

## **ROBERT J. FIORE, B.C.S.**

Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer

(Of the 100,000 lawyers in Florida, just 1% have earned Florida Bar Board Certification in civil trial.)



**Robert J. Fiore, P.A.**

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**Miami, FL 33130**

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### **Licenses**

Florida Bar (1986)

United States District Court, Southern District of Florida (1987)

### **Education**

Chaminade College Preparatory, Hollywood, Florida

Graduated 1979

University of Florida College of Law, Gainesville, Florida

Graduated May, 1986, Juris Doctorate

National Member, *The Order of Barristers* (“Having Exhibited Excellence and Attained High Honor Through the Art of Courtroom Advocacy”)

Moot Court

Vice-Chair, Fall, 1985

Competitor in Regional Round of ABA National Moot Court Competition, Spring, 1984

Finalist in University of Florida Challenge Cup Competition, Fall, 1984

Top two Advocate in Intramural Competition, Fall, 1984

Trial Competition Team

Top three advocate in Intramural Competition, Spring, 1984

American Inn of Court, Jacksonville, University of Florida Inn

Honorary Invitee to Florida’s first Inn

Biscayne College, Miami, Florida

Graduated Summa Cum Laude, May, 1983, Bachelor of Arts

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

The National Dean's List

Outstanding Young Men of America

Editor, *Driftwood*, College literary magazine

### **Professional Experience**

Robert J. Fiore, P.A.

February 1, 1998 to present

Russomanno, Fiore & Borrello, P.A.

Partner, September 1, 1996 to January 31, 1998

Floyd, Pearson, Richman, Greer, Weil, Brumbaugh & Russomanno, P.A.

Associate, May, 1986 to August 31, 1994

Partner, 1994-1996

Law Clerk, United States Attorney, Southern District of Florida,

May-August, 1985

Law Clerk, Judge Leonard Rivkind, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit

May-August 1984

### **Professional and Civic Organizations and Committees**

Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory, Hollywood, Florida, a United States  
Department of Education "Recognized School of Excellence"

**Chair**, Board of Trustees, April 15, 2000-September 13, 2003

Member, Board of Trustees, 1998-September 13, 2003

Other service:

Chair, 1997 Annual Fund

Dade County Bar Association (Largest voluntary Bar Association in the State of Florida)

**President**, 2004-2005

President-elect, 2003

Vice-President, 2002

Secretary, 2001

Treasurer, 2000

Board of Directors, 1997-June 10, 2005

Other notable service:

Chair, Meetings and Luncheons Committee, 1993-1994; 2000

Program Chair, Tribute to Retiring State Court Judges, January 29, 2001  
Program Chair, Tribute to Senior Status Federal District Court Judges,  
March 2, 2001  
Lawyer Regulation Committee, 2001  
Professionalism Committee, 2000-2005  
Executive Committee, 1999-2005  
Chair, Membership Committee, 1999-2000  
Chair, Multidisciplinary Practice Drafting Committee, 2000

Dade County Trial Lawyers Association

**President**, 1996-1997  
President Elect, 1995-1996  
Treasurer, 1994-1995  
Secretary, 1993-1994  
Board of Directors, 1992-1999

The Florida Bar

Standing Committee on Professionalism  
**Chair**, July 1, 2004-June 30, 2005  
Vice Chair, July 1, 2002-June 30, 2004  
Member, July 1, 2000-June 30, 2006  
Other notable service:  
Chair, New Project Development Committee-2001  
Chair, Historical Video Series Committee-2002-2004

Florida Supreme Court, Commission on Professionalism

Member, July 1, 2004-2005  
Judicial Subcommittee, 2000-2003  
Bar Subcommittee, 2003-2005  
Diversity Subcommittee, 2005  
Budget Subcommittee, 2005

Florida Appellate Court, Third District Court of Appeal

Member, Third DCA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, 2004-2005  
Project launched during Dade County Bar Association presidency

Florida Trial Court, Eleventh Judicial Circuit

**Co-Chair**, The Dade County Courthouse, Historic Courtroom Restoration Project, 2004

Project launched during Dade County Bar Association presidency

Supreme Court Commissioned Professionalism Committee, 1998

Professional Review Subcommittee, 1999

Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA, n/k/a AAJ)

Young Lawyers Division (approximately 15,000 members)

