Robert G. Stern

Shareholder

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Overview

Robert Stern joined the Trenam in 1990 and is a shareholder in the firm's Real Estate and Lending Transactions Practice Group. He serves as a member of the firm's Executive Board. Robert represents clients in all aspects of real estate, distressed property, and financing commercial work. His practice focuses on commercial real estate, with an emphasis on transactional and financing matters. His clients include developers, lenders, investors, and retailers. Robert has served as an expert witness, receiver, mediator, and adjunct professor of law. He strives to add value to every deal as a trusted advisor for his clients, based on negotiation skills and practical experience honed over twenty years of buying, developing, financing, permitting, leasing, and selling commercial real estate.

Honors and Distinctions

- *Tampa Magazine's Top Lawyers List*, 2023-2024
- *Chambers USA*, Real Estate, 2017-2020, 2022-2025
- Board Certified Real Estate Lawyer by the Florida Bar, 2000-Present
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Real Estate Law, 2010-2027
- *Florida Trend's Legal Elite*, 2008-2012, 2015-2016
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, Real Estate, 2006-2026 (20+ year recognition)
  - Top 50 Tampa, 2020
- The American College of Real Estate Lawyers (ACREL)
- "40 Under 40" Award, *Tampa Bay Business Journal* - for accomplishments and community service
- AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Distinguished Alumni Award, Tampa Gator Club, 2007
- Goodwill Industries International, Board Leader of the Year, 2007
- Fleming Award for Outstanding Service to the University of Florida Community, 1990

Professional Involvement

- Adjunct Professor, Stetson University College of Law
- Adjunct Professor, University of South Florida College of Business Administration, Business Law
- Served as an expert witness/consultant in several cases
- Mediator - Sarasota Ritz Carlton Hotel (appointed by US Federal District Judge Stephen D. Merryday)
- Property Receiver (appointed by Hillsborough County Circuit Judge Christopher Sabella)
- Southwest Florida Water Management District, appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis
- The Florida Bar, Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section, 2001-present
  - Executive Council, 2009-2010
  - Chairman, Real Estate Certification Review Course Committee, 2003-2006
  - Chairman, Land Trust & REIT Committee, 2006-2009
  - Vice-Chairman, Mortgages and Encumbrances Committee, 2010-2012
  - At Large Member, 2012-present
- HillsboroughCounty Bar Association, 2000-present
  - President, Young Lawyers Division, 1996-1997

Alternate Contact

Nancy H. Lucas
Legal Assistant
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NLucas@trenam.com

Practice Areas

- Financial Services
- Real Estate and Lending Transactions

Education

- J.D., with honors, University of Florida Levin College of Law, 1990
  - Senior Editor, *Florida Law Review*
  - Order of the Coif
- B.S., Business Administration, University of Florida, 1986
  - President, Florida Blue Key
  - UF Hall of Fame

Admissions

- Florida

- Chairman, Law Week
- Bar Foundation, Board of Trustees
- National Association of Industrial and Office Properties
- University of Florida, College of Law
  - Trustee, Law Center Board of Trustees, 2009-present
  - Law School Alumni Council, 1991-2009
- University of Florida Real Estate Advisory Board
- Tampa Chamber of Commerce
  - Sports Council, Steering Committee
  - Representative Committee of 100
- Real Estate Investment Council (REIC) of Tampa Bay, Board of Directors, Past President
- Former Banker, 1986-1987, Wachovia Bank c/k/a Wells Fargo

