROWESTE is shareholder at The Persante Law Group, P.A., in Clearwater. He practices general civil trial law, probate and trust litigation, and securities litigation. Zuroweste graduated from Stetson University College of Law in 2006 with a joint degree in Law and a Master’s degree in Business Administration. Since graduation, Zuroweste has been very active in voluntary bar associations and other professional organizations including The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors, Clearwater Bar Association, Barney Masterson American Inn of Court and Pinellas County Trial Lawyers Association. Zuroweste has served as president of the Clearwater Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, and is currently President-Elect of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors.

zz@persantelaw.com
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