**Chair**, 1995-1996

Vice-Chair, 1994-1995

Board of Governors, 1996-1998

Also served on numerous other Committees/Sections, including Convention Planning Committee, Insurance Law Section, Judicial Independence Committee, Exchange Advisory Committee and National Student Trial Advocacy Competition

Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers (AFTL, n/k/a FJA)

Board of Directors, 1993-2003

Young Lawyers Section (approximately 650 members)

**Chair**, 1994-1995

Chair-Elect, 1993-1994

Secretary, 1993

Other service:

Program Chair, Ultimate Trial Notebook Seminar, 1994, numerous other Committees/Sections

Nursing Home Task Force, 2000

Cuban American Bar Association

Member

Florida Association of Women Lawyers

Member

Miami Beach Bar Association

Member

Alliance for Ethical Government

Lobbying Task Force, 1999

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Miami

Committee of 100 (yearly commitment)

ArtCenter/South Florida

Board of Directors, 2000

Murano at Portofino Condominium Association, South Beach  
Vice-President, 2006-2013  
President, 2014—

Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc.  
Co-Chair, “Together We Must” Campaign Committee, 2013-2014

### **Professional Honors**

Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer

Specialist and Expert in Civil Trial Law

(Former Florida Supreme Court Justice Harry Lee Anstead has been quoted as saying the following about the Certification program: “Board Certification is reliable proof of the character and commitment that sets a lawyer apart [and] is a visible way to demonstrate that layer’s commitment to professionalism and excellence.”)

*The Best Lawyers in America*® 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 Personal Injury Plaintiffs

Since it was first published in 1983, *Best Lawyers*® has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. *Best Lawyers* lists are compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. *Corporate Counsel* magazine has called *Best Lawyers* “the most respected referral list of attorneys in practice.”

The National Trial Lawyers, Top 100 Florida Trial Lawyers (Diplomat)

An invitation-only organization composed of the premier trial lawyers from each state or region who meet stringent qualifications as civil plaintiff and/or criminal defense trial lawyers. Selection is based on a thorough multi-phase objective and uniformly applied process which includes peer nominations combined with third-party research. Membership is extended only to the select few of the most qualified attorneys from each state or region who demonstrate superior qualifications of leadership, reputation, influence, stature and public profile measured by objective and uniformly applied standards in compliance with state bar and national Rule 4-7.

American Board of Trial Advocates, Member

The American Board of Trial Advocates is a national association limited to experienced trial lawyers (plaintiff lawyers and defense lawyers) and judges dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the civil jury trial right provided by the Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. First and foremost, ABOTA works to uphold the jury system by educating the American public about the history and value of the right to trial by jury

Martindale-Hubbell “AV Preeminent” rated trial lawyer and firm  
Signifies the legal abilities of the firm are of the very highest standard and that the professional ethics of the firm are unquestioned

2015 Edition of South Florida’s Top AV Rated Lawyers

Florida Trend’s Legal Elite selection, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2011  
Top 1.7% of Florida Lawyers, as chosen by peers—Civil Trial Practice

South Florida Legal Guide’s selection, 2005-2018  
One of South Florida’s “Top Lawyers,” as chosen by peers—Civil Trial Practice

Florida Super Lawyers, 2007-2014; 2016, 2017, 2018  
Top 5% of Florida Lawyers, as chosen by peers—Personal Injury, Plaintiff

The Million and Multimillion Dollar Advocates Forum  
Membership limited to attorneys who have won million and multi-million dollar verdicts and settlements. Membership demonstrates, in an objective and tangible way, ability to accomplish superior results in complex cases

The Lawdragon 3000 Leading Plaintiffs’ Lawyers in America-2007  
Among the most elite forms of recognition for American Lawyers as this designation is awarded to less than one-half of one percent of America’s 1.1 million lawyers

### **Professional and Civic Awards**

Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Lawyers Division, “Most Dedicated Public Servant Award,” 1994  
Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Lawyers Division, “National Public Service Award,” 1994

Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Lawyers Division, “Most Outstanding Young Lawyers Section National Award,” 1995  
Awarded for leading the most outstanding State Young Lawyers Section as Chair of the Young Lawyers Section of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, 1994-1995

Dade County Trial Lawyers Association, “Exceptional Service and Leadership Award,” 1996

Chaminade High School, “Alumni Hall of Fame Award,” 1997  
Awarded for dedication and commitment to community, family and for work “Toward a Better World”

Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, "EAGLE Talon Award," October 17, 1997  
Awarded for dedication to the highest ideals of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers

Dade County Trial Lawyers Association, "Leadership and Service Award," for serving as President, 1997  
Who's Who in American Law, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Editions

Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Lawyers Division, "F. Scott Baldwin Most Outstanding Young Trial Lawyer Award," July 12, 1998

Awarded for Exemplifying the Highest Ideals of a Trial Lawyer by Demonstrating Excellence, Compassion, Honesty, and Caring in his Profession through Protecting Consumers from the Abuse of Corporate Power and by Acting as a Trustee of Individual Liberties

Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Wiedeman/Wysocki Award, 1997, 1998  
Awarded for Service and Commitment to ATLA

### **Significant Cases Resulting in Changes in Law**

Consumer Dispute with HMO: *Pasteur Health Plan Inc., v. Salazar*, 658 So.2d 543 (Fla. 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA, 1995). The first case in the State of Florida in favor of consumers holding Health Maintenance Organization contracts are "contracts of adhesion" and holding HMO's accountable to consumers similar to traditional insurance companies. Defendant HMO forced to pay over \$750,000.00 in hospital/medical bills incurred by a child before he died as a result of an ATV accident, in addition to the attorneys' fees and costs incurred by the child's mother in litigating against the HMO.

Diet Litigation: National *Nutri/System* litigation. Served as Co-Lead Counsel in National litigation against Nutri/System, an international weight loss chain, leading to several Congressional Hearings, nationwide media coverage, changes in the way the diet industry advertises services and a settlement for approximately 580 claimants nationwide.

### **Pain Clinic Reforms**

Represented the family of a prescription-overdose victim whose death became the centerpiece of investigative reports on South Florida's loosely regulated pain-clinic industry. The articles were highlighted during legislative hearings that led to the passage of tighter regulations of clinics and greater scrutiny of doctors who prescribe addictive painkillers.

### **Speaking Engagements/Program Participant**

Speaker, Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, “Demand Packages and the Trial Notebook for Law Office Staff,” November, 1993

Speaker, Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, “Homeowner Insurance,” October, 1996

Speaker, (DCTLA), “The do’s and don’ts of establishing and maintaining a Countywide Trial Lawyer Organization,” January 9, 1997

At the request of the Palm Beach County Trial Lawyers Association

Speaker, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, “Civility in an Uncivil Environment,” July 20, 1997 (at the ATLA Annual Convention in San Diego)

Speaker, Dade County Legal Secretaries Association, “Thoughts on Civility and Becoming a Better Person,” July 9, 1997

Speaker, University of Miami Law School, “Pre-trial procedure,” October 9, 1997

Participant, First Statewide Professionalism Summit, headed by Florida Supreme Court Justice Harry Lee Anstead, February 26, 1998, Miami, Florida

Speaker, First Statewide Symposium on Professionalism, headed by Florida Supreme Court Justice Major Best Harding, February 27, 1998, Stetson Law School, St. Petersburg, Florida (“How to conduct a Professionalism Luncheon”)

Speaker, University of Miami Law School, “The Taking of Depositions,” March 24, 1998

Speaker, University of Miami Law School, “Responding to Discovery Requests,” September 17, 1998

**Program Chair, The Stephen R. Covey Professionalism Program for Lawyers, Judges and Staff, March 11, 1999**

Introduced Dr. Stephen R. Covey, author of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, to the legal community through a unique professionalism program dedicated to lawyers, judges and legal staff. Attended by approximately 750 persons from throughout Florida)

Speaker, Miami-Dade Legal Support Association, “The Two Most Pressing Issues of Our Profession,” March 14, 2000

Speaker, Miami-Dade Legal Support Association, “Legislative Update” following the May 5, 2000 closure of the 2000 legislative session, May 6, 2000

Speaker, Wealth & Wisdom with Joyce Boyer & Michael Lee, WXEL-TV, “Nursing Home Abuse and Neglect,” April 4, 2002



Speaker, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, “Finding A Niche-Nursing Home Abuse,” July 22, 2002

At the ATLA Annual Convention, Atlanta

Speaker, County Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Shirlyon McWhorter, October 3, 2003

Speaker, Miami-Dade Legal Support Association, “The Two Most Pressing Issues of Our Profession,” July 27, 2004

Speaker, “Practicing With Professionalism,” August 6, 2004

Presented Multi-Media Professionalism/Ethics seminar to approximately 300 new members of The Florida Bar

