

FIRM OVERVIEW

The law firm of Dutton Law Group, P.A. specializes in the fields of first- and third-party personal injury and casualty defense litigation, including automobile liability, premises liability, product liability, commercial liability, personal injury protection (PIP), and other related litigation. The firm also has a substantial insurance coverage and appellate practice.

SCOTT W. DUTTON

Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer

Mr. Dutton obtained his doctorate of law in 1984 from Ohio Northern University, Pettit College of Law, which is one of the oldest law schools in the United States. During law school Mr. Dutton was honored on the Dean's List during his second and third years of legal study. While in law school Mr. Dutton also received a diploma from the Institute of Comparative and International Law located at Oxford University in Oxford, England.

During Mr. Dutton's course of study at Ohio Northern University, he was a member of the editorial staff of the *Ohio Northern University Law Review*. While on the *Ohio Northern University Law Review*, Mr. Dutton published *The Court Vetoes The Legislative Veto: Immigration and Naturalization Service vs. Chadha*, analyzing a landmark United States Supreme Court decision on bicameralism, the separation of powers doctrine and the Presentment Clause of the United States Constitution. Mr. Dutton was also selected to the Order of Barristers for having exhibited excellence and obtained high honor through the art of courtroom advocacy. Mr. Dutton also served as a justice on the law school's Moot Court Executive Board, and was the justice in charge of the First Year Appellate Advocacy Program. While in law school, Mr. Dutton also participated in four national moot court competitions, including the Fall National Moot Court Competition, the Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (Best Written Memorial), and the Benton Privacy Law Competition (Team Coach).

Additional achievements by Mr. Dutton while in law school included the authorship and publication of articles on constitutional law which have been published nationally, selection as research assistant to Professor Paul Edwards, and participation on the faculty hiring committee. For Mr. Dutton's outstanding academic achievement in law school, he was selected to *Who's Who Among American Law Students*.

Prior to law school, Mr. Dutton's Bachelor of Arts degree and graduate work was in the field of international relations and international affairs at Florida International University in Miami, Florida where he was born.

Prior to attending law school, Mr. Dutton was a firefighter and paramedic with the City of Miami Beach in Miami Beach, Florida. While there Mr. Dutton became one of the first certified paramedics in the State of Florida. He also received a Certificate of Compliance for State Firefighter awarded by the State Fire Marshal's Office. While serving as a paramedic, Mr. Dutton was also selected to the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team for the City of Miami Beach Police Department where he received training from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Army Special Forces in Urban Warfare. Mr. Dutton also received training in fire prevention and enforcement of fire codes and building codes

during his education and experience as a firefighter. Additionally, Mr. Dutton is a certified scuba instructor and has instructed scuba, including search and rescue, in the Florida Keys.

Professional organizations in which Mr. Dutton is a member include the American Bar Association, Defense Research Institute and the Florida Defense Lawyers Association where he serves as its Continuing Legal Education Chairperson. Mr. Dutton is a charter member of the Medical Claims Defense Network and has served on its board of directors.

In addition to being admitted to the Florida Bar, Mr. Dutton has also practiced and been admitted to the United States District Courts for the Middle and Southern Districts of Florida.

Mr. Dutton has been Board Certified in Civil Trial Practice by The Florida Bar since 1992. Having taken over fifty cases to jury verdict at trial, Mr. Dutton is widely regarded as a highly-skilled advocate in the courtroom. Mr. Dutton is not only a respected trial attorney, he is also known as an outstanding appellate advocate. Among the many cases Mr. Dutton has been involved in on appeal are *MarElia v. Yanchuck, Berman, Wadley & Zervos, P.A.*, 966 So.2d 30 (Fla. 2d DCA 2007); *Ellis v. N.G.N. of Tampa, Inc.*, 586 So.2d 1042 (Fla.1991); *Baker v. Casualty Indem. Exchange*, 561 So.2d 1314 (Fla. 4th DCA 1990); *Chalfin v. Brandon Kendall Inv., Inc.*, 540 So.2d 926 (Fla. 3d DCA 1989); *Italian American Club of Tamarac, Inc. v. Orenstein*, 531 So.2d 430 (Fla. 4th DCA 1988); and *Universal Sec. Ins. Co. v. Spreadbury*, 524 So.2d 1167 (Fla. 2d DCA 1988).

