STEARNS WEAVER MILLER

Robert J. Walters



Associate

Tallahassee Office

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PRACTICE AREAS

Administrative & Regulatory Litigation & Dispute Resolution Election & Political Law Government Affairs

OVERVIEW

Robert Walters focuses his practice on Florida administrative law, regulatory compliance, civil litigation and appeals, government affairs, and election law. Robert primarily advises clients under investigation by various State of Florida agencies and boards, such as:

Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR)

Construction Industry Licensing Board

Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board

Florida Real Estate Commission

Community Association Managers

Florida Board of Professional Engineers

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)

Florida Office of Financial Regulation (OFR)

Other cabinet level agencies, including Public Service Commission (PSC),
Department of Health (DOH), and Department of Financial Services (DFS)

Robert routinely provides guidance to clients to navigate Florida's complex regulatory scheme regulated by the above agencies and boards, in order to minimize compliance issues.

Areas of Concentration:

Administrative & Regulatory

Government Investigations and Audits

Administrative Litigation before the Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH) and handling Appeals of final orders before the District Court of Appeals

Government Contracts, Bid Protests and Procurement

Non-Profit and Trade Association Formation, Compliance and Management

Regulatory Compliance, including professional licenses and regulated entities

Rulemaking and Rule Challenges

State and Local Taxation

Sunshine Law and Open Government Laws Litigation

Government Affairs

Legislative branch lobbying before the Florida House of Representatives and Florida Senate

Executive branch lobbying before the Governor, Cabinet and state agencies

State budget appropriations

Legislative bill drafting and monitoring

Legislative issue management

Election & Political Law

Florida Election Law Compliance for political committees and candidates, relating to campaign finance advising and ballot initiatives

Election litigation regarding Ballot Qualification, Recounts, and Contested Elections

High net worth and foundation donor advising

Ethics Rules and Counseling

Florida Elections Commission

Florida Commission on Ethics

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Florida Licensure, Administrative Complaints, & Disciplinary Proceedings

Represents one of the nation's largest community association management companies and routinely advises on regulatory compliance issues, including obtaining dismissals of administrative complaints brought against the entity's license

Represents general contractors and electricians for developers and high volume home builders in dismissing administrative complaints against their licenses before the Construction Industry Licensing Board and Electrical Contractors Licensing Board

Represents professional engineers before the Florida Board of Professional Engineers

Regulatory Compliance and Association Creation and Management

Routinely advises regulated entities and licensees in Florida regulatory compliance matters.

Election & Political Law

Varied representative experience including advising a mayor's re-election campaign and representing statewide political committees established to advocate for citizen placed ballot initiatives.

He has served as Political Director, Deputy Communications Director and as Campaign Manager for U.S. House of Representatives and Congressional nominees. He was also a Legislative Intern for U.S. Senator Bill Nelson.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Florida Bar

Administrative Law Section, 2021-Present

Tallahassee Bar Association

Young Lawyers Section, Board of Directors, 2022-Present

William H. Stafford Inn of Court, Associate, 2021-Present

Young Democrats of Orange County, President, 2016-2017

RECOGNITION

Best Lawyers: Ones To Watch, 2023-Present

Florida Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2024-Present

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Publications: Rotunda Report Week 4 | March 24-28, 2025

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2025

Government Affairs News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 3 | March 17-21, 2025

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2025

Land Development News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 2 | March 10-14, 2025

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2025

Government Affairs News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 1 | March 3-7, 2025

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2025

Government Affairs News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report | Pre-Session 2025

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2025

Publications: Florida House Bills 923 and 943: Comprehensive Housing Reform and Live Local Act Enhancements

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | February 2025

Government Affairs News Update, Publications: Florida Organization Session

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | November 2024

Events: Legislative Update 2023-2024

Florida Eminent Domain Conference | November 2024

Publications: New Law Creates Stricter Requirements for Filing Ethics Complaints at both State and Local Level

Tallahassee Bar Association Bulletin | September 2024

Land Development News Update, Publications: What's Developing | Spring 2024

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | May 2024

Events: Ethical Best Practices for 2024 Elections

Florida Tax Collectors Association Fall Conference | May 2024

Publications: Legislative Tax Package includes Live Local Property Tax Exemption Opt-out Provisions for Taxing

Authorities

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | April 2024

Government Affairs News Update, Land Development News Update, Publications: FDACS Promulgates New Rules Addressing Agricultural Land Owned by a Foreign Principal

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2024

Events: WEBINAR: SB 328 - The 2024 Live Local Act

Stearns Weaver Miller Webinar | | March 2024

Government Affairs News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 9 | March 4-8, 2024

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2024

Government Affairs News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 8 | February 26-March 1, 2024

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2024

Government Affairs News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 7 | February 19-23, 2024

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | February 2024

Affordable Housing News Update, Government Affairs News Update, Land Development News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 6 | February 12-16, 2024

Government Affairs News Update, Land Development News Update, Publications: Rotunda Report Week 5 | February 5-9, 2024

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | February 2024

Government Affairs News Update, Land Development News Update, Publications: What's Developing | Winter 2024

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | January 2024

Land Development News Update, Publications: Industrial Wastewater Discharge Legislation - PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane Limits

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | January 2024

Government & Administrative News Update, Publications: Crème de law Admin | Summer 2022

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | August 2022

Events: Ethics Training Part I: Art. II, Section 8(a)-(f) & (h) of the Florida Constitution, Conflict of Interest Requirements & Case Studies

FACO Virtual Summer Conference | | July 2022

Events: Constitutional Officer Independence & Public Officer Standing Part I: Doctrine History

FACO Virtual Summer Conference | | July 2022

Publications: Appellate Case Notes

Administrative Law Section of The Florida Bar Newsletter | | June 2022

Events: Ethics for Florida Government Employees

| April 2022

Government & Administrative News Update, Publications: Two New Laws Immediately Impact Florida Healthcare Providers

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | April 2022

Publications: Appellate Case Notes

Administrative Law Section of The Florida Bar Newsletter | March 2022

Publications: COVID Special Session Update

Winter Edition of the Tallahassee Bar Association's Bar Bulletin | February 2022

COVID News Update, Government & Administrative News Update, Publications: Crème de law Admin | Winter 2021

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | February 2022

Publications: Appellate Case Notes

Administrative Law Section of The Florida Bar Newsletter | December 2021

Publications: Vaccine Requirements in the Hiring Process

Publications: Appellate Case Notes

Administrative Law Section of The Florida Bar Newsletter | September 2021

Publications: Appellate Case Notes

Administrative Law Section of The Florida Bar Newsletter | June 2021

NEWSROOM

In the Media: Money, Networks Mean Few Fla. Judges FaceReelection Foes

Law360 Pulse | | August 2024

Firm Announcements: Stearns Weaver Miller Expands Tallahassee Office Space and Offered Services

| February 2022

In the Media: DOI Looks To Ax Suit Over Tribe's Fla. Sports Betting Permit

Law360 | October 2021

Firm Announcements: Stearns Weaver Miller Continues to Strengthen Tallahassee Footprint

| May 2021

EDUCATION

J.D., *cum laude*, Florida State University College of Law FSU Mock Trial Team, Treasurer

Dean's List

B.A., University of Central Florida

ADMISSIONS

Florida

United States District Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida

United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit