News and resources for board certified attorneys and those seeking certification.

“Certification should be the capstone for a lawyer’s professionalism goals.”
Former Florida Supreme Court Justice Harry Lee Anstead.

IN THIS ISSUE:

BLSE 2019-2020
BLSE COMMUNICATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE AND EDITORIAL STAFF
STEVE LESSER BLSE CHAIR ARTICLE
WEAR YOUR CERT PIN!
DUANE DAIKER- ISSUES ON APPEAL
PODCAST
CONGRATS MANNY AND CANDACE
JEANNE T. TATE
BOARD CERT BILLBOARDS
TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH THE BOARD
CERT & FLAG
TRIPP SCOTT DOUGLAS
BOARD CERT LAWYERS IN THE NEWS
PRESS RELEASE- NEW BOARD CERT
LAWYERS
PROMOTE YOURSELF/ EDUCATE THE
PUBLIC
SOCIALIZE WITH US
UPCOMING NOVEMBER CLE EVENTS
262 LAWYERS EARNED BOARD
CERTIFICATION
IT PAYS TO BE BOARD CERTIFIED FLMIC
ADVERTISE IN THE CAPSTONE
BOARD CERT CALENDAR
AREAS OF BOARD CERTIFICATION
ORLANDO LAWYER COMES TO THE AID
OF BAHAMIANS

Become a contributor! Submit articles or news to bbisbee@floridabar.org - 850-561-5805

Osceola County Historical courthouse
2019-2020

Board of Legal Specialization & Education (BLSE)

Steven Bruce Lesser, Chair (2021)
Becker & Poliakoff P.A.
1 E Broward Blvd Ste 1800
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-1876
Office: 954-985-4137
slesser@beckerlawyers.com
Board Certifications: Construction Law

Philip Robert Augustine, Vice Chair (2020)
Bolton, Helm & Augustine, LLP
PO Box 958464
Lake Mary, FL 32795-8464
Office: 321-832-1700
paugustine@pelsusa.com
Board Certifications: Workers’ Compensation

Thomas P Wert, Board Liaison (2020)
Dean, Mead, et al
420 S Orange Ave Ste 700
Orlando, FL 32801-4911
Office: 407-841-1200
twert@deanmead.com
Board Certifications: Construction Law

Frank Tobias Adams, Member (2020)
Dunwody White & Landon, P.A.
550 Biltmore Way Ste 810
Miami, FL 33134-5784
Office: 305-529-1500
fadams@dwl-law.com
Board Certifications: Wills, Trusts and Estates

Gregory Scott Baity, Member (2020)
Baptist Health System, Inc.
841 Prudential Dr Ste 1802
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8372
Office: 904-202-5237
scott.baity@bmcjax.com
Board Certifications: Health Law

John Frederick Eversole, Member (2022)
Rubenstein Law
Penthouse
9130 S Dadeland Blvd
Miami, FL 33156-7818
Office: 305-859-0165
john@rubensteinlaw.com
Board Certifications: Aviation Law & Civil Trial

Joseph Franklin Kinman, Member (2022)
Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin, O’Hara,
1706 E 11th Ave
Tampa, FL 33605-3804
Office: 813-226-3000
jfk@law-fla.com
Board Certifications: Civil Trial

Michele L Lieberman, Member (2022)
Alachua County Attorney’s Office
12 SE 1st St
Gainesville, FL 32601-6826
Office: 352-374-5218
mlieberman@alachuacounty.us
Board Certifications: City, County and Local Government Law

M Sean Moyles, Member (2022)
Langston, Hess & Moyles, P.A.
600 Druid Rd E
Clearwater, FL 33756-3912
Office: 727-479-1900
smoyles@langstonhess.com
Board Certifications: Labor and Employment Law

Robert Anthony Norgard, Member (2021)
Norgard, Norgard and Chastang
PO Box 811
Bartow, FL 33831-0811
Office: 863-533-8556
norgardlaw@verizon.net
Board Certifications: Criminal Trial Law
Mark R Osherow, Member (2021)
Osherow, PLLC
Boca Corporate Center
2101 NW Corporate Blvd Ste 410
Boca Raton, FL 33431-7319
Office: 561-257-0880
mark@osherowpllc.com
Board Certifications: Business Litigation

Colin Mark Roopnarine, Member (2020)
Berger Singerman, LLP
313 N Monroe St Ste 301
Tallahassee, FL 32301-7643
Office: 850-561-3010
croopnarine@bergersingerman.com
Board Certifications: State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice

Elisha D. Roy, Member (2020)
Ciklin Lubitz
515 N Flagler Dr Fl 20
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-4330
Office: 561-832-5900
eroy@ciklinlubitz.com
Board Certifications: Marital and Family Law

Elaine L. Thompson (2020)
CLE Representative
PO Box 6302
Brandon, FL 33508-6005
Office: 813-316-8596
florida.appellate.counsel@outlook.com

Joseph J Weissman, Member (2020)
Johnson Pope Bokor Ruppel & Burns LLP
401 E Jackson St Ste 3100
Tampa, FL 33602-5228
Office: 813-225-2500
josephw@jpfirm.com
Board Certifications: Intellectual Property Law

David Charles Willis, Member (2021)
Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, P.A.
PO Box 1873
Orlando, FL 32802-1873
Office: 407-839-2186
dwillis@rumberger.com
Board Certifications: Business Litigation Construction Law, Real Estate

Barbara C Wingo, Member (2021)
Law Office of Barbara C. Wingo, PLLC
4720 Salisbury Rd # 221
Jacksonville, FL 32256-6101
Office: 904-493-6053
bcwingo@gmail.com
Board Certified in Education Law and State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice

Diana Kellogg, Director- BLSE
The Florida Bar
651 E. Jefferson St.
Office: 850-561-5850
DKellogg@floridabar.org
Florida Board Certification Has a New Captain at the Helm!

Steven B. Lesser, Shareholder of Becker and Poliakoff, Fort Lauderdale, has been appointed Chair of The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education (BLSE).

Lesser is used to being at the helm, serving as Chair of his firm’s national Construction Law and Litigation practice group. He is Past Chair of the American Bar Association’s Forum on Construction Law, a nationally prestigious organization devoted entirely to members of the construction industry. In 2019, he was selected as the recipient of the Cornerstone Award, the highest honor presented by the Forum. The esteemed award recognizes a Forum member who has rendered long-term, exceptional service to the construction industry, to the public, and to the legal profession. Additionally, he is the 2016 recipient of The Florida Bar Real Property and Trust Law Section’s Construction Law Committee Lifetime Achievement Award. He previously served as Chair of The Florida Bar Journal/News Editorial Board.

Lesser received his JD at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and was admitted to The Florida Bar in 1979. He joined Becker and Poliakoff in 1983, and became Board Certified in Construction Law in 2005 and later served as Chair of The Florida Bar Construction Law Certification Committee.

He is well prepared to lead Florida’s board certification program, having served as a member of the BLSE since 2015, and as Vice-Chair from 2018 to July 1, 2019, when Florida Bar President, John Stewart appointed him Chair.

The BLSE governs the rules and policies for each of Florida’s certification areas and oversees the committees that implement each area’s standards. Florida currently offers 27 specialty areas for which board certification is available. This is the largest number of state-approved certifications in the nation.

A lawyer who is a member in good standing of The Florida Bar, and who meets Supreme Court prescribed standards, may become board certified. More than 5,100 Florida lawyers are board certified. Not all qualified lawyers are certified, but those who are have taken the extra steps to have their competence and experience evaluated. Board Certified lawyers are “Evaluated for Professionalism and Tested for Expertise.”

For more information, please visit The Florida Bar website at Floridabar.org/certification or contact the Legal Specialization and Education Department at (850)561-5842.
B.C.S. Appellate Lawyer Hosts “Issues on Appeal” Podcast

By Blaire Bisbee

Attorney Duane Daiker, a board-certified appellate specialist since 2007, has a passion for appellate practice and advocacy. Daiker, an avid podcast listener, had a lightbulb moment early this year. He loved listening to his favorite law and technology-related podcasts, and felt a creative itch: “Why don’t I create my own podcast?” Daiker had been a longtime professional writer and public speaker, but knew very little about producing recorded audio programs. “The first challenge was coming up with a theme for a podcast,” Daiker said. Since he always enjoyed discussing appellate practice and the intricacies of appellate law, he decided he had a niche topic that could work. He then set out to learn how to record and publish podcasts. He titled his podcast “Issues on Appeal,” and his first episode published on May 3, 2019, with new podcasts released every 2 weeks.

Issues on Appeal is described as “A podcast about both timely and timeless issues in Florida Appellate Practice.” The interview-based show includes a featured guest on each episode, most of whom are also board-certified appellate lawyers. Currently, his most popular episode is Episode 4, “At the High Court,” with guest host B.C.S. appellate lawyer Jared Krukar. The podcast has amassed over 3,000 downloads in the first six months. The Issues on Appeal podcast can be found on all popular podcast players, including Apple Podcasts, or accessed directly from IssuesonAppeal.com.

Daiker heads up the appellate practice group at Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP and is a Former Chair of the Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section.
CONGRATULATIONS!

2019 BOARD CERTIFICATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

MANUEL FARACH
B.C.S. Real Estate Law, Business Litigation, and Appellate Law
Recipient of The Justice Harry Lee Anstead Award
Florida Bar Board Certified Lawyer Of The Year presented by Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

CANDICE BROWER
B.C.S. Juvenile Law
Recipient of The Award For Excellence in The Promotion of Board Certification presented by Kimberly A. Ashby, BLSE Chair (2019)

The 2019 Florida Bar Board Certification Award Recipients and Pinning Ceremony

On June 27th at the 2019 Florida Bar Annual Convention during the Board-Certified Lawyers Reception and Pinning Ceremony, Manuel Farach B.C.S Real Estate Law, Business Litigation, and Appellate Law, received The Board Certified Lawyer of the Year award and Candice Brower B.C.S Juvenile Law, received The Award for Excellence in the Promotion of Board Certification!

This year also marks the start of a new tradition. The first pinning ceremony recognized the 2019 1st cycle newly board-certified attorneys. The new board certified attorneys received their first board certification pin and were recognized for the accomplishment.

For more information on this year’s two award recipients, visit our website at www.floridabar.org/cert and visit the news and events section - awards and past recipients.
Governor Ron DeSantis Announces the appointment of adoption attorney Jeanne T. Tate

Governor Ron DeSantis Announces the appointment of adoption attorney Jeanne T. Tate to the Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commissions. Tate, with offices in Tampa, Naples, Orlando, and Merritt Island is the principal of Jeanne T. Tate, P.A. and owns her own adoption agency, Heart of Adoptions Inc. She received her bachelor’s degree and law degree from the University of Florida. Tate is reappointed from a list of nominees submitted by the Florida Bar for a term ending July 1, 2023.