Community Involvement

- Tampa Bay Sports Commission, Board of Directors, 2012-present
- Historic Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, Board of Directors, 2013-present
- Tampa Downtown Partnership, Board of Directors, 2013-present
  - Vice Chairman, 2025-2026
- Tampa Gator Club, 2000-present
  - President, 1995-1999
- Goodwill Industries Suncoast
  - Board of Directors, 1995-present
  - Chairman of Board, 2006-2008
- University of Florida National Alumni Association
  - Board of Directors, 1995-present
  - President, 2005-2006 (During term as President, UF won both the NCAA Basketball and Football National Championships)
- University of Florida Student Affairs Advisory Board, 1998-present
  - Chairman
- University of Florida President's Council, 1987-present
- Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
  - Ordained Elder, 2009
  - Member of Session, 2009-present
  - Commissioner, Upward Basketball League, 2010
- Tampa Yacht and Country Club
  - Secretary
  - Board of Directors
- University Community Ministries
  - Board of Directors, 2005-2010
- University of Florida Government Relations Advisory Council
- Hillsborough County Regional Advisory Council
- Florida Flagship Council
- University of Florida Regional Legislative Task Force, Chairman
- Plant High School Athletic Foundation, Board of Directors, 2012-present

Public Service

- State of Florida, Post Secondary Education Planning Commission (Appointed by Governor Bush)
- City of Tampa, Civil Service Board (Appointed by Mayor Freedman)

Thought Leadership

- "Advanced Real Property Certification Review Course," Speaker, The Florida Bar, April 2022
- "Looking ahead at Florida's hot multifamily market," Author, *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, April 2022
- "Rob Stern Discusses Legal Recruiting in Hot Real Estate Market for The American Lawyer," *Law.com*, September 2021
- "Like our sunshine, the future of Florida real estate looks bright," Author, *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, May 2021
- "Shareholder Rob Stern Authors Article on The Future of Construction Loans in a Post-Pandemic World for Construction Execution," Author, February 2021
- "The Future of Construction Loans in a Post-Pandemic World," *Construction Executive*, January 2021

- "Rob Stern discusses commercial lending outlook for Tampa Bay Business Journal," *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, January 2021
- "Guest column: Practical solutions to avoid evictions, loan defaults and foreclosures," *Tampa Bay Business Journal*, September 2020
- "Rob Stern Discusses COVID-19 Impact on Landlords and Lenders," Interview, *Tampa Bay Times,*June 2020
- "Landlords, tenants seek middle ground in complicated situation," Interview, *Business Observer*, April 2020
- "Coronavirus hitting Florida development like 'an economic hurricane," Interview, *Tampa Bay Times*, March 2020
- "Rob Stern and Don Mastry Discuss Opportunity Zones in Trump's Tax Plan," *Tampa Bay Times*, April 2019
- The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section, "Tax Liens," Advanced Real Property Certification Review, April 2019
- "Fueling Tampa's Building Boom," *Tampa Bay Business & Wealth,* October 2018
- "Rob Stern discusses banks' position on financing Tampa Bay Businesses," *Tampa Bay Times,* May 2017
- 1st Annual Attorney Loan Officer Liaison Conference, The Florida Bar Real Property Probate & Trust Law Section, 2017
- Advanced Real Estate Law and Certification Review Course, The Florida Bar, 2000-present
- "Here's what Donald Trump's election could mean for the economy in Tampa Bay and Florida," Quoted, *Tampa Bay Times*, November 2016
- "Tax Liens and Tax Deeds - New Investment Strategies," Lorman Education Services Seminar, 2012
- Tampa Bay Economic Outlook Conference CCIM Conference, 2012
- "Lender Liability in Florida," Lorman Education Services, 2011
- Boyer Institute on Real Property Law, University of Miami, 2011
- "Strategies, Options, and Practice Tips in Loan Defaults, Workouts, and Foreclosures," St. Pete Bar Association, 2011
- "Current Issues in Real Property and Mortgages," The Florida Bar, Tax Liens and Tax Deeds - New Investment Strategies Seminar, 2010
- "Real Estate Finance Notes and Mortgages," The Florida Bar Financing Considerations and Construction Loan Seminar, 2010
- "Real Estate Transactions Involving Land Trusts," The Florida Bar Financing Considerations for Land Trusts Seminar, 2010
- "Handling Financing Issues and Loan Default Issues, Florida Legal Education Association, Inc., Real Estate Law Seminar, " 2010