In addition to his legal practice today, Mr. Dutton also taught as adjunct faculty in business law, American government, political science, and state and local government at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Florida. Mr. Dutton has also been invited on several occasions to judge both trials and moot court competitions at Stetson University College of Law. Mr. Dutton has also instructed paramedical procedures, anatomy, physiology and pharmacology at Miami-Dade Community College in Miami, Florida, while employed with the Miami Beach Fire Department.

Mr. Dutton is highly sought after as a CLE guest lecturer and has lectured on many topics including but not limited to Uninsured Motorist (2000, 2001); How to Successfully Make and Manage Objections at Trial (2000); Premises Liability: Preparation and Trial of a Difficult Case (1997, 1999); Insurance Law: Third Party Coverage in Florida (1998); Insurance Coverage Law (1997); Winning the Battle of the Experts (1996); Powerful Expert Witness Strategies (1997); Trying the Automobile Injury Case (1996); Defending the Soft Tissue Injury and Disc Bulge Case (2000); Depositions: Strategies, Tactics & Mechanics (1995,1996,1997,1998); Discovery Tactics: Drawing the Line Between Clever and Unfair (1994); Florida Personal Injury Practice for Paralegals (1999, 2001); Defending the Bone and Joint Injury Claim: Shoulders, Knees and the TMJ (2000); Florida Liability Claims Conference: Current Trends in Handling Personal Injury Protection Claims and Litigation (2001); PIP: Hot Topics for 2002; Personal Injury Settlements in Florida: Practical Methods for Perfecting the Settlement of a Claim (2003, 2004); Handling the Automobile Injury Claim in Florida (2003); Damages in Florida Civil Trial Practice (2003); Litigator's Guide to Liability Insurance (2003); Expert Witnesses: Effective Direct and Cross Examination and Expert Witness Testimony in P.I. Cases (2003); Trying Your First Premises Liability Case in Florida (2003); Personal Injury and No Fault Practice: Current Trends in Personal Injury Protection (PIP) Litigation (2003); Insurance Bad Faith Claims (2003); Current Trends in Personal Injury Litigation (2003); Evaluating your Chances of Settling the Florida Personal Injury Case (2003); Discovery in Florida Bad Faith Litigation (2004); 2003 Amendments to the Florida Personal Injury Protection (PIP) Statute (2003); Automobile Insurance Update (2003, 2004); Personal Injury Settlements in Florida: Practical Methods for Perfecting the Settlement of a Claim (2004); Civil Trial From Start to Finish: A Practical Approach to Trying a Civil Case in Florida (2004); Current Trends in

Florida Auto Law (2004); “Using What We Learned from PIP to Undermine the BI/UM Claim”(2004); PIP, BI and UM Fraud: Using What We Learned in PIP to Undermine the BI/UM Claim (2005); PIP Claim Handling, A Holistic Approach to Evaluating the PIP Claim (2005); Personal Injury and No Fault Practice: Current Trends in Personal Injury Protection (PIP) Litigation (2006); Legal Assisting: The Short Course. Topics: Participating in Pretrial Discovery and Understanding Florida Civil Courts and Procedure (2006); The Definitive Guide to Settling Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Claim in Florida (2006); Combating Attorney Fees (Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee, 2006, and Florida Farm Bureau 2007); Insurance Bad Faith Claims in Florida (2006); Bad Faith Insurance Claims in Florida (2006); Automobile Litigation: Strategic Issues and Answers (2007); Settling Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Claims(2007); Auto Insurance: Uninsured, Underinsured, and Accident Litigation (2007); PIP Law Update (Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee, 2007); Insurance Bad Faith Claims (2007); Personal Injury Case Management for Seasoned Litigators (2007); Welcome to the Wild, Wild West: PIP Purgatory, and the Badlands Beyond! (Medical Claims Defense Network, 2007); PIP 2008: A Discussion of the History of PIP, and the New Statute; Attorneys Fee Hearings (2008); Insurance Law: Current Topics and Strategies (2008); Settling Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Claims (2008); The 2008 PIP Statute: Cure of Boondoggle? (Medical Claims Defense Network, 2008); Defending a Claim for Attorney’s Fees: Stopping or Slowing Down the Runaway Train (12th Annual Florida Liability Claims Conference 2008); Florida No-Fault Post-2007: New Beginning or Not (12th Annual Florida Liability Claims Conference 2008); PIP Purgatory and the Badlands Beyond: An Up Close Analysis of the 2008 PIP Statute (Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee, 2008); Florida PIP Litigation: Current Topics and Trends (2008); Insurance Bad Faith Claims (2009) Florida PIP Litigation: Current Topics and Trends (2009); Trends in Florida No-Fault Law and PIP Law Update (13th Annual Florida Liability Claims Conference 2009); PIP Law Update:, A Review of Case Law From the Past Year, and the Forecast of the Year Ahead (Including New Statutory Changes) (Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee, 2009); Handling and Litigation Fee Schedules under the “New” Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law: Constitutionality, Mandatory v. Permissive, Class Actions, and Recommended Policy Language (Medical Claims Defense Network, March 2010); Florida PIP Litigation: Current Topics and Trends (2010); PIP Law Update:, A Review of Case Law From the Past Year, and the Forecast of the Year Ahead (Department of Insurance Fraud, and the Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee, 2010); Trends in Florida No-Fault Law and PIP Law Update (14th Annual Florida Liability Claims Conference 2010); Florida Insurance Consumer Advocate Personal Injury Protection Roundtable (Office of the Florida Insurance Consumer Advocate, August; 2010); Handling and Litigating Insurance Bad Faith Claims (2010); Preparing and Trying the Personal Injury Case (2011); Florida PIP Litigation: Hot Topics, Trends, and the Future of PIP (2011).