Certified Lawyers on Call (CLOC)

Certified Lawyers on Call, or “CLOC”, is a Service of The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education (“BLSE”), in conjunction with The Florida Bar Foundation.

The CLOC Service was developed in 2018 to give legal aid organization staff attorneys, and private attorneys who work with a legal aid organization on a referral basis, pro bono telephone consultation access to a Board Certified Lawyer when a legal expert’s advice in a certification practice area is needed by the pro bono client. There are presently 190 Board Certified Lawyers who are available on a volunteer basis to consult with attorneys who are working on a pro bono case through a legal aid organization in Florida.

To participate, contact CLOC@flabarblse.com
2018/2019
Florida Bar Board Certification Billboard Campaign

The Florida Bar board certification program decided to amp up further awareness of board certified lawyers in the State of Florida this past year. What better way to create awareness than with Statewide Billboards! Beginning in 2018, billboards and posters were displayed in major cities including Miami, Orlando, Jacksonville, Pensacola, Tampa and Ocala. *Have you seen any of the billboards?*

If so, please send a picture to bbisbee@floridabar.org. The first 2 board certified lawyers who send me a picture of any of the billboards will receive a free quarter page ad in the next edition of the Capstone Magazine!
TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH THE BOARD CERTIFIED FLAG

HELP US PROMOTE YOU!

Contact Danielle Evans to reserve the flag for your travels!
Devans@floridabar.org or 850-561-3150
FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., May 13, 2019 – Tripp Scott today announced that Douglas H. Reynolds, a director with the firm, is the 2019 recipient of the Russell E. Carlisle Advocacy Award.

The Russell E Carlisle Advocacy Award is given annually by Legal Aid Service of Broward County to an advocate whose actions exemplify a personal and professional commitment to making justice available to the poor and disadvantaged.

The award is named after attorney Russell E Carlisle, who for over fifty years, has been a local and national champion for pro bono services to the poor. Carlisle argued the first petition for interest on Trust Accounts (IOTA) before the Florida Supreme Court and led the national campaign to provide monetary resources to allow equal access to our justice system. Prior recipients include former Florida Supreme Court Justice Arthur England; former Circuit Court Judge Mel Grossman; and constitutional law expert Bruce Rogow.

Throughout his career Reynolds, who is Board Certified by the Florida Bar in Business Litigation and Marital and Family Law, has performed pro bono legal services in our community. In addition, Reynolds has been actively involved in various local non-profit corporations and schools. He presently serves on the Board of Directors of the Broward Public Library Foundation and the Offerdahl’s Hand-Off Foundation, which annually conducts the John Offerdahl Gridiron Grilloff Food, Wine and Music Festival.

Douglas Reynolds is a director at Tripp Scott and a Board Certified attorney in both business litigation and marital and family law. Reynolds practices in the areas of business litigation, family law, and guardianship and probate litigation.
IN THE NEWS


B.C.S. Labor and Employment Law

Robert Turk from Stearns Weaver Miller presented “FMLA & ADA Interplay” at the Human Resources Banking Partners Luncheon.

B.C.S. Labor and Employment Law

Michael D. Rudolph of Rudolph, Israel, Tucker & Ellis was a panelist addressing Medical Only Claims at the Judges of Compensation Claims Seminar at the First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee, FL and spoke on Permanent Total Disability at the Workers’ Compensation Forum in Orlando, FL.

B.C.S. Workers Compensation

Mark W. Clark of Clark, Fountain, La Vista, Prather & Littky-Rubin in West Palm Beach was awarded the 2019 EAGLE Centurion Award by the Florida Justice Association.

B.C.S. Civil Trial
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laird A. Lile again named Top 10 Florida Super Lawyer
- Makes Top 100 list for ninth consecutive year -

NAPLES, Fla. (May 31, 2019) – Laird A. Lile, a board-certified wills, trusts and estates attorney in Naples, has been named as a Top 10 Florida Super Lawyer for the second consecutive year.

Also, the recently announced list marks the ninth consecutive year that Lile is among the Top 100 Florida Super Lawyers.

The nomination, research and blue-ribbon review process for the Top 10 recognizes fewer than one-hundredth of one percent of Florida attorneys. The complete list of Top 10 and Top 100 appears in the July issue of Florida 2019 Super Lawyers magazine.

Florida Super Lawyers is a professional listing of attorneys who have been selected by their peers for their personal and professional achievements in the legal profession, and through an extensive, independent evaluation process.

Lile is serving his seventh consecutive term on the Board of Governors for The Florida Bar. He is one of two governors elected by members to represent the 20th Judicial Circuit, which includes Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry and Glades counties.

Appointed by the Florida Supreme Court to its Judicial Management Council and to a third term on the Florida Courts Technology Commission, Lile is past chair of the Bar’s 10,800-member Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section. A past state chair and a Fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, Lile was inducted into Florida Trend’s Legal Elite Hall of Fame in 2010. He recently was named one of Florida Trend’s 500 Most Influential Business Leaders in Florida.

Laird A. Lile, PLLC offers legal counsel on estate- and trust-related matters, including estate planning, estate and trust administration, probate-related litigation and tax matters. The firm’s office is located at 3033 Riviera Drive, Suite 104, in Naples. For more information, call 239-649-7778 or visit www.LairdALile.com.
Promote Yourself - Educate the Public

Order your Certification Brochures Today!

