



ROBERT P. DIFFENDERFER
shareholder

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Mr. Diffenderfer maintains a diverse governmental practice involving complex environmental and land use matters, including representation before local, state and federal legislative and regulatory bodies.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Chair of the firm's transportation and infrastructure industry group for major public infrastructure projects, including highway, port and airport planning and permitting and Development of Regional Impact (DRI) review.
- Represents private and public clients, counseling on growth management issues and obtaining comprehensive plan and zoning approvals; defends those approvals from third party challenge.
- Represents special districts on a variety of organizational and operational issues and special projects.
- Successfully represented state university interests in obtaining legislation to authorize the transfer of land from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to the university's foundation.
- Has handled a variety of growth management, land use and regulatory issues for large public infrastructure projects and various Florida Department of Transportation highway projects, including:
 - Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport
 - Palm Beach International Airport
 - North Palm Beach County General Aviation Airport
 - Port of Fort Pierce
 - Port of Panama City
 - Panama City Airport

CHAIR

Transportation and Infrastructure Industry Group

PRACTICES

Environmental and Natural Resources Law

Land Use and Real Estate Law

Administrative, Civil and Appellate Litigation

Governmental Law

INDUSTRIES

Transportation and Infrastructure

EDUCATION

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 1984

B.A., cum laude, Florida State University, 1980

ADMISSIONS

Admitted to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Martindale Hubbell AV[®] Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated.
- Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, Board Member and Chair.
- Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, General Counsel and Executive Committee.
- The Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea, Chancellor.
- Florida Democratic Party Central/State Executive Committee, Member.
- The Florida Bar: Environmental and Land Use Law Section, Administrative Law Section and City, County and Local Government Law Section, Member.
- Palm Beach and Collier County Bar Associations, Member.
- American Bar Association: Section of Environment, Energy and Resources and State and Local Government Law Section, Member.
- Appointee: 2000 Presidential Rank Review Board.
- Naples Regional Urban Design Assistance Team (R/UDAT) Citizen's Task Force, Committee on Environmental Issues, Member, 1987-1988.
- Listed in Who's Who Legal, Environmental Law, 2010, 2013, 2015.
- Listed in Chambers & Partners USA Guide, an annual listing of the leading lawyers and law firms in the world, 2008-2015.
- Florida Super Lawyer, 2008.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- "Numeric Nutrient Criteria in Region 4: Current Progress and Remaining Challenges," presented at the American Bar Association Key Environmental Issues in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4, March 2015.
- "Cleared for Takeoff: Insights on Economic Development and Land Use Compatibility at Airports," presented at the Florida Planning and Zoning Association Conference, June 2014.
- "Accelerated Wetlands Losses in Coastal Watersheds," Journal of American Water Works Association, April 2014.
- "Elimination, Reduction, and Minimization of Impacts," Florida Environmental and Land Use Law Treatise, June 2013.
- "The FAA Begins a New Chapter in Hazardous Wildlife Management," Florida Aviation Business Magazine, July 2013.
- "Where Water and Energy Meet," Journal AWWA, May 2013.
- "Secondary and Cumulative Impacts Analysis and the Clean Water Act," Journal AWWA, July 2012.
- "Numeric Nutrient Criteria for Florida," presented at the Local Government Law in Florida Conference, May 2012.
- "Environmental Issues Facing Florida's Local Government," webinar presented to the Florida City and County Management Association, November 2011.
- "Airport-Community-Environment-Noise Mitigation and More," presented at the Florida Airports Council Conference, July 2011.
- "Top Ten Tips for Quasi-Judicial Hearings," presented at What You Need to Know about Public Records and Open Meetings in Florida, August 2003.
- "Latest Developments and Issues Relating to Florida's Public Records Law," 2003.
- "The Freedom of Information Act 5.U.S.C. 552, as Amended by Public Law No, 104-231, 110 Stat. 3028," 2003.
- "Top Ten Tips for a Quasi-Judicial Hearing," the Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Law Section Reporter, Vol. XIX, No. 5, July 1998.