In 2010, Mr. Dutton was honored as one of Tampa Bay’s “Super Lawyers” by *Tampa Bay Magazine* in the field of personal injury. Mr. Dutton has attained an AV rating in The Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, the highest rating available. The “A” signifies the highest level of legal ability; the “V” denotes “very high” adherence to the professional standards of conduct, ethics, reliability and diligence. Dutton Law Group, P.A. is also listed in the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register, which is limited to the most distinguished law practices.

Born on August 7, 1956 in Miami, Florida, Mr. Dutton is married to Kathleen and they have three children.

GREGORY J. BLACKBURN
Civil Trial Lawyer

Mr. Blackburn obtained his doctorate of law from the Stetson University College of Law where in 1991 he graduated *cum laude* in the top ten percent of his class of 130 students. While at Stetson University College of Law, Mr. Blackburn was a member of the *Stetson Law Review* and elected to its editorial board as Articles and Symposia Editor. While a member of the *Stetson Law Review*, Mr. Blackburn published a commentary in the *Stetson Law Review* on the United States Supreme Court's decision in a landmark First Amendment establishment clause case, *County of Allegheny v. ACLU*, 492 U.S. 573, 109 S.Ct. 3086, 106 L.Ed.2d 472 (1989). That commentary, *Government, the Holiday Season, and the Establishment Clause A Perspective on the Issues*, 20 STETSON L. REV. 217 (Fall 1990), has since been widely cited in the legal academic literature.

While a student at Stetson University College of Law, Mr. Blackburn served as a judicial intern for the Honorable Elizabeth A. Kovachevich, United States District Judge, Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division, where he concentrated in the area of civil litigation. While in law school, Mr. Blackburn was appointed a Cecil and Augusta Bailey Scholar, Charles A. Dana Scholar, and Stanley Milledge Award recipient for academic excellence, named to the school's honor roll in each of his three years of study, received the American Jurisprudence Book Awards in civil procedure, professional responsibility and conflicts of law, and maintained membership in the Trial Advocacy Society, and the American Bar Association.

Mr. Blackburn received his Bachelor of Science degree in criminology with honors from the University of Tampa in 1988, graduating with a 3.893 grade point average. While at the University of Tampa, Mr. Blackburn was a member of the Alpha Chi Honor Society, named to the school's dean's list in each semester of his studies, and, on nomination by his professors, received the National Collegiate Criminal Justice Award among other honors.

Prior to attending law school and while still enrolled as an undergraduate, Mr. Blackburn worked in radio and television as a producer and board operator at radio stations WWQT-AM and WHBS-FM in Clearwater, Florida and as a technical director with the Home Shopping Network. Mr. Blackburn also spent five years from 1983 to 1988 with Honeywell Incorporated, first working with the Space Shuttle Main Engine Controller program and later on secret programs associated with the Strategic Defense Initiative, more commonly known as President Reagan's "Star Wars" program.