*NEW 2019 DESIGN!*

**Brochures are $45 plus tax for packets of 100**

Contact Devans@floridabar.org OR place an order at www.floridabar.org/about/cert/ and click on "Resources for Board Certified Attorneys"

Area specific brochures are available for ALL 27 board certification areas to display in your lobby!
Socialize WITH US!

INSTAGRAM

FACEBOOK

LINKEDIN

@Floridabarboardcertification
Get your Certification CLE

Upcoming January CLE Events

For more information and to register online visit: FloridaBar.org/cle

- **Appellate Law 2019-Year in Review** (CLW) (3384)
  - January 21, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **The Hairy & Scary World of Animal Law Ethical Issues** (RDL) (3739)
  - January 22, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **Federal Tax Update 2019: New Laws, Regulations, Cases and Rulings** (LMR) (3563)
  - January 22, 2020 – Miami*** (St. Thomas University School of Law, #045)
  - January 22, 2020 – Webcast*** (InReach, #317)
- **20th Labor and Employment Law Annual Update and Certification Review** (ABF) (3491)
  - January 23-24, 2020 – Orlando*** (Hyatt Regency, #126)
- **Representing the Physician** (EKY) (3492)
  - January 24, 2020 – Tampa***
  - January 24, 2020 – Webcast*** (InReach, #317)
- **Solo & Small Firm Section Audio Webcast #7** (RDL) (3410)
  - January 28, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **Environmental and Land Use Law Section 19-20 Audio Webcast #6** (CLW) (3421)
  - January 28, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **Nonimmigrant Visa Processing in the Caribbean** (ABF) (3566)
  - January 30, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **Advanced Medical Malpractice** (JDD) (3455)
  - January 31, 2020 – Tampa*** (Center for Advanced Medical Learning & Simulation, #371)
  - January 31, 2020 – Webcast*** (InReach, #317)
- **Advanced Appellate Practice and Certification Review 2020** (CLW) (3486)
  - January 31, 2020 – Tampa*** (Hillsborough County Bar Association, #328)

- **RPPTL Section Professionalism & Ethics Series - 1** (MAO) (3401)
  - January 7, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **EASL Audio Webcast #5** (ABF) (3432)
  - January 7, 2020 – Audio Webcast (Cancelled, 8/16/19)
- **Be an Expert in Handling Experts: Best Practices for Expert Designations, Discovery, Direct, & Cross-Examination** (ABF) (3575)
  - January 08, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **2020 Administrative Law Webinar Series (Certification Exam Prep)** (CLB) (3485)
  - January 09 – Audio Webcast
- **Business Law Section Audio Webcast #1** (SMS) (3487)
  - January 10, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **Healthcare Today...Isn’t It Just Paradise?** (EKY) (3466)
  - January 14, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **Health Law Section Audio Webcast 5** (EKY) (3468)
  - January 14, 2020 – Audio Webcast
  - International Law Certification #4 (ABF) (3571)
  - January 14, 2020 – Audio Webcast (Postponed, 9/19/19)
- **Double Indemnity: What Every Florida Real Estate Professional Should Understand about Title Insurance, Part 2** (MAO) (3398)
  - January 14, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **5th Annual ITC Boot Camp** (LMR) (3236)
  - January 15, 2020 – Miami*** (JW Marriott, #190)
- **2020 Essentials of Elder Law** (LMR) (3488)
  - January 16, 2020 – Orlando*** (Loews Portofino Bay Hotel, #369)
  - January 16, 2020 Webcast*** (InReach, #317)
- **RPPTL Section – Homestead Series - 1** (MAO) (3402)
  - January 16, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **38th Annual International Tax Conference** (LMR) (3237)
  - January 16-17, 2020 – Miami*** (JW Marriott, #190)
  - January 16-17, 2020 – Webcast*** (InReach, #317)
- **Alternative Dispute Resolution Section- Audio Webcast #4** (SMS) (3459)
  - January 17, 2020 – Audio Webcast
- **2020 Elder Law Annual Update and Hot Topics** (LMR) (3489)
  - January 17-18, 2020 – Orlando*** (Loews Portofino Bay Hotel, #369)
  - January 17-18, 2020 – Webcast*** (InReach, #317)
The Florida Bar News/October 2019–11

262 Lawyers Earn Board Certification

The Board of Legal Specialization and Education congratulates the 262 lawyers who in 2019 earned Florida Bar board certification, a designation that places them among the only group of Florida lawyers who may use the term “board-certified” when referring to their legal credentials. Board certification evaluates attorneys’ special knowledge, skills, and proficiency in areas of law and professionalism and ethics in practice. About 5,116 of Florida’s nearly 107,000 lawyers have earned board certification. Florida offers 27 specialty areas for board certification, more than any other state.

