



Jeffrey Baer, Esq.
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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Automobile Liability (PIP/PD/BI/UM)
Civil Litigation
Condominium and Homeowners' Association Litigation
Director & Officer Liability (D&O)
Employment Law/Employment Litigation
Errors & Omissions Liability (E&O)
First and Third Party Property and Casualty Claims
General Liability Defense Litigation
PIP/Personal Injury Protection Litigation
SIU/Suspicious & Fraudulent Claims
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Liability

BAR & COURT ADMISSION

Florida Bar

EDUCATION

Graduate:

Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad School of Law,
Juris Doctor

Undergraduate:

University of Florida, Bachelor of Arts in History, Minor in
Criminology

Honors: Cum Laude

Mr. Baer graduated *Cum Laude* from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. He went on to earn his *Juris Doctor* from Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad Law Center. He began his career as an Assistant Public Defender for Broward County, Florida.

Mr. Baer's goal is to provide innovative legal advice to bring cases to prompt and cost-effective resolution. His three and half years as Plaintiff's counsel gives him unique insight into the Plaintiff's mindset. With his extensive experience, including hundreds of depositions, hearings, mediations, and arbitrations, Mr. Baer is able to use his ongoing relationships to with Plaintiffs' counsel to identify the issues in the case from the onset and then determine the best and most effective resolution with the client.

Mr. Baer is an active member of the National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators and the Broward County Bar Association.

When not practicing law, Mr. Baer also finds time to service his community, working with children with autism and breast cancer awareness.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association
Broward County Bar Association
Florida Defense Lawyers Association (FDLA)
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Waynice Green-Musgrove is an attorney at Vernis & Bowling. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree, *cum laude*, at Rutgers College in New Jersey where she majored in political science and received a certificate in criminology. She then obtained her *Juris Doctor* degree from Fordham University School of Law in New York. Before leaving the frigid northeast for sunny and tropical south Florida, Waynice practiced criminal defense, domestic violence and family law in both New York and New Jersey.

Upon her admission to the Florida Bar, Waynice began practicing labor and employment law. As a labor and employment attorney, Waynice represents clients in administrative hearings before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and in state and federal courts for matters involving unpaid wages, discrimination, retaliation, sexual harassment, wrongful termination and whistleblower claims. She also counsels clients on topics such as wage and hour regulations, the Family and Medical Leave Act, workplace equality, reasonable accommodations, drug abuse policies and employee discipline.

Waynice loves being a lawyer, and has always enjoyed utilizing her knowledge to advocate for people. She has never suffered from a boring day on the job. Her areas of practice are always evolving and that makes for intellectually stimulating workdays.

Waynice is licensed to practice in the Federal District of New Jersey, the Southern District of Florida and Middle District Of Florida. She's a member of the Florida Association of Women Lawyers and the Caribbean American Bar Association. She is also a Board Secretary of Generation Ascend, a new 501© organization that provides low-income and disadvantaged youth with programs, including tutoring, counseling, scholarship assistance, high school, college, and job application preparation; and vocational training resources to foster their transition out of

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poverty.

Waynice resides in Broward County with her husband, three sons and Maltepom Zahra. She and her family enjoy traveling, brunching and spending time with family and friends.

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Miguel Espinosa was born and raised in Queens, New York. Miguel graduated *Cum Laude* from Nova Southeastern University (NSU) with a Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies and minors in Paralegal Studies and Philosophy. While attending NSU, he was a member of the Mock Trial Association.

After graduating NSU, Miguel attended NSU Shepard Board College of Law and earned his *Juris Doctorate* upon graduating *Magna Cum Laude*. While in law school, Miguel was a Senior Associate of the Nova Law Review, member of the Nova Trial Association, and Treasurer of the Intellectual Property Law Society. Miguel also interned for former Chief Magistrate Judge Andrea Simonton for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

After admission to the Florida Bar, Miguel litigated cases pertaining to First and Third Party Property Insurance, Personal Injury, Medical Mal-Practice, and Construction in Federal, State, and County Court, and has since joined Vernis & Bowling in the Directors and Officers, Errors and Omissions, and Employment Labor Department of the Firm's Miami office.

Miguel takes pride in not only being zealous litigator, but also his open line of communication with clients, making sure their

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objectives are achieved. When he is not bemoaning the Jets, Miguel enjoys playing guitar and spending time with his family, including his three-legged cat, Gugu.

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Brandt Carlson joined Vernis & Bowling in March 2020, when he relocated his legal practice from Sarasota to St. Petersburg. Brandt's prior litigation experience includes a wide variety of disciplines, ranging from commercial, construction, and complex civil defense to judgment collection and employment law. His primary exposure has been in handling insurance defense, major commercial disputes, and construction litigation in state and federal courts throughout Florida, where he has practiced since August 2015.

Brandt received his *J.D.* from the University of Florida, *cum laude*, in May 2015. During his time at the University of Florida, Brandt served as an editor for the *Florida Journal of International Law* and as an advocate on the prestigious Florida Moot Court Team, where he received the American College of Trial Lawyers Medal for Excellence in Advocacy. As a law student, Brandt spent his

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summers clerking for the Honorable Steven D. Merryday in the Middle District of Florida and interning for small firms specializing in first-party insurance litigation, employment law, and personal injury matters.

Brandt also pursued his undergraduate studies at the University of Florida, where he majored in Political Science and Economics with a minor in Philosophy. He graduated *summa cum laude* in May 2011 after publishing his senior thesis on election turnout in the United States.

Brandt was raised in Riverview, Florida, and has lived and worked in multiple locations throughout the Sunshine State. In his free time, Brandt enjoys traveling, movies, and the great outdoors.

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Philip Fairman was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. Phil obtained a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Master's Degree in Labor and Industrial Relations from the University of Cincinnati. Phil obtained his *Juris Doctor* from the University of Tulsa College of Law.

Phil began his legal career as a prosecutor with the State Attorney's office in Ft Myers. Phil then worked as a corporate attorney for Carnival Cruise Lines and then again as a prosecutor with the State Attorney's office in Sarasota.

Phil joined the Ft. Myers office of Vernis & Bowling of Southwest Florida nearly 20 years ago. Phil worked as an in-house liability trial attorney with St Paul-Travelers Insurance Company. Phil then worked for over a decade as an Assistant County Attorney for Charlotte County where he defended public entity liability claims. Phil returned to Vernis & Bowling of Southwest Florida where he continues to practice in the areas of property and casualty insurance, automobile liability, premises liability, and Director and Officers litigation. He represents insurance companies, insureds and self-insureds in trial and appellate litigation. Phil has represented clients in successful jury trials in Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Sarasota, Manatee, Hillsborough and Highlands counties.

Phil is a member of the Florida Bar, Oklahoma Bar, Federal District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida, and Federal District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

In his free time, Phil enjoys lap swimming, cruising with wife and his adult children, and cooking on his Big Green Egg. He is Tampa Bay Rays fan but still closely follows his hometown Cincinnati Reds.