

William R. Scherer, Jr.

Founder & Managing Partner

Attorney Profile



WILLIAM R. SCHERER, JR.
Founder & Managing Partner

Fort Lauderdale, FL
Tel: (954) 462-5500

Email:
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PRACTICE AREAS

Class Actions
Commercial Fraud Litigation
Commercial Litigation
Complex Business Litigation
Land Use & Land Use Litigation
Personal Injury/Wrongful Death
Ponzi Scheme Litigation
Professional Negligence & Malpractice

EDUCATION

School of Law at Indiana University, Juris Doctor, 1973, magna cum laude
Franklin College of Indiana, Bachelor of Science, 1969

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida Bar, 1973
Indiana Bar, 1973
District of Columbia Bar, 2010
United States District Court for the District of Colorado, 2014
United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, 1974

BIOGRAPHY

William R. Scherer co-founded the firm in 1974 with his late partner Rex Conrad. Over the past almost four decades, Mr. Scherer has grown Conrad & Scherer into one of Florida's leading law firms and has expanded the firm's presence with offices in New York, New York, Brevard, North Carolina, and Quito, Ecuador.

AV® Preeminent™ Peer Rated by Martindale-Hubbell® since 1987, Mr. Scherer is a seasoned trial attorney. He has litigated over 100 trials in both jury and non-jury cases before state, appellate, and federal courts. Mr. Scherer's cases and legal accomplishments have received coverage by major television networks such as CNN, CNBC, MSNBC and FNN and national and local newspapers such as The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, The Wall Street Journal, South Florida Business Journal, the Daily Business Review, the Sun-Sentinel and the Miami Herald.

Mr. Scherer was lead counsel for victims of the infamous multi-billion dollar Ponzi scheme orchestrated by Scott Rothstein. Notably, Mr. Scherer led his complex litigation team and achieved an historic settlement returning to investors what is said to be the highest percentages of recovery for victims of a Ponzi scheme. News outlets described the settlement as a "huge victory" and a "landmark" lawsuit.

In 2005, Mr. Scherer served as plaintiff's counsel in a high-profile commercial lawsuit involving the sale of a health insurance company and obtained, by jury verdict, one of the largest damage awards in Broward County history.

During the historical 2000 Presidential Election Litigation in Florida, Mr. Scherer led a team of attorneys representing President George W. Bush and personally represented the President in the Broward County recount.

In addition to his litigation practice, Mr. Scherer has also served as counsel to various government entities. From 1988 to 2005, Mr. Scherer served as General Counsel to the North Broward Hospital District, one of the largest public health care providers in the nation, with four hospitals and nine specialized treatment centers. As General Counsel for the Hospital District, he supervised teams of legal experts in healthcare and malpractice law, and was responsible for all trials and legal actions taken by or against the Hospital District.

Mr. Scherer began his legal career as a law clerk to the Indiana Supreme Court and the Honorable Charles Fulton, Former Chief of the United States District Court for the South District of Florida.

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/AFFILIATIONS *(continued from reverse side)*

- American Board of Trial Advocates, Member/"Advocate," 1989 to present
- Broward Workshop, Board Member, 2002 to 2012
- Broward County Ethics Commission, 2009 to 2010
- City of Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority, Board Member, 1989 to 1996 and 2003 to 2010
- Franklin College Board of Trustees, 2000 to 2008
- Judicial Nominating Commission for the Seventeenth Circuit, Gubernatorial Appointee (Governor Martinez, Governor Bush and Governor Scott), 1987 to 1999, 2001 to 2003, 2003 to 2007 (Chair in 2006), 2011 to 2012
- Judicial Nominating Commission for the Fourth District Court of Appeal, Gubernatorial Appointee (Governor Bush), 1999 to 2003
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Interim General Counsel, Gubernatorial Appointee (Governor Bush), 2000
- Florida Lawyers for Bush, Statewide Co-Chair, 1998 to 2000
- Florida Lawyers for Bush, Broward and Palm Beach County Chair, 1998 to 2000
- Federal Bar, Grievance Panel for the Southern District of Florida, 1995 to 1997
- Florida Patient Compensation Fund, Board of Directors, 1992
- Federal Bar Association, Broward County Chapter, Past President, 1982 to 1983

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

- AV® Preeminent™ Peer Rated by Martindale-Hubbell®, since 1987
- Recognized as a Best Lawyer in Commercial Litigation for The Best Lawyers in America®, 2018 to 2020
- Listed in Super Lawyers® "Super Lawyer", 2006 to 2018, 2020
- Listed in Florida Trend's Legal Elite, "Florida Legal Elite", 2004, 2010, 2014 and 2020
- Listed in South Florida Legal Guide, "Top Lawyers", 2006 to 2020
- Listed as one of the "FACES of Fort Lauderdale" in Complex Commercial Litigation by Gold Coast Magazine, April 2019
- Recognized as an "Ultimate CEO" by the South Florida Business Journal, 2013
- Listed in VerdictSearch's, "Top 100 Verdicts of 2005", 2005
- Recognized as "Most Effective Lawyer" by the Daily Business Review, 2005 and 2012
- Profiled as a "Power Broker" by the Sun-Sentinel Newspaper, 2002
- Listed as one of "The 50 Most Powerful People in Broward County" by Gold Coast Magazine, May/June 2002
- Profiled as a "Political Power Broker" by Gold Coast Magazine, April 2002