Adoption Law
Jennifer Boston Williams, Jacksonville
Appellate Practice
Michael Eliot Rehr, Miami
Marilyn Janet Pérez-Martinez, Coral Gables
Peter Curt Mollengarden, Palm Beach Gardens
Neal McCulloh, Maitland
Eryn Marie McConnell, Orlando
Laura Michelle Manning-Hudson, West Palm Beach
Theresa Lemme, West Palm Beach
Thomas Murray Jenks, Jacksonville
Jennifer L. Horan, Naples
J. Michael Hartenstine, Sarasota
Jonathan Scott Goldstein, Miami
Francis Edward Friscia, Tampa
Helio Pedro De La Torre, Coral Gables
Kenneth Malcolm Clayton, II, Maitland
J. Henry Cartwright, Stuart
Adam Wesley Carls, Altamonte Springs
Louis Caplan, Boca Raton
Aspen Lee Brown, Ft. Lauderdale
Molly Lewis Sasso, Jacksonville

Aviation Law
Joshua Stephen Kehoe, Tampa
Mark Andrew Whitson, Houston, TX

Business Litigation
Jason Henry Baruch, Tampa
J. Chris Brinowan, West Palm Beach
Austin T. Hamilton, Jacksonville
Bradford Dean Kimbro, Tampa
Andrea Roberts Kison, Sarasota

City, County and Local Government Law
Katherine L. Rogerson, Berks, FL
Bradley James Bulthuis, St. Augustine
Michele Darby, Sarasota
Mercedes Dunham, Tallahassee
James C. Dinkins, Tallahassee
Andrew LeCroy, West Palm Beach
Shanom Beth Fox, West Palm Beach
James Donald, West Palm Beach
Richard Scott Geller, Winter Park
Chelsie Delatil Hardy, Clearwater
Anne Gardiner Heralt, West Palm Beach
Helene Catherine Hurlin, West Palm Beach
Michael William Jones, West Palm Beach
Lauren Lynn Kelly, Orlando
Eye Mindelle Lewis, Coconut Creek
Tracey Ann Lymo, Pembroke Beach
Denise Cherri May, Jacksonville
Carly Renee Fishpaw Meck, Orlando
Jennifer Merino, Hallandale Beach
Ranold Didier Mora, Clearwater
Peter Howard Morris, Key West
Kimberly L. Robinson, West Palm Beach
Janice Dason Rustin, West Palm Beach
Michelle Sannito, Miami Gardens
Carly J. Schrader, Tallahassee
Jenni Wagner, Panama City
Paolo Salina Soria, St. Augustine
Frank Marion Townsend, kissimmee
Kelli Lynn Vicars, Clearwater

Civil Trial
Jeffrey Alan Adelman, Coral Springs
Frax Almeria Brown, Orlando
Richard Leo Barry, Orlando
Brant R. Baker, Tampa
Ryan David Breder, Clearwater
Cary Alan Cash, St. Petersburg
Gregory Anderson Dailey, Ft. Lauderdale
Chase Patrick Florin, Palm Harbor
James Patrick Hamilton, Panama City
Glen Barry Levine, Ft. Lauderdale
Steven Robert Maher, Winter Park
W. Doug Martin, Orlando

Patrick S. Martins, Pensacola
Francis Morton McDonald, Jr., Orlando
Leo H. Meirose, Jr., Tampa
Lance Eric Neff, Tallahassee
Peter J. Osterlind, Orlando
Nicholas Louis Ottaviano, New Port Richey
Elizabeth Anne Parsons, Pensacola
Kerley Geraghty Price, Naples
Eric Samuel Rastegar, Jacksonville
Edward Vincent Ricci, West Palm Beach
Matthew King Schowance, West Palm Beach
Christopher Joseph Smith, Ft. Myers
Zachary Brett Taylor, Palm City Beach
Kerby B. Threlfell, Tampa
Howard William Weber, Tampa
Gregory Scott Wiss, Stuart

Proxy
Joseph Arena, Boca Raton
Steven P. Bakalar, Coral Springs
Michael Stuart Bender, Pembroke Pines
Roberto Carlos Blanco, Coral Gables
Allison Suzanne Blakrhead, Pensacola
Diana Lee Brough, Ft. Lauderdale
JoAnn Nesta Burnett, Ft. Lauderdale
Louis Caplan, Boca Raton
Adam Wesley Carlo, Altamonte Springs
Kathryn Angelii Carr, Sarasota
J. Henry Cartwright, Stuart
Anne Van Catterson, J. Melbourne
Michael Scott Chadrow, Weston
Seth David Chipman, Cocoa
Kenneth Malcolm Clayton, Ft. Lauderdale
Steven L. Daniels, West Palm Beach
Helo Pedro De La Torre, Coral Gables
Olivia Bales Drake, Pt. Lauderdale
David Brian Earle, Stuart
Jonathan Joseph Ellis, Tampa
Nathan A. Frazier, Tampa
Frank Reid Frazier, North Miami Beach
Joshua Garrett Gerstein, Boca Raton
Yasmine Gou, Orlando
Jonathan Scott Goldstein, Miami
Matthew Paul Gordon, Ft. Myers
David Brian Haber, Ft. Lauderdale
Marc Adam Halpern, Miami
J. Michael Hartenstine, Sarasota
Steven Marc Heller, Sunrise
Edward Francis Holodak, Plantation
Jennifer L. Horan, Naples
Tom Murray Jenkins, Jacksonville
Daniel Adam Kakiet, Boca Raton
Leigh Cet Katzman, Ft. Lauderdale
Frank J. Luczaczuk, Altamonte Springs
Theresa Lemme, West Palm Beach
Brett Gottstein, Lindle, Ft. Lauderdale
Leonard Lahart, Ft. Lauderdale
Lisa Anne Magill, Pembroke Pines
Laura Michelle Mangiapiao, West Palm Beach
Karen Joy Mattingly, Ft. Lauderdale
Eryan Michelle McConnell, Miami
Neal McCulloch, Maitland
Eduardo Melendez, North Miami Beach
Peter Cart Molliardan, Palm Beach Gardens
Ramon Carlos Palacios, Miami
Marylin Jonet Perez-Martinez, Coral Gables
Howard J. Perl, Ft. Lauderdale
Martha Prussin, West Palm Beach
Ryan Dubin Poliafko, Boca Raton
Christopher Lee Pope, Ft. Myers
Michael Elor Roh, Miami
Jeffrey Alan Remmers, Palm Beach Gardens
David Riddick, Boca Raton
Steven Dennis Rubin, Boca Raton
John Reid Shepard, Jr., North Palm Beach
Eric P. Stein, North Miami Beach
John William Stevens, Plantation
Alessandra Stivellman, Hollywood
Howard J. Vogel, Miami
Robert Carlton Ward, Clearwater