Born in Tampa, Florida, on October 13, 1963, Mr. Blackburn is a member of the Florida Bar, and is admitted to and has practiced before the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida and the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Mr. Blackburn is also an active member of the Hillsborough County Bar Association and is a past member of the Ferguson-White American Inn of Court in Tampa, Florida. Mr. Blackburn is or has in the past been a member of the American Bar Association's Torts and Insurance Practice Section, the Defense Research Institute, and the Medical Claims Defense Network.

Mr. Blackburn has been invited to speak to trade, professional claims, and underwriting associations on a variety of insurance issues and to university students on Florida's motor vehicle no-fault insurance law.

Mr. Blackburn's practice over the last twenty years has included professional and medical negligence defense, nursing home defense, commercial lines defense, first- and third-party property and casualty defense, business and personal auto defense, defense coverage disputes, subrogation matters, employment litigation representing employers and employees, commercial litigation, and arbitration of securities industry and commercial disputes before the NASD and AAA. Mr. Blackburn has tried over thirty cases to jury trial verdict in both state and federal court, has tried multiple bench trials to judgment, and has gone to final arbitral decision before the NASD.

In addition to practice at the trial court level, Mr. Blackburn has substantial experience in state and federal appellate work. In one of Mr. Blackburn's most significant appeals, *Rodante v. Fidelity Nat'l Ins. Co.*, 725 So. 2d 1151 (Fla. 2d DCA 1998), a case presenting an issue of essential first impression in the state courts of Florida, Mr. Blackburn successfully preserved the trial court's dismissal of a bad faith action for untimely filing of the statutory notice of insurer violation. In addition to briefing and argument in the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the Florida First, Second, and Fifth District Courts of Appeal, Mr. Blackburn has also briefed in matters before the Supreme Court of Florida.

Mr. Blackburn is politically active and has worked as a volunteer on campaigns at the local, state, and national levels.

MATTHEW D. BRUMLEY

Civil Trial Lawyer

Mr. Brumley obtained his doctorate of law from the Stetson University College of Law in 2001. He immediately began working in the areas personal injury and first party insurance disputes, which remain his focus today. He concentrated in the area of bad faith insurance litigation while a law student at Stetson, and clerked for several prominent personal injury and family law attorneys. He has represented multiple insurers from file inception through to trial. Mr. Brumley has also successfully represented a client on appeal in the Florida Second District Court of Appeal.

Mr. Brumley earned his Bachelor of Arts in the area of mass communications from the University of South Florida in 1996. Mr. Brumley was born in Long Island, New York, and served in the United States Navy from 1986 to 1990. Mr. Brumley has been happily married for the last twelve years.

CHRISTINE N. FAILEY

Civil Trial Lawyer

Ms. Failey graduated from the Stetson University College of Law in 2005, where, among other honors, she received the William F. Blews Pro Bono Award. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Failey attended the University of South Florida where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts in political science in 2001.

Ms. Failey's practice has included work in the areas of motor vehicle accidents, slip and falls, products liability, premises liability, medical malpractice, and personal auto first- and third-party defense. Ms. Failey also has substantial experience in the establishment and maintenance of business entities including corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, professional corporations, and operations utilizing fictitious names. Presently at the Firm, Ms. Failey acts as a litigation and trial support specialist.

Ms. Failey is active in the community, performing work for Community Action Stops Abuse (CASA) as a Legal Advocate Volunteer providing legal services for petitioners seeking an Injunction for Protection, screening petitioners for injunctions that pertain to domestic violence and providing assistance to petitioners at return hearings, general master hearings, and custody hearings. Ms. Failey has also volunteered with the Election Protection Campaign as a poll watcher, advising voters of the Florida Voter's Bill of Rights, filing complaints for potential voters if they believed that they were wrongfully turned away at the voting precinct, and directing voters to their correct voter precinct.

DAVID A. FIFNER
Civil Trial Lawyer

Mr. Fifner received his undergraduate degree from Stetson University in 1982. Mr. Fifner attended law school at Cleveland State University-John Marshall School of Law where he graduated with a Juris Doctorate in 1985.