Speaker, County Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Maria Ortiz, February 5, 2004

Speaker, County Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Darrin Gayles, July 9, 2004

Speaker, New Lawyer Induction Ceremony, Third District Court of Appeal, October 4, 2004

Speaker, Retirement Celebration, Third District Court of Appeal Judges Robert L. Shevin, Mario P. Goderich and Alan R. Schwartz, October 29, 2004 (Attended by 700)

Speaker, Installation Ceremony, Miami Beach Bar Association, December 20, 2004

**Program Chair, The Stephen R. Covey Professionalism Program for Lawyers, Judges and Staff, Part II**, January 7, 2005

Re-introduced Dr. Stephen R. Covey, author of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, and *The 8<sup>th</sup> Habit, From Effectiveness to Greatness*, to the legal community through a unique professionalism program dedicated to lawyers, judges and legal staff. Attended by approximately 600 persons from throughout Florida)

Speaker, County Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Ada Pozo Revilla, February 4, 2005

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Barbara Areces, February 11, 2005

Speaker, Appellate Court Investiture Ceremony, Third District Court of Appeal, Honorable Richard Suarez, February 11, 2005

**Program Chair**, David Boies, February 17, 2005

Introduced famed trial lawyer David Boies, author of *Courting Justice*, to the South Florida legal community. Attended by approximately 300 persons

Speaker, County Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Judy Rubenstein, February 18, 2005

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable William Thomas, March 4, 2005

Speaker, Appellate Court Investiture Ceremony, Third District Court of Appeal, Honorable Leslie B. Rothenberg, March 4, 2005

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable John Schlesinger, March 18, 2005

Speaker, Appellate Court Investiture Ceremony, Third District Court of Appeal, Honorable Angel Cortiñas, April 8, 2005

**Program Chair**, Tribute to Senator Bob Graham, April 13, 2005

Celebrating the service of Senator Graham, author of *Intelligence Matters*, to the people of Florida and the United States. Attended by approximately 250 persons

Speaker, North Dade Justice Center Law Day Program, “The American Jury: We The People In Action,” May 5, 2005

Speaker, New Lawyer Induction Ceremony, Third District Court of Appeal, May 9, 2005

Speaker, Juvenile Justice Center Gallery of Honor Ceremony, May 11, 2005

Speaker, The Richard E. Gerstein Justice Building Law Day Program, “The American Jury: We The People In Action,” May 12, 2005

Speaker, Twenty-Ninth Annual Installation, Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Miami Chapter, May 21, 2005

Speaker, Columbian American Bar Association, “Diversity in the Legal Profession,” June 1, 2005

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Christina Pereyra-Shuminer, June 2, 2005

Speaker, County Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Bronwyn Miller, June 3, 2005

Program Participant, “Criminal Justice And Our Constitutions: That Delicate Balance,”  
An Open Forum, Ethics Roundtable, March 24, 2006

Sponsored by The Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Miami  
Chapter and The Dade County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Valerie  
Manno Schurr, March 9, 2007

Program Participant, “Venturing Into A Solo Practice,” April 17, 2007

Sponsored by the Dade County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section

Program Participant, “People of Make a Difference,” January 13, 2011

Introduced *Miami Herald* Investigative Reporter Scott Hiaasen, Author of the  
“Pill Mill” series that uncovered massive prescription drug abuse leading to  
changes in Florida law; co-sponsored by the Dade County Bar Association and the  
Miami-Dade Justice Association

Speaker, Miami-Dade Legal Support Association, “Preparing a Trial Notebook,” May 22,  
2012

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable William  
Altfield, November 4, 2011.

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Norma  
Lindsey, February 24, 2012.

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Maria  
Elena Verde, April 19, 2013

Speaker, Circuit Court Investiture Ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Honorable Victoria  
Del Pino, March 24, 2017

### **Other Activities and Hobbies**

Top 100 runner, Robert “Ravin” Kraft running team ([www.ravenrun.com](http://www.ravenrun.com))

Leadership Miami, Graduate

Co-Organizer, “Halloween for Hurricane Kids”, October, 1992

Participant, “Doctors and Lawyers Join Hands to Combat Family Violence,” October,  
1993

Member, Shula’s Steak House, 48 ounce Club (Inducted August 1, 1998 and December  
16, 2001)

Co-Chair, Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc., *“Together, We Must” Campaign for Justice*

5/28/18