Patrick M. Causey

Shareholder

St. Petersburg
200 Central Avenue
Suite 1600
St. Petersburg FL 33701

Direct Line: (727) 824-6157

Fax: (727) 820-0835
Email: PCausey@trenam.com

Alternate Contact

Jennifer Straw
Legal Assistant
(727) 824-6104
JStraw@trenam.com

Overview

Patrick Causey is a Shareholder in the firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Group, focusing on business and healthcare litigation.

In his business litigation practice, Patrick serves as outside general counsel to companies ranging from start-ups to multi-national corporations, representing them in claims involving intellectual property, breach of contract, partnership disputes, trade secrets, unfair business practices, and enforcement of non-compete and non-solicitation agreements. He also counsels clients proactively, leveraging his trial experience to help them avoid litigation. A recognized thought leader on non-compete matters, Patrick has authored numerous articles for *Market Watch*, the *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, and *Tampa Bay Business & Wealth Magazine*.

In his healthcare practice, Patrick defends medical professionals nationwide in lawsuits brought by insurance companies alleging fraud, unjust enrichment, civil conspiracy, and RICO violations. Recently, he served as lead trial attorney in a three-week federal jury trial, securing a complete defense verdict for 16 chiropractors, physicians, and healthcare practices. He is a frequent lecturer on health insurance fraud issues, including presentations at Florida Chiropractic Association seminars.

Outside the office, Patrick enjoys time with his wife and three children, attending his kids' sporting events, traveling, and cheering on the Philadelphia Eagles.

Representative Matters

- Secured complete defense verdict in a three-week federal jury trial representing 16 healthcare providers in a lawsuit brought by State Farm alleging fraud, civil conspiracy, unjust enrichment, and violations of Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act.
- Obtained final summary judgment for a local religious organization in a federal lawsuit brought by a national software company alleging copyright infringement and breach of a license agreement.
- Achieved preliminary and permanent injunctive relief for a multi-national electrical subcontractor against a former vice president for violating non-compete, non-solicitation, and confidentiality agreements.
- Represented a partnership in a multi-partner arbitration involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty, fraud, and breach of partnership agreement; led the sale of 246 condominiums to a hedge fund for over $40 million.
- Defended a neurological veterinarian in a non-compete and non-solicitation suit, defeating the former employer's motion for preliminary injunction and reaching a favorable settlement shortly thereafter.
- Represented an attorney and law firm in a legal malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty case tied to a trademark infringement action, obtaining exclusion of $80 million in claimed damages and securing a favorable pretrial settlement.
- Won a complete defense verdict for a financial advisor in a FINRA arbitration involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty and professional malpractice.

Honors and Distinctions

Practice Areas

- Hospitality
- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Professional Liability
- Product Liability
- Securities Litigation and Arbitration
- Personal Injury
- Insurance

Education

- J.D., *with honors*, Stetson University College of Law, 2010
  - Stetson Moot Court Board, President
  - William C. Vis International Arbitration Moot Court Competition, Top Advocate
  - ABA National Moot Court Competition, Top Advocate
  - Burton D. Wechsler First Amendment Moot Court Competition, Top Advocate
  - Howard P. Ross Excellence in Business Litigation & Transactional Law, Awardee
- B.A., *with honors,* University of North Florida, 2006

Admissions

- Florida
- United States District Court, Middle District of Florida
- United States District Court, Southern District of Florida

- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Commercial Litigation, 2024-2027
- AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, Business Litigation, 2023-2026
  - *Rising Stars*, 2015-2020
- St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce, "Member of the Year," 2025

Professional Involvement

- St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce
  - Board of Governors
- St. Petersburg Area Economic Development Corporation
- St. Petersburg Bar Association
- St. Petersburg Bar Foundation
  - Board of Trustees, Young Lawyer Representative
- American Bar Association
- The Florida Bar
- Hillsborough County Bar Association
  - Young Lawyers Division
- Defense Research Institute
  - Trial Tactics Committee, Membership Chair
  - Deposition Institue Program, Vice-Chair, 2017
  - Vice-Chair, Trial Skills and Damages Seminar, 2019

Community Involvement

- Leadership St. Pete, Class of 2019
- The Kind Mouse Board of Directors, 2017
- Greenlight Pinellas, Business Litigation Council, 2013-2014
- Pediatric Cancer Foundation, Johny Ferlita Memorial Fishing Tournament, Planning Committee, 2012
- YMCA Youth Basketball Coach, 2010-2013

Thought Leadership

- Florida Laws & Rules, Speaker, Florida Chiropractic Association: The National Seminar, August 2026
- "Florida Laws & Rules," Speaker, Florida Chiropractic Association: The National Seminar, August 2025
- "Protecting Your Practice: Legal Lessons, Audit Triggers, and Staff Utilization," Speaker, Florida Chiropractic Association: The National Seminar, August 2025
- "The FTC's proposed non-compete ban requires immediate action from employers," Author, *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, March 2023
- "Why employers should not require all employees to sign non-compete agreements," Author, *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, August 2022
- "Five Steps an Employer Should Take If It Suspects a Former Employee Violated A Non-Compete," Author, *Tampa Bay Business & Wealth*, May 2021
- "What to Include in Your Business Contract," *Tampa Bay Business & Wealth Magazine*, May 2020
- "A Lawyer Reveals What to Do When Your Boss Demands You Sign a Non-Compete Agreement," *MarketWatch*, May 2019
- "Tips for Non-Competition and Non-Solicitation Agreements," *Tampa Bay Business and Wealth Magazine*, April 2019
- "Best Practices to Avoid Legal Malpractice Claims," Speaker,Hillsborough County Bar Association Martial and Family CLE, October 2018
- "Best Practices for Consumer Protection Statutes," Presenter, Tampa Bay Association for Financial Professionals Quarterly Conference, October 2018
- "Best Practices to Avoid Legal Malpractice," Presenter, Worklaw Networking Meeting, October 2017
- "Who's Coming With Me? Ethical Considerations Facing Lawyers SwitchingFirms," Presenter, Annual Florida Bar Board of Governors Meeting, July 2017
- "Best Practices to Avoid Legal Malpractice Claims," Speaker, DRITrial Tactics Seminar, March 2017
- "Discovery to Expect in a Legal Malpractice Case Against You: Avoiding Future Issues," Speaker, Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, Basic Discovery CLE, 2015
- "10 Best Practices to Avoid a Legal Malpractice Claim," Speaker,DRITrial

Tactics Webinar, 2015
- Judicial Panel Moderator, Florida Bar Young Lawyer Practicing with Professionalism CLE, 2014, 2015
- "How Incorporating These Best Practice Tips Will Help You Defend Against A Legal Malpractice Claim," October 2014, *For the Defense*
- "Documenting the File," October 2012, *The American Bar Association*