Upon graduation from law school, Mr. Fifner served as Secretary and General Counsel to U.S. Truck Lines, Inc. of Delaware, where he managed the legal affairs of the company and its thirty-five subsidiaries. Among Mr. Fifner's duties included the selection and purchase of insurance coverages, the management of worker's compensation claims, the review and approval of all contracts, and the management of all litigation matters throughout the United States including the handling of all claims within the company's \$250,000.00 self-insured retention.

Thereafter, Mr. Fifner joined a private law firm and continued in the defense of commercial trucking matters, representing such companies as Yellow Freight, Inc.; Carolina Freight, Inc.; Munson Trucking, Inc.; and Crete Carrier, Inc. in liability claims through to trial.

In 1991, Mr. Fifner moved in house to one of the country's largest writers of personal lines insurance, where he trained casualty adjusters in claims handling and legal procedures, audited all Florida claims offices, handled excess exposure lawsuits, and supervised and managed claims in litigation.

In 1996, Mr. Fifner returned to the practice of law in the private law firm setting and has since continued in the defense of first- and third-party claims of all types, including large-loss litigation through to trial.

Mr. Fifner is admitted to the practice law in the state courts of Ohio and Florida. In addition, Mr. Fifner is admitted to the bars of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

In addition to his legal practice, Mr. Fifner has lectured in such areas as insurance policy law and automobile accident litigation.

JAMES MICHEAL SHEA GENTRY

Civil Trial Lawyer

Mr. Gentry of the Firm's Orlando, Florida, office received his Juris Doctorate, *cum laude*, from the Florida State University College of Law in 2005. While in law school, Mr. Gentry appeared on the Dean's List, was ranked in the top twenty-five percent of his class, was a Peer Advisor, and was chosen to participate in a Summer Abroad Program in a program associated with United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy.

Mr. Gentry obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of Central Florida, graduating in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. While an undergraduate, Mr. Gentry was employed full-time, yet was still honored on the Dean's List numerous times, graduating with a 3.8 grade point average in his major study.

Since graduating from law school, Mr. Gentry's primary practice focus has been the defense of first- and third-party insurance claims, including PIP and SIU defense, general liability defense, and professional liability defense.

Mr. Gentry speaks elementary conversational German and frequently travels through Europe with a keen interest in travels through Germany.

IVY R. GINSBERG

Civil Trial Lawyer

One of the Firm's appellate specialists in the Firm's Miami, Florida, office, Ms. Ginsberg obtained her Juris Doctorate from the University of Florida College of Law in 1986. Prior to obtaining her law degree, Ms. Ginsberg graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in business administration and a degree in finance in 1982. Ms. Ginsberg was awarded the Sophomore Honors Scholarship, the Florida Bankers Educational Foundation Scholarship, and the Delta Sigma Pi Scholarship as an undergraduate.

Ms. Ginsberg's legal career began representing the State of Florida as an Assistant Attorney General in the Miami office of the Attorney General. Ms. Ginsberg then served as Senior Law Clerk to the Honorable David M. Gersten of the Third District Court of Appeal in Miami, Florida. After twenty years of concentrating her area of practice in criminal and appellate law both statewide and before the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, Ms. Ginsberg transitioned into an insurance defense practice with the Office of the General Counsel for United Automobile Insurance Company in the Appellate Division from 2008-2009. Ms. Ginsberg has continued to develop her expertise in the areas of personal injury protection law and civil litigation with the Dutton Law Group, P.A. by providing litigation support and as an appellate specialist since 2010.

Ms. Ginsberg has served as a member of the Florida Bar Journal's Editorial Board since June of 2007 and previously served as the Editor of the Florida Bar Criminal Law Section's Law Journal from 1997 to 2000 and 2005 to 2008. Currently, Ms. Ginsberg is a member of the Rosemary Barkett Appellate Inn of Court, the Florida Association of Women Lawyers Miami-Dade Chapter, the Third District Court of Appeal Historical Society, and is actively involved with the Appellate Practice Section of the Florida Bar.

In addition to be admitted to the Florida Bar, Ms. Ginsberg has also practiced and been admitted to the United States District Court of the Southern District of Florida, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the Supreme Court of the United States. In 1993, Ms. Ginsberg became Board Certified in Criminal Appellate Practice and has since been recertified in 1998, 2003, and 2008.

Born on November 18, 1961, Ms. Ginsberg has been a resident of South Florida for over forty years and currently resides and practices in Miami, Florida.

LOUIS SCHULMAN

Mr. Schulman graduated from New York Law School, *cum laude*, in 1981 in the top ten percent of his class of 216. While in law school, Mr. Schulman was a member of the New York Law School Law Review, and served an internship with the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, First Department. Also while in law school, Mr. Schulman was honored as a recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Award in constitutional law and received the American Jurisprudence Book Award for the highest grade in constitutional law.

Prior to attending law school, Mr. Schulman attended Case Western Reserve University where he maintained a keen research interest in water quality, fisheries management, and insect population dynamics. Receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology in 1977, Mr. Schulman was named to the Dean's List for three years.

Upon graduating from law school, Mr. Schulman began practicing law as a commercial litigator with a well-known firm in New York City. The year 1983 brought Mr. Schulman to Florida, where he joined a large Florida firm and continued to practice in commercial litigation. In 1984, Mr. Schulman transitioned his practice from commercial litigation to complex insurance defense work, and since that time has devoted his practice exclusively to insurance matters.

For almost thirty years now, Mr. Schulman has litigated first- and third-party coverage issues arising from property and liability claims. Mr. Schulman has also litigated fraud claims, arson claims, pollution claims, environmental claims, and claims giving rise to complex multi-party litigation.

Mr. Schulman practices in both state and federal courts where he has successfully prosecuted many jury and non-jury trials. In addition, Mr. Schulman has prosecuted numerous appeals including several that have resulted in appellate decisions of statewide importance

Mr. Schulman is a member of the New York Bar, the Florida Bar, and is admitted to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Mr. Schulman is also a mediator, certified by the state and federal courts to mediate matters in county court, circuit court, and federal court.

Mr. Schulman has been a frequent speaker and panelist at seminars and meetings sponsored by the Defense Research Institute, the Property Loss Research Bureau, and the American Law Institute, and is often called upon to speak and lecture on the subject of insurance coverage and ethical issues relating to the handling of insurance claims.

When he is not practicing law, Mr. Schulman is engaged in the community as a storm water activist, and, working with the Tampa City Council, the Mayor of the City of Tampa, and the Florida

Department of Environmental Protection, has helped to dramatically raise the level of attention given to storm water issues in local political discussions, resulting in the institution of a comprehensive storm water policy.

STEVEN T. SOCK

Civil Trial Lawyer

Mr. Sock obtained his doctorate of law from Stetson University College of Law. Stetson University College of Law is regularly ranked number one in the nation by U.S. News and World Report for its trial advocacy programs. While in law school, Mr. Sock was selected by the Pinellas County Attorney for one of only two paid clerkships within the Pinellas County Attorney's Office.

After graduating law school, Mr. Sock gained extensive experience conducting both bench and jury trials as a prosecutor for the State of Florida with the Hillsborough County State Attorneys Office. From there he moved on to civil litigation, accumulating a broad range of defense tactics from various firms with differing strategies that he now employs in defending the interests of insurers.

Prior to law school, Mr. Sock obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in business from the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida. Upon graduation, he was hired as a project manager traveling the nation conducting research projects for the petroleum industry. Upon his return to Tampa, Florida, he completed his first career as a business and technology consultant, working for such companies such as IBM, Ernst & Young, Raymond James Financial, Lincare, and Verizon.

Mr. Sock is a member of the Florida Bar, the Hillsborough County Bar Association, and the Clearwater Bar Association. He has acted as a guardian ad litem and has been a volunteer with Legal Eagles homework help for elementary and middle school children. Mr. Sock is also an avid autocross racer with the Sports Car Club of America.

DALE E. TARPLEY

Civil Trial Lawyer

An appellate specialist with the Firm and practicing out of its Tampa, Florida, Office, Mr. Tarpley attended law school at the University of Florida Frederic G. Levin College of Law, from which he was graduated in 1988. While in law school, Mr. Tarpley was on the dean's list and was awarded high honors in the fall semester of his third year. The honors award was based on a law review quality senior paper analyzing the ramifications of the Growth Management Act. Prior to attending the University of Florida, Mr. Tarpley attended New College of Florida, from which he graduated in 1983 with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. During Mr. Tarpley's time at New College he prepared a senior thesis, "The Politics of Environmental Regulation" which was successfully defended before a panel of professors.

