

Jenea M. Reed



Shareholder

Miami Office

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PRACTICE AREAS

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Appellate

Class Actions

OVERVIEW

Jenea Reed has extensive experience representing businesses in complex, high stakes litigation and appeals in state and federal courts. She is a skilled writer who regularly drafts dispositive motions and appellate briefs. Her experience as an appellate law clerk gives her a unique perspective on federal appellate practice.

In addition to her litigation and appellate practice, Jenea chairs the Firm's Diversity Committee and is a frequent panelist on diversity and inclusion topics.

Areas of Concentration:

Appeals

Class Actions

Contract Disputes

Business Torts

Government Litigation

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Appeals

Successfully obtained certiorari relief from the Fourth District Court of Appeal to prevent the deposition of a corporate CEO under Florida's Apex Doctrine in a corporate libel, defamation, and unfair competition action against the company's direct competitor.

Provided appellate support to a litigation team that successfully obtained dismissal of a proposed class action under the Military Lending Act. The Eleventh Circuit affirmed the dismissal because plaintiffs lacked Article III standing.

Obtained affirmance of summary judgment on claims for breach of contract, declaratory judgment, and injunctive relief in the United States Court of Appeal for the Third Circuit.

Co-authored an *amicus* brief in *United States v. Skrmetti*, where the U.S. Supreme Court will determine whether Tennessee's ban on gender-affirming care for minors violates the United States Constitution. Jenea prepared the brief on behalf of a group of clinicians, methodologists, researchers, and guideline developers to highlight the methodological strength of the clinical guidelines for treating gender dysphoria.

Class Actions

Represented a Miami business in defending against a proposed class action in Florida Circuit Court. Plaintiff alleged that he and members of a proposed class were overcharged in violation of Florida statutes. After extensive discovery, briefing, and argument, the court denied class certification, struck the class allegations in the operative complaint, and then dismissed the individual claims.

Successfully defended a Miami business in a class action lawsuit brought under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. The district court denied the motion for class certification, which sought class-wide damages of about \$90 million.

Obtained \$33 million recovery as part of team that was lead counsel on behalf of a class of indirect purchasers in antitrust litigation arising out of a nationwide price-fixing, bid-rigging and market allocation scheme among the country's dominant manufacturers of liquid aluminum sulfate.

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Lead counsel in a three-day trial in U.S. Bankruptcy Court that resulted in a judgment denying Chapter 7 discharge for debts owed by the Debtor to our client

Represented BBX Capital Corporation and its Chairman and CEO Alan Levan at trial, in a successful appeal to the Eleventh Circuit, and throughout a six-week re-trial that ultimately resulted in a complete defense verdict on securities fraud claims.

Achieved a favorable settlement of a joint venture dispute involving claims of breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duty.

Successfully defended Benihana, Inc. in various cases and appeals brought by Benihana of Tokyo (BOT).

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Meritas Black Lawyers Forum Leadership Council, 2021-Present
Chair, 2024-Present

Florida Bar, Appellate Practice Section

Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association

RECOGNITION

Finalist, Lawyer of the Year, Chambers Diversity & Inclusion Awards: North America 2022

Best Lawyers: Ones To Watch in America, 2021-Present

Benchmark Litigation, "40 & Under Hot List," 2018-2021

Daniel E. Murray Distinguished Service Award

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Events: Big Law vs. Small Law

Federal Bar Association South Florida Chapter | | July 2024

Events: Pathways to Federal Clerkships

Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association | | October 2023

Events: Meritas Black Lawyers Forum – Young Lawyers Roundtable Session

Meritas | | January 2022

Events: **Breaking Through the Noise: Labor & Employment Issues Post-Pandemic**

Stearns Weaver Miller News Program Special | | June 2021

Events: **Amelia Rea Maguire Business Law Lecture: A Panel On The Economics Of Diversity, Equity And Inclusion**

Florida State University College of Law | | February 2021

Events: **Cafecito Chat: Racial Equity in Local Philanthropy**

Association of Fundraising Professionals Miami Chapter | | January 2021

Events: **Trial in the Modern Age: How to Master the Presentation of Digital Evidence**

Miami-Dade Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL) Litigation Skills Workshop | | February 2020

Publications: **Business Torts: A Fifty State Guide, Florida**

| January 2013

Publications: **In the Shadows of Lohr: The Disconnect Within the Supreme Court's Preemption Jurisprudence in Medical Device Liability Case**

University of Miami Law Review | February 2009

NEWSROOM

In the Media: **Meritas Appoints Jenea M. Reed as Chair of the Black Lawyers Forum Leadership Council**

Meritas Law Firms Worldwide | | November 2024

In the Media: **Cuban American Bar Association Celebrates Hispanic Women Judges**

The Florida Bar | | August 2023

In the Media: **The Many Facets of Mentorship**

ACC Docket | Meritas | | April 2022

In the Media: [DOI Looks To Ax Suit Over Tribe's Fla. Sports Betting Permit](#)

Law360 | | October 2021

In the Media: [Hear from Marlins, Fisher Island and EEOC leaders about post-COVID labor issues](#)

Miami Herald | | June 2021

Firm Announcements: [Jenea Reed Appointed to Meritas Black Lawyers Forum Leadership Council](#)

| March 2021

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Named Among Benchmark Litigation's 2018 "Under 40 Hot List"](#)

| July 2018

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Names Three New Shareholders](#)

| September 2017

In the Media: [Alan Levan gets back to work](#)

Miami Herald Business Monday | | August 2017

In the Media: [Levan, BBX cleared of SEC charges](#)

South Florida Business Journal | | May 2017

In the Media: [Jury Clears BankAtlantic, CEO Of SEC Disclosure Claims](#)

Law360 | | May 2017

In the Media: [Federal Jury Clears Levan and BBX on All SEC Claims](#)

Daily Business Review | | May 2017

In the Media: [11th Circ. Axes SEC Win in BankAtlantic Fraud Case](#)

Law360 | | September 2016

EDUCATION

J.D., *summa cum laude*, University of Miami School of Law

Order of the Coif

University of Miami Law Review, Executive Editor

Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board

Society of Bar & Gavel

Honors, Litigation Skills Program

B.S.E., University of Pennsylvania

ADMISSIONS

Florida

United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida

United States Court of Appeals for the Second, Third, Sixth, Eleventh, and D.C. Circuits