

Matthew A. Ceriale

Associate

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Overview

Matthew is an associate in the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group. He has extensive experience in complex litigation, business disputes and post-judgment collections as well as having handled cases across various areas, including intellectual property, class-action defense, post-judgment collections, construction liens and equipment rental claims, and large commercial and residential landlord-tenant issues. Matthew's expertise allows him to quickly comprehend complex legal issues that clients may encounter and represent their best interests, whether inside or outside of the courtroom.

In his healthcare practice, Matthew defends medical professionals in lawsuits brought by insurance companies alleging fraud, unjust enrichment, and civil conspiracy claims. In his post-judgment collections practice Matthew has handled evidentiary hearings related to contested bankruptcies, writs of garnishment, and has overseen and conducted foreclosures, appointments of receivers, assignments for the benefit of creditors, involuntary bankruptcies, vehicle levies and personal property levies on business inventories or storefronts.

Representative Matters

- Secured ruling that client, who was the victim of identity theft, was entitled to attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Fla. Stat. 83.48 incurred in defending landlord's misinformed lawsuit for eviction and damages. *Westshore Multifamily Tampa LP v. Bryan Casale*, Case No. 21-CC-067182 (Hillsborough County)
- Successfully executed levy on jewelry store location, including all inventory, for auction and ultimate resolution of judgment balance through subsequent settlement *BRE Mariner Dolphin Village, LLC v. C & C Wholesale, Inc.*, Case No. 20-004894-CI (Pinellas County).
- Prevailed on garnishment of severance pay over debtor's objection in the amount of \$12,620.80 as part of post-judgment collection proceeding. *CA New Plan Victoria, L.P. v. Bagels and Joe to Go, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 2022-CA-000042 (St. Lucie County)
- Secured substantial settlement and collection of \$500,000 judgment including \$303,811.28 paid from funds garnished from debtor's bank account. *Heather Gwenn Seay v. Robert Scott Seay*, Case No. 2023-CA-001582 (Okaloosa County)
- Obtained amicable resolution and voluntary dismissal *with prejudice* of alleged class-action Florida Telephone Solicitation Act claims. *Ann Golden v. Chenmed, LLC*, Case No. 22-CA-006075 (Hillsborough County)
- Obtained amicable resolution and voluntary dismissal *with prejudice* of alleged class-action Florida Telephone Solicitation Act and Telephone Consumer Protection Act claims. *Attilio Lamanna v. Bay Harbor Perfection, Inc.*, Case No. 2022-005518-CA-01 (Miami-Dade County)

Honors and Distinctions

- *Florida Super Lawyers, Rising Stars*, Business Litigation, 2025

Alternate Contact

Joanna Charles
Legal Assistant
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Practice Areas

- Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Education

- J.D., *magna cum laude*, Stetson University College of Law, 2019
 - *Stetson Law Review*, Assistant Editor
 - Alternative Dispute Resolution, Board Member
 - Remedies, Prof. Marco Jimenez, Book Award
 - Victor O. Wehle Award for Trial Advocacy
 - E. Harris Drew Memorial Award for distinction in legal and oral advocacy
- B.S., *summa cum laude*, University of Central Florida, 2016

Admissions

- Florida
- United States District Court, Northern District of Florida
- United States District Court, Middle District of Florida
- United States District Court, Southern District of Florida
- New York

Professional Involvement

- Advocacy Skills Trainer, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, Florida, Willem C. Vis. International Arbitration Team, 2021 - 2025

Thought Leadership

- [Stetson in the Tampa Bay Community](#). *Real Cases*, episode 24, 25 April 2024.
- [Client Alert: Coronavirus: What Employers Need to Know About Providing Personal Protective Equipment](#), *JD Supra*, April 2020
- [Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico Recognizes its First Chapter 15 Case](#), *JD Supra*, April 2020