

■ *Extended Profile*

Gary Williams provides analysis and counseling on major civil and administrative litigation matters and serves as lead trial counsel in such cases. Historically, he has focused his practice in these general areas: Health Care, Personal Tort Claims and Libel/First Amendment issues. In the health care area, he has handled a number of major administrative trials involving certificates of need (CON). He successfully litigated one of the first CON cases in Florida under what was a new Administrative Procedure Act and has subsequently handled numerous major CON cases for both for-profit and not-for profit health care companies. He has also represented the Florida Hospital Association in administrative proceedings. In other administrative matters, he has represented clients in challenges to administrative rules and has successfully represented a number of clients in major state contract bid disputes.

In addition to his administrative practice, he has handled major corporate income tax cases against the Florida Department of Revenue and has also successfully litigated cases challenging the constitutionality of state statutes. Gary has handled a number of major personal injury cases as well as major commercial litigation. In the personal injury area, he has represented the survivors of major automobile-semi truck crashes, rape victims in a number of negligent security cases, and major commercial businesses in complex commercial litigation. In the First Amendment area, Gary has tried libel cases, including successfully trying the last jury trial involving the Tallahassee Democrat, as well as successfully litigating public record and “Sunshine Law” cases. He has also successfully litigated cases challenging the constitutionality of state statutes.

EDUCATION:

BS in Journalism from the University of Florida, 1966.

Juris Doctor, Florida State University, 1972

Admitted to The Florida Bar, 1972

COURT ADMISSIONS:

The Supreme Court of the United States of America

Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals

United States Districts Courts for the Northern, Middle and

Southern Districts of Florida

The Florida Supreme Court and all state courts in Florida

MEMBERSHIPS:

American Bar Association

The Florida Bar

Tallahassee Bar Association

American Justice Association (fka American Trial Lawyers Association)

Florida Justice Association (fka Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

President, Tallahassee Bar Association (1978–79)

Treasurer, Tallahassee Bar Association (1976)

Board of Directors, Tallahassee Bar Association (1974–1979)

Florida Bar Media and Communications Law Committee (Chair, 1981)

Health Law Section, Florida Bar

Administrative Law Section, Florida Bar

RECOGNITION:

AV rated by Martindale–Hubbell for more than 25 years.

Florida Trend Magazine Legal Elite – 2005 (Health), 2006 (Civil),

2007 (Civil), 2008 (Civil)

Best Lawyers in America – 2007, 2008

Super Lawyers – General litigation, Health Care and Administrative Law 2008

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Florida Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company, Director, 1992 to present; currently serves as Chairman, Underwriting Committee. Member: Executive Committee, Audit Committee, Nominating Committee

Federal Grand Jury for Northern District of Florida, (Foreperson) 2004

Florida State University College of Law Alumni Association

Director, 1988 – 1993; President, 1992–1993.

Leon County United Way: Director 1985 – 1988

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE:

Gary was appointed by former Attorney General Bob Butterworth to represent the State of Florida on behalf of the Poynter Institute of Media Studies in a case in Federal District Court in Tampa, Florida. He also was retained by the Attorney General's office to represent former Insurance Commissioner Tom Gallagher, who had been sued for slander by an insurance company.

Gary's representative clients in the health-care area include National Medical Enterprises, now Tenet Health Care, The Cleveland Clinic, The Florida Hospital Association and several other major hospitals in the state.

He represented the Florida Society of Newspaper Editors in proceedings before the Supreme Court of Florida that resulted in approval for newspaper photographers to take photographs in Florida courtrooms.

He represented Amdahl Corporation in a bid dispute against IBM, successfully getting the award by the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to IBM reversed and the substantial contract for computer services awarded to Amdahl. He also successfully represented Consultec, Inc., in a bid dispute case resulting in the company obtaining a multi-million dollar contract to adjudicate Medicaid claims in Florida and subsequently successfully obtained a multi-million dollar settlement against Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration for not accurately informing potential bidders of the full scope of services that the successful vendor would be responsible for providing.

Gary successfully sued an FSU fraternity for negligent security resulting in a fraternity-house rape of an FSU coed. He also successfully sued a major shopping mall in Tallahassee for negligent security in the rape of a patron who was abducted from a parking lot and a subsequent negligent hiring case for the assault of a female patron in a mall rest room by a mall employee who had recently been released from jail.

He recently settled cases for confidential amounts for the survivor of a fatal accident involving a semi-truck/pick up truck crash that resulted in the deaths of the survivor's husband and twenty-eight day old baby and a case in which a sixteen-year old Madison boy was killed when the door of his sports utility vehicle came open as the vehicle rolled over in a single vehicle accident.

His health-care experience also includes representing physicians in licensing issues before the Florida Board of Medicine and successfully representing injured patients in medical malpractice cases.

His work in the First Amendment area includes representing newspaper reporters threatened with incarceration for failing to reveal confidential sources as well as successfully suing judges to prohibit the wrongful closing of judicial proceedings to the public and press.

Gary is certified as a Civil Circuit Mediator by the Supreme Court of Florida.