Civil Appellate Law
David Lee Reiflin, Orlando

Criminal Appellate Law
David Jeffrey D. Agata, Jacksonville
Ogil McKinney-Williams, Tallahassee

Criminal Law
Brooke Fuller Baker, Jacksonville
Cary Daniel Camicich, Michael J. City
Erin Clare Favorit, Orlando
Shawn Alves Garofalo, Bradenton
Christina E. Hadley, Maitland
John Jefferson Knoxes, Tallahassee
Laura Michelle Moody, Rockledge
David Constantine Morgan, Clearwater
Adeybi Taylor Morgan, Orlando
Courtney Dominic Richardson-Jones, Orlando
Matthew N. Rogoff, Miami
Alesha Smith, Kissimmee
Gregory Steven Salnick, West Palm Beach
David Finchley Williams, Jr., Jacksonville
Jessica Joan Yaraj, Tallahassee

Education Law
Sarah Skidmore-Achitiku, Oviedo
Heather Breyer Samsel, Delray Beach
Horacio A. Sosa, Davie
Tracy Ann Zanos, Orlando

Health Law
Jon Taylor Gatto, Tampa
Erika C. Mallon, Orlando
Vanessa Grant Oliver, Punda Gorda
Ryan William Wierenga, West Palm Beach

Immigration and Nationality Law
Dina M. Castrillo Ward, Orlando
Botaniiene Jimenez, West Palm Beach
Karla R. Lammers, Miami
Barry Todd Lieber, Miami

International Law
Joshua Stephen Kehoe, Tallahassee
Jeffrey D. Agata, Jacksonville
Eleanor Martha Yost, Tallahassee

International Litigation & Arbitration
Leyza Flore Blanco, Miami
Gary Edward Davidson, Miami
Edward Harrison Davis, Jr., Miami
Michael Droz, Jr., Miami
Annette Cristina Escobar, Miami
Dan Eduardo Gonzalez, Miami
Gregory Stewart Grossman, Miami
Edward C. Hadaway, Miami
Roger S. Hobert, Coral Gables
Luiz Sergio Koniki, Miami
Jessica Renee Li, Ft. Lauderdale
Alvin F. Lindsay III, Miami
Randol Didier Mora, West Palm Beach
Eddie D'Angelo Silva, Springfield, AR
Gilberto Su, Miami
Nicola Sverdloff, Miami

Juvenile Law
Rachel Marie Batton, Brooksville
Natalie Lamela Fierro, Miami
Alicia Loraine Guerra, Ft. Myers
Melissa Blanco Jagger, St. Petersburg
Paul Jason Karakis, Bradenton
Ander Dawa Spreer, Green Cove Springs
Rebecca Amey Swany, Jacksonville
Valentina Vanessa Villalobos, Tampa

Labor and Employment Law
Samuel Joseph Horovitz, Jacksonville
Matthew Charles Hunt, Jacksonville Beach
Denise Martinez-Sanjuan, Miami
Jennifer Elizabeth Reizler, Delray Beach
Jerry Lewis Rumph, Jr., Tallahassee
Molly Lewis Sasso, Jacksonville

Real Estate
Brandon Rahill, Delray Beach
Edward C. Cox, Pensacola
Kenneth R. Florio, Coconut Grove
Olfande-adamin Kechinde Goodwyn, Coral Gables
Shibahun Khan, Orlando
Andri Alexanmori Koelevet, Jacksonville
Matthew Gregory Petr, Orlando
Zachary Russell Roth, Jacksonville
Lori Ellen Ward, Miramar Beach

Tax Law
Keith Leigh Haltum, Jacksonville
John Olman Kocherian, Boca Raton
Pelota Letelegric Roberts, West Palm Beach

Wills, Trusts and Estates
Alysa Reiter Conser, Boca Raton
William Battle McQueen, St. Petersburg
Robin Dale Morrison II, Ft. Myers
Jennifer Erin Okcular, North Miami Beach

Workers Compensation
Shari Melinda Holwell, Hollywood
Brian Patrick Carter, Pensacola
Eric M. Christiansen, Sarasota
Nicole Emmett Tambao, Lakeland

Deadline to apply for certification exams is October 31

Applications are now being accepted for the 2020 second cycle of Florida Bar board certification exams.

Second cycle exam areas include:
• Amortiz & Trade Regulation Law
• Bankruptcy Law
• City, County & Local Government Law
• Construction Law
• Criminal Appellate Law
• Criminal Trial Law
• Health Law

Applications can be found at the Florida Bar website: www.floridabar.org/about/cert. Applications to sit for the exams are due by October 31.
IT PAYS TO BE BOARD CERTIFIED

Florida Lawyers Mutual rewards its Board Certified insured lawyers with a 10% premium reduction in recognition of the knowledge, skills and professionalism required to obtain Board Certification from The Florida Bar.

