



**Thomas W. Paradise, Esq.**  
*Managing Attorney*

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Thomas W. Paradise was born in Houghton, Michigan and raised in Boca Raton, Florida. He graduated in 1988 from Tulane University, A.B. Freeman School of Business with a B.A. Degree in Management, Accounting Major. While at Tulane, Tom was awarded for academic achievement and was the Vice-President of the Beta Alpha Psi Honorary Fraternity. He then attended Stetson University College of Law and received his Juris Doctorate in 1991.

Tom Paradise is an AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, which is an award that identifies attorneys with the highest legal ability and signifies expertise, experience, integrity and overall professional excellence. He is also listed in the Bar Registry of Preeminent Lawyers, A.M. Best's Recommended Insurance Attorneys and named in "South Florida's Top Rated Lawyers". Tom specializes in civil litigation with an emphasis in the areas of personal injury, premises liability, automobile accidents, negligent security and supervision, commercial trucking accidents, governmental tort liability, product liability and insurance subrogation. His practice includes formulating policies/procedures and managing risk concerns for major corporations and governmental entities. He also defends insurance companies in first party property claims which covers a wide array of issues such as breach of contract, appraisals, declaratory actions, fraud, arson and bad faith. Tom has been a speaker at numerous conferences and has presented legal/educational seminars for insurance companies, third party administrators and self-insureds throughout the United States.

He was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1991, and practices before all Florida State Courts, including the Third and Fourth District Court of Appeals. Tom also has an active Federal Court practice and is admitted in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

Tom began his practice with a prominent Miami civil defense firm where he worked in the areas of insurance defense, personal injury, commercial litigation, and in complex litigation involving

## VERDICTS AND DISPOSITIONS

*Delima Ferreira v. Sondler*  
*Jose Lopez v. Target*  
*Altheda Henry v. Panda Express*  
*Summary Judgment Confirmed in Appellate Ruling of Sexual Abuse Claim*  
*June Scott and Patrick Scott vs. USAA Casualty Insurance Company*  
*Sebastian McCall, Jr. v. School Board of Broward County*  
*Jose Rosales v. Castle Key Insurance Company*  
*Summary Judgment obtained in alleged sexual abuse claim*  
*Victorene Barronette v. Target*  
*Plaintiff v Target Corporation (negligence)*  
*Social Media posts by the Plaintiff ARE Discoverable*  
*Nancy Garofolo v. Target*  
*Juana Vasquez v. Target*  
*Anthony Jackson v. C&S Restaurants LLC d/b/a Burger King*  
*Plaintiff v Broward County School Board*  
*UPS v Defendant (a QBE insured)*

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

Appellate Practice  
Bad Faith/Extra Contractual Litigation  
Commercial Litigation  
Construction and Construction Defect Litigation  
Cyber Security  
Errors & Omissions Liability (E&O)  
First and Third Party Property and Casualty Claims

Government Law  
Liquid Propane (LP) Gas Defense  
Medical Malpractice  
Premises Liability  
Product Liability  
SIU/Suspicious & Fraudulent Claims  
Trucking  
Wrongful Death

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## BAR & COURT ADMISSION

Florida, 1991  
U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida  
U.S. District Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit  
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida  
Florida Supreme Court (includes all Florida State Courts)

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## EDUCATION

*Graduate:*

Stetson University College of Law, J.D., 1991

*Undergraduate:*

Tulane University, B.A. Degree in Management, 1988

shoddy home construction and Hurricane Andrew. His practice at that time included several class actions involving catastrophic property damage and significant insurance subrogation. Tom joined Vernis & Bowling as a Managing Attorney in October 2002.

Tom has participated in the Broward Community Development Corporation and the Dade County Bar Association Put Something Back Program. He is a current or past member of the Broward County Bar Association, Miami-Dade County Bar Association, American Bar Association, Defense Research Institute, Counsel for Litigation Management and the South Florida Claims Association where he served as President in 2012.