

## Shareholder Kelly O'Keefe Elected to The American Law Institute

TALLAHASSEE, FL — October 7, 2024 — Stearns Weaver Miller announced that, following a nationwide nomination and review process, Shareholder [Kelly O'Keefe](#) has been elected to [The American Law Institute](#) ("ALI"). ALI is the leading independent organization in the United States producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and otherwise improve the law.

The Institute—made up of judges, lawyers, and law professors of the highest qualifications—drafts, discusses, revises, and publishes Restatements of the Law, model statutes, and principles of law that are enormously influential in the courts and legislatures, as well as in legal scholarship and education. Membership in the American Law Institute is a distinct professional honor, and is limited to 3,000 elected members. Shareholder [Grace Mead](#) also serves as a member of ALI.

Kelly is a skilled litigator with nearly 30 years of experience representing professional, and individual fiduciaries and individuals in high-stakes estate, probate and trust litigation, and businesses in complex commercial litigation and real property disputes. Kelly's experience is diverse and spans local, state, and federal courts including managing cases within parallel forums such as arbitration and appeals.

Kelly is a leader within the firm and in the Tallahassee community. She is member of the firm's Board of Directors, and oversees the management and growth of the Tallahassee office which celebrated its 15 year anniversary this year. She also serves in leadership roles in numerous professional and community organizations positively impacting women, access to courts, higher education, healthcare and the legal and business communities. In 2023, Kelly co-founded the [Bridge to Law School program](#) which integrates academic preparation, mentoring and professional development to demystify the law school application process, the law school experience, and the practice of law for first-generation college students. The program received the [2024 Daily Business Review Diversity & Inclusion Leadership Award](#) and the [2023 Tallahassee Women Lawyers Diversity and Inclusion Award](#) for its impact in the community.

Kelly's commitment to improving her local professional and civic communities is evidenced through the numerous awards she has received over the past two decades. Notably, in 2022 she earned the Tallahassee Bar Association's [Martha Barnett Women Lawyers of Achievement Award](#) and in 2019 was named on the *Tallahassee Democrat's* "[25 Women You Need to Know](#)" list. She is routinely recognized in legal peer-review publications including *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2017, *Florida Super Lawyers* since 2006 and is listed on *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite's Hall of Fame for Commercial Litigation.

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## About Stearns Weaver Miller

Stearns Weaver Miller is a Florida-based law firm with more than 150 attorneys and offices in Miami, Coral Gables, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa and Tallahassee. For nearly 50 years, our multidisciplinary team of attorneys and professionals have worked collaboratively to help our clients understand and resolve complex legal issues and disputes. For more information, visit [stearnsweaver.com](http://stearnsweaver.com).