Call today, and be sure to mention you are Board Certified to receive your 10% premium reduction.

flmic.com | 800.633.6458
CREATED FOR LAWYERS, BY LAWYERS

Legal experts dedicated to professional excellence. For more information about board certification, please contact The Florida Bar: www.FloridaBar.org/certification
Run Out Every Ground Ball: A Good Lesson for Lawyers

Commentary by Steven B. Lesser

In Little League, our first base coach never got tired of telling the players to “run out every ground ball.” Who knows—the first baseman may make an error, the fielder may bobble the ball or you may be faster than you thought and reach first base safely.

The instruction is a good lesson for lawyers. In the course of our careers, opportunities exist to become better lawyers and enhance our personal satisfaction within our profession. The best approach is to take advantage of those opportunities by volunteering to serve on local bar association committees, the Florida Bar, and national organizations such as the American Bar Association.

All provide tremendous opportunities to learn from others. Along the way, you will learn the importance of preparing a meeting agenda, how to run an efficient meeting and develop an action plan to lead you to the finish line. Most importantly, you ultimately forge relationships with other colleagues that may start out as a business proposition that can lead to personal friendships. It is this aspect that becomes most satisfying. The benefits quickly materialize.

Suddenly, your volunteer work provides you with a network of colleagues to consult on case challenges, strategy and receive honest advice on your career without fear that someone in your firm may view your questions as “stupid” or that you “may be on the verge of leaving.” That is a primary driver, but the continuing opportunities to develop substantive and practical knowledge can be more invaluable.

Serving on a Florida Bar Grievance Committee can open your eyes to how a simple failure to communicate with clients and procrastination in dealing with issues can lead to a career disaster. You quickly learn, by real-world examples, how to avoid mistakes and career bumps in the road that may blemish a reputation you have worked so hard to achieve.

You also learn how our profession is misunderstood by the public. Through this volunteer service, you can best understand what lawyers need to do to bring our reputation back to being a “trusted adviser” as opposed to being viewed as an argumentative group focused only upon money and opportunity.

We should take the attitude that “we learn from others” and
understand how we can benefit from that approach.

One valuable opportunity in Florida is to become board certified in a specialty area of law. Florida is unique in that it has 27 different specialty areas of legal certification from adoption law, appellate, civil trial, construction, condominium, workers’ compensation and more.

After five years of practice and devoting a percentage of your time each year to your specialty, along with satisfying certain continuing education requirements and a peer review process, you become eligible to take the board certification examination. The exam is generally six hours, consisting of a variety of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. This is not an easy exam nor should it be if you are to be held out to the public as an expert in your field. But what it will do is make you a better lawyer, providing you with more confidence in advising and representing clients. In fact, studying for the exam will do that as each specialty area has its own specifications of topics to learn. As a board certified lawyer, you should have “walking around” knowledge of these topics if you hope to pass.

Florida has the largest board certification program in the country. Texas, California and others have certification programs but none as progressive as Florida. Gaining board certification provides an opportunity to learn more, develop your credentials, and build confidence as a lawyer as well as to elevate your status within your firm.

Aside from becoming board certified, publications exist in Florida and throughout the country that seek articles from lawyers on a wide range of topics. Write an article, become a published author and develop expertise. The billable work you did researching a legal issue can be converted to an article that can be published locally or on a national platform.

Publishing can set you apart from other lawyers competing for career opportunities or obtaining work in a specialty area. A published paper can lead to an invitation to speak and exposure to new people in the industry where you practice or to other colleagues that may refer work to you.

You should never stop learning or building your credentials because both will lead you to greater satisfaction in your career. The great Arnold Palmer was right when he said, “The road to success is always under construction.”

You can always do better and the start of it all is to raise your hand, volunteer to serve your profession and become board certified. You never know where it will lead unless you take those opportunities and “run out every ground ball.”

Steven B. Lesser is chair of the construction law group at Becker. He is board certified in construction law and incoming chair of The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education that oversees all 27 areas of board certification. He also serves on the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Specialization.
## Board Certification Calendar

**Application Filing Periods & Examination Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Cycle Filing Period:</th>
<th>Second Cycle Filing Period:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1 – August 31</td>
<td>September 1 – October 31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Areas:**
- Admiralty and Maritime Law
- Adoption Law
- Appellate Practice
- Aviation Law
- Civil Trial Law
- Condominium & Planned Development
- Education Law
- Elder Law
- Immigration & Nationality Law
- International Law
- Labor & Employment Law
- Marital & Family Law
- Tax Law

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antitrust &amp; Trade Regulation Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Litigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, County &amp; Local Government Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Appellate Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Trial Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual Property Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Litigation &amp; Arbitration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State/Fed. Gov. &amp; Administrative Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Wills, Trusts &amp; Estates Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers’ Compensation Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**There are no alternative dates or make-up exams.**

All 2020 exams will be held at the Tampa Hilton Westshore Hotel:
2225 N. Lois Avenue - Tampa, Florida 33607 - (813) 877-6688

