



## J. Jeffrey Wahlen

### *Shareholder*

- ▶ Administrative Litigation
- ▶ Election, Campaign Political Law
- ▶ Government
- ▶ Public School Law
- ▶ Utility Law

jwahlen@ausley.com  
123 South Calhoun Street  
P.O. Box 391  
Tallahassee, Florida 32302  
Voice: (850) 425-5471  
Fax: (850) 222-7560

### ■ *Admitted to Practice*

---

- State of Florida, 1991

### ■ *Professional & Community Involvement*

---

- Chairman, Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce (2003-04)
- Leadership Tallahassee Class XII and Chairman of Board of Governors (1998-99)
- Chairman, Tallahassee Quarterback Club Foundation, Inc. (sponsor of college football Biletnikoff Award) (2002-03)
- Leadership Florida Class XXI
- Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Foundation Board of Trustees (2002 to present.)

### ■ *Education*

---

- J.D., with high honors, Florida State University, 1990
- MACC, Florida State University, 1986
- B.S., cum laude, Florida State University, 1985
- Beta Gamma Sigma (Business honorary)
- Beta Alpha Psi (Accounting honorary)
- Florida State Gold Key
- Member, Florida State University Law Review, 1989-1990

## ■ *Extended Profile*

---

Jeff's practice focuses on representation of the firm's school board, public utility, electric cooperative, local exchange telecommunications company and trade association clients before state and federal courts and state administrative agencies, and advising clients on compliance with government affairs (gift, lobbying and campaign financing) laws. Jeff has represented local exchange companies and electric companies before the Florida Public Service Commission for over 17 years and has served as the Leon County School Board Attorney since 2002. Jeff serves as outside compliance counsel for several publicly traded companies in the area of gift, lobbying and campaign financing compliance and has represented clients before the Florida Elections Commission.

Prior to his admission to the Bar, Jeff worked in the audit division of a large international public accounting firm in Tampa, where he worked on audits of public utility, telecommunications, banking and shipbuilding clients.

### EDUCATION:

Florida State University: Juris Doctor with high honors (1990) Masters of Accounting (1986) and Bachelor of Science cum laude with major in accounting (1985); Lincoln High School, Tallahassee, Florida (Salutatorian 1981).

### LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS:

Jeff is a member of the Florida Bar and is licensed (inactive) in Florida as a Certified Public Accountant, but has not practiced public accounting since 1988.

### COURT ADMISSIONS:

Jeff is admitted to practice before all State of Florida Courts, the United States District Courts for the Northern and Middle Districts of Florida, and the United States Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

### MEMBERSHIPS:

Jeff is a member of the American Bar Association, the Florida Bar, the Federal Communications Bar Association, the Electric Cooperative Bar Association, the Florida School Board Attorneys Association (President, 2007–2008), the Council of School Attorneys and the Education Law Association.

### RECOGNITIONS:

Law Practice. Jeff is AV rated by Martindale–Hubbell and was recognized as one of Florida Trend's Legal Elite in 2007 and 2009.

Law School. Member of the Florida State Law Review; Member and Treasurer of Moot Court; Order of Barrister; Order of Coif (top 10% of class); Champion and Best Brief, 1990 Robert Orseck Memorial (Florida Bar) Moot Court Competition; 1990 Richard W. Nahstoll Book Award for Professional Responsibility.

Other. Jeff received the 2007 Leadership Florida President's Award for outstanding service to Leadership Florida, received the 2001 Community Leadership Association's Distinguished Leadership Award for Tallahassee and is one of five charter members of the Lincoln High School Alumni Hall of Fame.

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Florida Board of Bar Examiners. Jeff is a member (2005 to present) and currently serves as Vice–Chair (2008–09) of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners, an administrative arm of the Florida Supreme Court that is responsible for administering the Florida Bar exam and conducting character and fitness evaluations on applicants to the Florida Bar. Jeff will serve as Chair during 2009–2010, the fifth and final year of his term.

Communications Services Tax Advisory Committee. Jeff was appointed in 2000 to the Florida Department of Revenue's Communications Services Tax Advisory Committee, an advisory committee established by Section 202.40, Florida Statutes (2000) to advise the Department regarding implementation of the then new Communications Services Tax.

#### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Foundation, Inc.: Jeff has been a member of the Board of Directors of the TMH Foundation since 2001. He currently serves as Chair-elect (2007-09), served as Treasurer in 2005-2007 and will serve as Chair for 2009-2011.

Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce: Jeff served as Chair of the Chamber during the 2003-04 fiscal year, Chair-Elect in 2002-2003 and two terms as Treasurer (2000-2001 and 2001-2002). During his year as Chair, the Chamber achieved an all-time high number of members, was designated a Four Star (out of five) chamber by the United States Chamber of Commerce, hosted a community goal setting forum (Horizon Project) and launched ACTION 2010, a collaborative community action project to advocate a more vibrant downtown area for Tallahassee.

Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity: Jeff has been involved as a volunteer for his college fraternity since he began law school in 1988, first as chapter advisor and later as an area governor. He was elected to its national board of directors in 1998, and since then has served as National Chaplain (1998-2000), National Chancellor (2000-2002), National Secretary (2002-2004), National Treasurer (2004-2006) and National Vice President (2006-2008). Jeff is presently serving a two-year term as National President (2008-2010).

Leadership Tallahassee: Jeff is a member of Leadership Tallahassee Class XII (1994-1995) and upon graduation served on the Board of Governors from 1995 to 2000 and as Chairman in 1998-99.

Leadership Florida: Jeff is a member of Leadership Florida Class XXI (2002-2003) and served as fundraising chair for the LF Northwest Region in 2004-05. He has served as volunteer General Counsel for LF since 2006, and quarterbacked the legal effort to defeat gubernatorial candidate Max Linn's legal challenge to force his way into the 2006 Leadership Florida Governors Debates.

Tallahassee Quarterback Club Foundation, Inc.: The TQCF is the creator and sponsor of college football's Biletnikoff Award, which is annually given on ESPN to America's top college football receiver. Jeff prepared the organizational documents for the foundation in 1994, was a trustee from 1994 to 2007 and served as its Chairman in 2002-03.

Political Campaigns: Jeff served as campaign treasurer for Florida State Representative Lorraine Ausley (District 9) for all four of her elections (2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006), Tallahassee City Commissioner Mark Mustian (Seat One) for all three of his elections (2002, 2004 and 2008) and Florida State Representative Alan Williams (District 8) for his first election (2008). In addition, Jeff served as treasurer/campaign treasurer for Citizens to Preserve Tallahassee, Inc., a political committee formed in 2000 to advocate extension of Leon County's optional penny sales tax for local roads and stormwater projects (Blueprint 2000). Jeff is currently serving as campaign treasurer for Lorraine Ausley, Candidate for Florida Senate District 6 (2010) and for Alan Williams, Candidate for re-election to Florida House District 8 (2010).

#### PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS:

Publications.

Co-author, "Florida Enacts Legislation to Simplify Taxation of Communications Services," Interstate Tax Insights Vol. 3, No. 8 (2001).

Co-author, Chapter 11 (Florida) Lobbying, PACs and Campaign Finance 50 State Handbook (West Group, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 Editions).

Presentations.

Duties and Responsibilities of Superintendents and School Boards, Florida Association of District School Superintendents, Gainesville, Florida (February 25, 2009)

Principles of Conduct, Leon County School District Coaches and Athletic Directors, Tallahassee, Florida (August 13, 1008)

Alachua County and Beyond: The Future of the Privilege Fee, Florida Telecommunications Industry Association, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida (June 15, 1999).