

William Knight Zewadski Senior Member

Tampa

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Overview

Bill Zewadski joined the firm in 1971. He is a nationally recognized leader in the bankruptcy and reorganization area. Bill's practice includes secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees, trustee representation, lender liability, workouts and restructuring, asset planning, mediation of commercial disputes, and federal and state court litigation.

Honors and Distinctions

- AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- *The Best Lawyers in America* (Bankruptcy/Creditor-Debtor Rights Law; Bankruptcy Litigation), 1987-2020
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, 2006-2014
- Top Lawyers 2009 (Bankruptcy/Creditor-Debtor Rights), *Corporate Counsel Magazine*
- Individual in the Arts Award, Tampa Bay Business for Culture & the Arts, 2009
- Individual Patron, Arts Council of Hillsborough County Arts Recognition Award, 1994

Professional Involvement

- The Florida Bar, 1969-present
 - Business Law Section, Chair, 1984-1985
 - Business Section, Executive Council, 1979-1996
 - Bankruptcy Creditor's Rights Committee, Chair, 1979-1982
- Editor, *Florida Bankruptcy Casenotes*, 1980-2001
- Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, Member, 1990-present
 - Former Director
- American Bar Association, 1969-present
 - American Bar Foundation Fellow, 1985-present, Life Member
 - Bankruptcy Litigation Subcommittee, Chair, 1992-1994, 1999-2008
 - Creditors' Rights Subcommittee, Chair, 1994-1998
- American Law Institute, Life Member, 1987-present
- American Bankruptcy Institute, 1985-present
- American Bar Foundation, Fellow and Life Member

Community Involvement

- Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, Board of Trustees, 2008-2014
 - Legacy Society and planned giving for non-profits, 2004-present
- Museum of Fine Arts of St. Petersburg



Alternate Contact

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Secretary
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Practice Areas

[Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights](#)
[Commercial Litigation](#)
[Financial Services](#)
[Nonprofit Organizations](#)

Education

J.D., with high honors,
University of Florida Levin
College of Law, 1969

First in his class
Florida Blue Key
University of Florida Law
Review, Editor-in-Chief
Omicron Delta Kappa
Leadership Society

B.A., with high honors, History,
Emory University, 1966

Phi Beta Kappa

Admissions

Florida

United States District Court,
Middle District of Florida

United States Bankruptcy Court,

- Legacy Society Member
- Executive Committee, 1998-2012
- Development Committee, 1998-2012
- Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Board of Trustees, 2008-2014
- Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University, Atlanta, Board of Trustees, 1984-2015
- Tampa Museum of Art, Member
 - President, 1982-1983
 - Board of Directors, 1979-2006
 - Former Chairman of Collections Committee
 - Former Executive Committee member
- Tampa Bay Art Center
 - President, 1978-1979
 - Board of Directors, 1971-1979
- Arts Council of Hillsborough County, 1987-1997
- Leadership Tampa, Class of 1990
- University of South Florida's Library Development Board
- Hyde Park United Methodist Church, Fountain Fellowship
- University of Florida, President's Council
- University of South Florida, John Allen Society
- Emory University, 1836 Legacy Society and Judson C. Ward Consecutive Giving Society
- UF Law Center, Trusler Society Life Member and Legacy Society
- Tampa Bay History Center, Sponsor Member and Legacy Society
- Equality Florida, Florida Council
- Bay Area Legal Services, Legacy Society

Middle District of Florida

United States Court of Appeals,
Eleventh District

United States Supreme Court

Presentations

For over 35 years, Bill has lectured extensively on topics including secured creditors issues, bankruptcy and creditors' rights, UCC issues, mortgage issues, avoiding real estate fraud, and litigation and bankruptcy law developments, for audiences as diverse as the American Bar Association, the American Bankruptcy Institute, the Florida Bar Association, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, banking groups and credit unions.

Bill has given lectures on Ancient Greek Theatre and Greek Theater in the Cinema at Oxford University, Getty Museum; Emory University; Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg; Eckerd College; University of Sydney; George Mason University, and University of South Florida.

In the community, Bill has spoken to over 80 non-profit groups on the creation and importance of planned giving and legacy societies.

- Panelist, "Developing Legacy Giving," South East Art Museum Director's Meeting, April 2017