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST CYCLE AREA EXAM DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, March 12, 2020:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admiralty &amp; Maritime Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aviation Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Trial Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condominium &amp; Planned Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration &amp; Nationality Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, March 13, 2020:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appellate Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elder Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor &amp; Employment Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital &amp; Family Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECOND CYCLE AREA EXAM DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 7, 2020:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antitrust &amp; Trade Regulation Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual Property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; Federal Government &amp; Administrative Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, May 8, 2020:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Litigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, County &amp; Local Government Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Appellate Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Trial Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Litigation &amp; Arbitration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wills, Trusts &amp; Estates Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers’ Compensation Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Areas of Board Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Admiralty and Maritime Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adoption Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Antitrust and Trade Regulation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appellate Practice</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aviation Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Business Litigation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>City, County, and Local Government</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Civil Trial</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Condominium and Planned Development</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Construction Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criminal Appellate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criminal Trial</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elder Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Immigration and Nationality Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intellectual Property Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Litigation &amp; Arbitration</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Juvenile Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Labor and Employment Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital and Family Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Real Estate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>State &amp; Fed Govt &amp; Admin Practice</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tax Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wills, Trusts and Estates</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Workers’ Compensation</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Orlando lawyer comes to the aid of Bahamians

By: Jim Ash, Senior Editor

Guy Haggard, a veteran pilot and attorney who is board certified in aviation law, spent a sleepless night September 1.

Some 350 miles south of his Orlando home, Hurricane Dorian was blasting the Bahamas with 180 mph-plus winds and threatening the lives of islanders Haggard has known for more than 30 years.

“Right when it went through, we tried to get in touch with them, and you just couldn’t, everything went out,” said Haggard, a GrayRobinson shareholder. “I lost a lot of sleep. I felt so helpless.”

Also unknown was the fate of a vacation home Haggard co-owned on Green Turtle Cay. He has since learned it no longer exists.

An Eagle Scout who learned the value of service at an early age, and an instrument flight rated pilot with easy access to the sky, Haggard didn’t waste time mounting a rescue that eventually helped relocate a handful of victims.

Haggard said the project began with his attorney son, Drew, who works in the firm’s Ft. Lauderdale office, marshalling donations.

“Within 24 hours, Drew collected a lot of goods, water, diapers, toiletries, non-perishable foods, tarps, MREs (Meals Ready to Eat),” Haggard said. “He organized it and then I jumped in the plane and flew down.”

The first flight, from Orlando to Ft. Lauderdale to pick up supplies, and then to Treasure Cay and back, was September 6.

Haggard flew a Cirrus Vision Jet SF-50, an elfin four-seater with a butterfly tail that he co-owns.

“It’s billed as the smallest jet,” he said. “You’d be surprised how much stuff you can get in it.”

The weather was clear, but the main airport at Marsh Harbor was under two feet of water, forcing Haggard and scores of other private planes to land on an uncontrolled strip on Treasure Cay.

As they made their final approach, pilots had to stay on their toes and keep in close radio contact with each other, Haggard said.
“The U.S. Navy put a big AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) plane up there at 20,000 feet, circling, so they could keep radar coverage on everybody coming in,” Haggard said.

Haggard was one of the first pilots to receive an entry permit from the Bahamian government after the storm, and he credits the government with responding quickly.

The need was evident when Haggard first landed. The scene reminded him of the historic footage of the fall of Saigon, when desperate South Vietnamese refugees fought to board helicopters on the roof of the American embassy.

“The first time I taxied and I looked down the taxiway, I said, ‘Oh My God, there were thousands of people on the ramp,’” Haggard said. “They were obviously wearing the same clothes that they had been wearing for the past four or five days. As soon as you shut down, they would come up to you – ‘Please take me out, here’s my baby.’”

Haggard managed three flights over two days, September 6 and September 8. He estimates that he never stayed on the ground for more than 30 minutes, long enough to unload supplies and take on a few passengers.

U.S. Customs warned Haggard that he could only bring back storm victims who held a valid U.S. passport, or a valid Bahamian passport with a U.S. visa. Haggard said it was easy to find storm victims with the proper credentials. He rescued five.

The most memorable was a hotel bartender and his physician wife and their eight-year-old daughter. The couple told Haggard they made the 20-mile trek to the air strip in a storm-battered family car that had lost all of its windows, including the windshield.

“They said they rode the storm out in Marsh Harbor in their house and that it was the most terrifying experience they ever had,” Haggard said. “They said pieces of the house were coming off as they were hiding in the bathroom and somehow, their house held together.”

When Haggard learned that it was the little girl’s birthday, he treated the family to dinner at a Chili’s Restaurant.

“We asked her where she wanted to go, and she said, ‘McDonald’s,’” Haggard laughed. “They don’t have McDonald’s on the island. She was taking the whole thing amazingly well.”

Helping even a few storm victims was rewarding, and it put the loss of a vacation home in perspective, Haggard said.

“Have you ever heard that parable about the 10,000 starfish on the beach, and the little girl throwing one back in the water, and the old man comes by and says you can’t possibly save them all, and the girl says, well, I can at least help this one,” Haggard said. “That’s what it was like.”
"I HAVE BEEN PRACTICING FOR 11 YEARS AND HAVE BEEN BOARD CERTIFIED IN ADOPTION LAW FOR 3 YEARS.

BOARD CERTIFICATION HAS BEEN EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL TO MY PRACTICE AND HAS BROUGHT MY NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS.

BEING A RELATIVELY YOUNG ATTORNEY, I ALSO BELIEVE IT HAS GIVEN CLIENTS AN ADDITIONAL LAYER OF CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN MY CAPABILITIES."

ROBERT L. WEBSTER III
Tampa, Florida
ATTORNEY AT LAW MAGAZINE

Congratulations

ALL THE ATTORNEYS THAT ACHIEVED BOARD CERTIFICATION IN 2019

WWW.ATTORNEYATLAWMAGAZINE.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TOM BRADY AT TBRADY@ATTORNEYATLAWMAGAZINE.COM