

Claude M. Harden, III

APPEL HARDEN LAW GROUP

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Background

Born April 16, 1966, Lakeland, Florida
Raised in Lakeland, Florida
Graduated Lakeland High School (1984)

Legal Education (August 1988- July 1993)

Stetson University College of Law
Degree: **Juris Doctor**, Awarded 1991
Stetson Intramural Law Journal

Bar Admission

The Florida Bar (1991 - present)
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida (1992 - present)
U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit (1993 – present)
United States Supreme Court (1994 – present)

Undergraduate Education (August 1984 - May 1988)

University of Florida, and
Florida Southern College,
Degree: **Bachelor of Science** in Political Science, Awarded 1988
Most Outstanding Political Science Major

Employment

Present

Appel Harden Law Group
Lakeland, Florida
Trial Attorney, Workers' Compensation, Employment Law, Appellate Work

2006 to 2012

Carr Allison
Tallahassee, Florida
Shareholder and Trial Attorney, Workers' Compensation and Employment Law

2000 to 2006

Harbsmeier, DeZayas, Appel, Harden & DeBari, LLP
Lakeland, Tallahassee and Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Partner and Trial Attorney, Workers' Compensation

1994 to 1999

Holland & Knight, LLP
Lakeland, Florida
Associate Attorney

1991 to 1994

Boswell, Stidham, Purcell, Conner, Wilson & Brewer, P.A.
Bartow, Florida
Associate Attorney

1991

Assistant Public Defender
Office of the Public Defender for the 10th Judicial Circuit
Bartow, Florida

Professional Associations

Florida Bar Association
- Workers' Compensation Section Member
Lakeland Bar Association
Friends of 440 Scholarship Fund
- Chairperson of NW Florida Chapter (Former)
Tallahassee Claims Association
- Treasurer (Former)
Pi Gamma Mu, National Social Sciences Honorary
Willson American Inns of Court (Former)

Speeches and Presentations

Multiple presentations to attorneys and workers' compensation insurance industry professionals on all aspects of Florida's workers' compensation law.

Extensive Trial Experience

Lead Counsel in over 150 trials (bench and jury) and administrative hearings in both State and Federal Court

Mediation Conferences

Advocate for clients in thousands of mediations.

Resolution of Large Loss Claims

These claims involve exposures of often over one million dollars and issues including attendant care, housing and transportation. Their resolution required utilizing Life Care Plans, Medicare Set-Aside Trusts and Structured Settlements.

Representative Past and Present Clients

Crawford & Company
Employee Leasing Solutions
FirstComp
Florida School Board Insurance Trust
Gallagher Bassett
Insurance Company of America
International Paper
KFC
Long John Silvers
McDonald Construction
Mosaic
PMA
Pizza Hut
Owens-Illinois
Sedgwick CMS
State of Florida – Division of Risk Management
Taco Bell
United Parcel Service
YUM! Brands, Inc.