

PARTNER

# Stephen N. Zack

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**Miami**

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Miami, FL 33131  
Phone 305 539 8400

PROFILE

Steve is a member of the firm's Executive Committee, a Board Certified trial lawyer, and a widely recognized leader. He is Past President of the American Bar Association and was the first Hispanic American to assume the ABA Presidency. He was also the first Hispanic American and the youngest person to become President of the Florida Bar. He has served as President of the National Conference of Bar Presidents and as the Chair of the ABA's House of Delegates—one of the nation's most influential positions on matters relating to the legal profession. He is a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, and he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from *The American Lawyer*.

Steve's main practice as a civil trial lawyer is in the areas of products liability, class actions and federal multidistrict litigation, complex commercial litigation, arbitration, international law, and voting rights.

He was nominated by President Barack Obama for the position of Alternate U.S. Representative to the 68th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and he served as Senior Advisor to the United States State Department. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Steve was nominated by President Biden to serve as a member of the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

EXPERIENCE



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PRACTICES

Products Liability  
Class Actions  
International Arbitration  
Employment Disputes  
Professional Malpractice  
Insurance Disputes  
Government Litigation  
Commercial Disputes  
Elections and Political Disputes  
Real Estate Disputes

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EDUCATION

**University of Florida Law School**, J.D.; President of the Florida Blue Key Honorary Society

**University of Florida**, B.A., Political Science; Omicron Delta Kappa; Pi Sigma Alpha; Hall of Fame and Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities

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ADMISSIONS

**Bars**

Florida  
New York  
District of Columbia  
U.S. Supreme Court  
U.S. Court of Appeals: Fifth Circuit

Steve has represented: Florida's former Governor and U.S. Senator, Bob Graham as General Counsel; the Florida Senate; the Florida Department of Professional Regulation; the Cities of Hollywood, Hialeah, Miami Beach, Miami, numerous government dignitaries and national clients such as Philip Morris and National Geographic Society.

His class action cases include Takata, Volkswagen, and General Motors.

He represented former Vice President Al Gore in the trial of *Bush v. Gore*.

He was appointed by Governor Lawton Chiles to rewrite the Florida Constitution as a member of the Florida Constitution Revision Commission in 1997. He served as Chair of the Florida Ethics Commission from 1987 to 1994.

Steve chaired the American Bar Association's Rule of Law Initiative (2011 - 2015), which does work in 50 countries with a \$40 million Dollar budget and over 500 lawyers on the promotion of the rule of law; he actively participates within the private sector, the judiciary and governments throughout the world.

As President of the American Bar Association, Steve visited and spoke with bar associations, law schools, the judiciary and the media in 22 countries about the rule of law and professional integrity and created the Commission on Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities; the Commission on Civic Education in the Nation's Schools; and the Task Force on Preservation of the Justice System.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

*Personal Injury Practice Chapter*, The Dade County Court Handbook (1977)

*External Business Litigation Chapter*, The Florida Bar Handbook on Representing Florida Corporations (1977)

U.S. Court of Appeals: Eleventh Circuit

U.S. District Court: Southern District of Florida

U.S. District Court: Northern District of Florida

AWARDS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Ted Klein Award, Miami-Dade Chapter Florida Association for Women Lawyers (2023)

Distinguished Leader, Daily Business Review (2021)

**Lifetime Achievement Award**, The American Lawyer (2019)

ABA Spirit of Excellence Award (2017)

Lawdragon 500 Hall of Fame

Lawdragon 500 Global Plaintiff Lawyers (2024)

Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators in America

Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers (2011-2017)

Lawdragon's 500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers

Lawdragon 500 Leading Global Litigators (2021, 2023, 2024)

Top Latino Lawyers, Latino Leaders Magazine (2017-2018)

25 Most Influential Hispanic Lawyers, Latino Leaders Magazine (2016)

David W. Dyer Professionalism Award, Dade County Bar Association (2015)

Lifetime Achievement Award, Daily Business Review (2015)

Fellow, International Academy of Trial Lawyers

Member, Council on Foreign Relations

Member, The American Law Institute

Member, Anti-Defamation National Commission (2012-2014)

President, American Bar Association (2010-2012)

President, Florida Bar (1989-1990)

Chair, National Center for Access to Justice (2012)

Chair, House of Delegates of the American Bar Association (2004-2006)

American Jewish Committee Learned Hand Award (2011)

Best Lawyers in America (2011-2025)

Latino Lawyer of the Year, Hispanic National Bar Association (2010)

Legal Legends Award, History Miami and 11th Judicial Circuit Historical Society (2010)

University of Florida Distinguished Alumnus Award (2010)

Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America (2011-2015)

J. Ben Watkins Award for Excellence in the Legal Profession, Stetson Law Review (2010)

100 Top Influential Hispanics by Hispanic Business Magazine (2004, 2009)

Florida Trend Legal Elite, Hall of Fame Attorney (2004-2021)

Listed in Florida Super Lawyers (2006-2012)

University of Florida Award for Service to the Profession

St. Thomas University Award for Outstanding Service and Commitment to Legal Education, Professionalism and an Independent Judiciary

Lifetime Fellow of the American Bar Association

American Bar Association Board of Governors

Past President of the Florida Bar

Past President of the National Conference of Bar Presidents

Past Chair of American Bar Association International Law Committee

Past Chair of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services

Past Chair of the Latin American Council

Served on the American Bar Association Commission on the Judiciary in the 21st Century

American Board of Trial Advocates

Cuban American Bar Association

Dade County Bar Association

Past President of Young Lawyers Division of the Dade County Bar Association

District of Columbia Bar Association

New York State Bar Association

United States Supreme Court Historical Society

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## GOVERNMENT SERVICE

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Former Special Counsel to Senator Robert Graham

Past Chair of the State of Florida Ethics Commission

Past Member of the Florida Constitution Revision Commission

Past Chair, City of Miami Beach Charter Review Committee

Past Chair of the Environmental Review Board for the City of Miami

Past Member, City of Miami Beach Budget Advisory Committee

Member of the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission for the Southern District of Florida

Past Member of the 11th Circuit, Miami Dade County Judicial Nominating Committee

Former Legislative Aide to Congressman Claude Pepper

Past Member of the Florida Entertainment Commission

Past Member of the Dade County Fair Campaign Practices Committee

Past Member of the Search Committee for City of Miami City Attorney

State of Florida Constitution Revision Commission

Past Member of the Board of Trustees of the Public Health Trust for Jackson Memorial Hospital and Dade County

(FORMER) Board of Directors, Florida Children's Coalition

(FORMER) Board of Directors, The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida

Mr. Zack has represented numerous governmental authorities including the Florida Senate and the Cities of Hollywood, Hialeah, Miami Beach and Miami

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