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Ft. Lauderdale

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Practice Areas

- Construction Law and Litigation
- Public Private Partnerships
- Business Litigation

Areas of Focus

- Construction Lien Law
- Delay Claims
- Construction Licensing
- Surety Bonds
- Chapter 558 Specialized Claims Team

Social Media

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Lee A. Weintraub

Shareholder

**Chair, Public Private Partnerships; Vice Chair,
Construction Law and Litigation**

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Professional Experience

At age 46, Lee Weintraub was the youngest recipient ever of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Bar's Construction Law Committee. Mr. Weintraub is also an adjunct professor of law at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law teaching construction law. In 2009 and 2013, Florida Trend magazine named him one of Florida's Legal Elite, an honor bestowed on only the top 2% of Florida lawyers. He was selected by Florida Super Lawyers every year from 2007 through 2016, which names Florida's top 5% of lawyers as chosen by their peers. Mr. Weintraub has been recognized by Chambers USA – America's Leading Business Lawyers every year since 2003. Chambers USA noted he focuses on licensing and construction defect litigation, but is particularly renowned for his expertise in the Construction Lien Law. He was also selected in the The Best Lawyers in America® every year from 2006 through 2016.

Mr. Weintraub is Board Certified in Construction Law by the Florida Bar and serves as Vice Chair of the Firm's Construction Law Practice Group. Since passing the construction law board certification exam, he has served as a board certification exam course instructor every year the course has been offered. He is a certified arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association and, as a lawyer, represents owners, developers, contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, bond sureties and other commercial entities in litigation, arbitration and transactions. He is a frequent lecturer statewide, nationally and internationally on construction related topics.

The Firm's Public Private Partnerships (P3) practice team is led by Mr. Weintraub along with Vice-Chairs, George Burgess and Jennifer Drake. This multi-disciplinary team of professionals is experienced in development, construction, government, real estate, corporate, finance, procurement, and land use. Mr. Weintraub helped draft, negotiate and advocate for the P3 legislation that became law in 2013. Since its passage, he has been a frequent lecturer and author on the new law, and the nuances of how to structure P3 projects in Florida. He is also a founding member and former Chair of the Florida Council for Public/Private Partnerships, a non-profit consortium of public and private sector organizations working together to further P3 opportunities.

Notable Experience

Mr. Weintraub has:

- Acted as lead counsel for the Louisiana State University Property Foundation's public/private partnership development the Nicholson Gateway Project, the largest development project in the history of LSU, featuring a multi-phased bundled package of facilities with a total estimated development budget of \$400



Super Lawyers



million.

- Successfully prosecuted multi-million dollar defect and delay claims in litigation and arbitration in federal and state courts and arbitrations on behalf of developers, owners, contractors, subcontractors, engineers and performance bond sureties. He specializes in large multi-party defect and delay claims and construction lien claims.
- Successfully defended contractors, subcontractors, building inspectors and building officials in license grievance proceedings in front of various boards of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and local licensing boards.
- Handled the transactional aspects of the development of major, highly visible retail and mixed use complexes, including zoning negotiations, licensure, contract drafting and negotiation, and strategic structuring of the contractual relationships and documents.
- Represented nationally prominent clients in complex real property litigation and transactional matters.
- Successfully defended large national surety companies against multi-million dollar claims brought by large international contractors.
- Filed numerous construction license applications of various sources with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and local licensing boards for qualifiers, financially responsible officers, transfers of license, qualification of multiple entities, and related applications.
- Tried numerous lengthy cases before juries, judges and arbitrators resulting in verdicts, judgments and mid-trial settlements favorable to the firm's clients.
- Negotiated complex and contentious project close-outs of highly visible and prominent public and private projects
- Successfully defended in international arbitration a terminated subcontractor working on the US Air Force Base in Qatar, who was then sued for over \$10 million. The subcontractor was found not liable for any of that sum and instead won an award on its counterclaim in excess of \$8 million.

Activities & Memberships

An active member of the legal and civic community, Mr. Weintraub served two terms as Chair of the Florida Bar's Construction Law Committee and one term as Chair of the Broward County Construction Law Committee. He is the creator of, and chair for the first three years of, the Florida Bar's Construction Law Institute, one of the largest State Bar run construction law conferences in the country.

Bar Admissions

- Florida

Court Admissions

- United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida

Education

- University of Florida, J.D., B.S., B.A. with honors

Blogs

Greater Orlando Area Continues to be Pumped Up About P3s October 14, 2013

Publications

Attorneys Guide \$400M P3 Venture Bringing New Dorms to LSU October 18, 2016

Article

The Facts of (Financing) Life: Why Construction Owners are Pivoting to P3s for Major Projects May 26, 2016

Article

The Growth Imperative: An Unending Battle for Transportation Funding April 18, 2016

Article

Infrastructure Investor: A familiar road bump April 1, 2016

Article

P3s: A growing alternative with potential to capitalize on 'privatized innovation' March 23, 2016

Article

P3s: Engineering the Delivery of Public Projects July 1, 2015

Article

Florida Intelligence Update July 11, 2013

Article

Opportunities Growing for Creative Public-Private Partnerships June 28, 2013

Article

Legislation Would Encourage Public-Private Partnerships February 29, 2012

Article

New Trends for Weathering the Recession January 1, 2012

Article

Lien Laws & Out-of-State Projects: A Little Research Goes a Long Way May 1, 2011

Article

Practical Steps to Help GCs Weather Economic Hard Times November 1, 2008

Article

The 2005 Florida Legislature December 30, 2005

Article

Governor Bush's Emergency Orders Creates Opportunities for Contractors and Consumers December 1, 2004

Article

News

Becker & Poliakoff Announces 8 Recipients of 2017 Best Lawyers in America ® Honors August 17, 2016

Three Becker & Poliakoff Attorneys, Construction Practice Group Listed In 2016 Chambers USA Guide June 26, 2016

15 Becker & Poliakoff Attorneys Named 2016 Florida Super Lawyers And Rising Stars June 24, 2016

Florida Council for Public Private Partnerships Announces

FY 2015 – 2016 Board of Directors June 1, 2015

Becker & Poliakoff Construction Law Practice Receives Top Ranking in 2014 Chambers USA Directory June 3, 2014

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Hosts P3 Conference October 28, 2013

P3 Practice Team Chair Lee Weintraub spoke at NAIOP luncheon Oct. 10 called "PP3 Legislation: Florida's New Delivery Process to Prosperity?" October 11, 2013

Becker & Poliakoff's Public Private Partnership team joined Governor Rick Scott for the signing of HB 85 July 23, 2013

Public-private projects could boost economy, add jobs July 14, 2013

P3 seen as boon for commercial construction industry May 17, 2013

Exclusive 2010 "Florida Super Lawyers" Rating Goes to Becker & Poliakoff Attorneys June 21, 2010

Chambers USA Selects Becker & Poliakoff for 2010 Leading Lawyers for Business June 11, 2010

Board Certified Construction Attorney Lee A. Weintraub Receives Accreditation from American Arbitration Association February 4, 2010