Mr. Tarpley has spent over twenty years in the practice of law honing his skills as an appellate practitioner. Upon graduation from law school Mr. Tarpley joined a private law firm in Gainesville, Florida where for several years he worked on appellate matters in a broad variety of civil cases including securities cases, construction cases, and family and domestic cases. In 1991, Mr. Tarpley joined the Tampa, Florida office of the Florida Department of Legal Affairs where he worked as an Assistant Attorney General in the Criminal Appeals Division for over eighteen years, handling direct appeals, collateral attacks on criminal convictions, and cases involving extraordinary writs including habeas corpus, certiorari, and prohibition.

Mr. Tarpley is a member of the Florida Bar, and is admitted to and has practiced before the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Martindale-Hubbell has given Mr. Tarpley a BV rating “with distinction.”

Mr. Tarpley has presented oral argument in over fifty appeals before the federal appellate courts and the appellate courts of the state of Florida. Mr. Tarpley has also briefed matters before the Supreme Court of Florida. Mr. Tarpley’s skills as an appellate advocate have resulted in a significant number of influential appellate opinions.

RANDALL A. WAINORIS

Civil Trial Lawyer

Prior to attending law school, Mr. Wainoris worked for numerous Fortune 500 companies including General Motors, ITT, and Sears Roebuck & Company. Immediately prior to entering Stetson University College of Law, and while attending law school, Mr. Wainoris worked as a Registered Nurse at Lakeland Regional Medical Center on a neurosurgery and head trauma unit. Mr. Wainoris has been able to use this knowledge and experience to provide his clients with superior representation and analysis.

Prior to law school, Mr. Wainoris received his Bachelor of Science in business administration from Villanova University. He earned an Associate Degree in nursing from Hillsborough Community College, and additionally obtained a Masters Degree in business administration from Stetson University.

Mr. Wainoris attended law school at Stetson University College of Law in St. Petersburg, Florida. While attending law school, Mr. Wainoris completed a judicial internship with the Honorable Gasper J. Ficarrotta in the Florida Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and published *Changes in Medicare Resulting from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 and Their Affect on Home Health Care*, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys Quarterly, Volume 13, Number 1, Winter 2000.

In addition to his legal practice, Mr. Wainoris is often called upon to provide seminars and discussions on automobile and casualty litigation; having previously presented at the Florida Liability Claims Conference through the Florida Defense Lawyers Association. Mr. Wainoris has also taught MBA students at Webster University as adjunct professor. Mr. Wainoris, also a licensed Florida Realtor, is married and resides with his wife and three children in Plant City, Florida.

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

The firm has in the past or currently represents the following clients: AIG, Allied Dealer Insurance Services, Allstate Insurance Company, American Property and Casualty Company, American Reliance Insurance Company, Assurance America Insurance Company, Bristol West Insurance Company, Burger King Corporation, Capacity Insurance Company, Casualty Indemnity Exchange, Citizen's Property Insurance Corporation, Coronet Insurance Company, CNA Insurance Companies, Crum and Forester, Cyber-Care, Erie Insurance Company, Explorer Insurance Company, First Acceptance Insurance Company, Fortune Insurance Company, GEICO, Global Air Charter, Golden Corral Restaurants, GMAC, The Hanover Insurance Company, Home Depot, Indemnity Underwriters Insurance Company, Interamerican Car Rental, Investors Insurance Group, John Hancock Property and Casualty Companies, The Hartford Insurance Company, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, Maryland Casualty Company, Mercury Insurance Company, Metropolitan Insurance Company, MGA Insurance Company, Midland Risk Insurance Company, National Insurance Company, Occidental Fire and Casualty Company, Peachtree Casualty Insurance Company, Pilot Insurance Company, Progressive Insurance Company, Security National Insurance Company, Seminole Casualty Insurance Company, Service Insurance Company, Sphere Drake Insurance Company, The Shelby Insurance Group, State Farm Fire & Casualty Company, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, Superior Insurance Company, The Travelers Insurance Company, The Underwriters at Lloyds of London, United National Group, United Southern Assurance Company, Unitrin Insurance Company, USAA, USF&G, and Usher Insurance Company.