



John H. Pelzer

Partner

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John H. Pelzer is Board Certified by The Florida Bar as a specialist in Appellate Law, a select credential earned by experience, examination, enhanced continuing education and peer review by judges and lawyers in the field. He handles appeals on all substantive law subject matters.

Appellate practice involves the skills of mastering a static record, capitalizing on or avoiding the weaknesses of judicial decisions, identifying the issues most likely to serve the client's purposes, researching and analogizing pertinent precedent, applying standards of review, and then expressing the result in a cogent written brief that makes the desired result appear obvious from the outset. This can also involve oral advocacy in an unscripted and unpredictable format, wherein each position, point or argument is tested and explored by three or more intelligent and well-prepared judges. During and before trial, appellate practice requires proper preservation of the record so that the case is not lost before it is begun. These skills are very different from the skills of a trial lawyer, just as a jury of laypersons is completely different from a panel of judges.

Mr. Pelzer has mastered these skills over the course of more than thirty (30) years devoted to appellate practice. As a young attorney, Mr. Pelzer participated as lead counsel or assisting counsel in both jury and non-jury trials, and the litigation leading up to them, thus gaining valuable insight into the experience of being a trial lawyer, and how it can affect the appellate process.

Over his years as an appellate practitioner, Mr. Pelzer has successfully handled cases in virtually all substantive areas of the law in every Florida appellate court and most federal appellate courts. As a member of a large, diverse, full-service law firm throughout his career, Mr. Pelzer has handled cases for the highest level practitioners in all their fields, and has the ability to draw on that expertise whenever necessary. For example, Mr. Pelzer has experienced handling appeals in administrative law, real estate, bankruptcy, banking, constitutional law, construction, contracts, family law, insurance, land use, patent, personal injury and probate.

Mr. Pelzer has been professionally involved with The Florida Bar in areas affecting appellate practice, having served on the Appellate Court Rules Committee and the Appellate Practice Certification Committee, including a stint as Chair.

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
- U.S. Courts of Appeals for the First, Second, Third, Seventh, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Federal and District of Columbia Circuits
- U.S. Supreme Court

Bar Admissions

- Florida

Education

- J.D., Tulane University School of Law, *cum laude*, 1983
- B.A., Stetson University, *cum laude*, 1980

Practice Areas

- Appellate
- Litigation
- Insurance Recovery & Counseling

Professional and Community Involvement

- The Florida Bar, Member
 - Appellate Rules Committee, Member
 - Appellate Practice Certification Committee, Vice Chair
 - Former Chairman
 - Board of Legal Specialization & Education, Member
 - Chair, 2013-2015

Recognitions

- *Fort Lauderdale Illustrated*, "Top Lawyers" 2021
- *Martindale-Hubbell*, Rated AV Preeminent®
- *Benchmark Litigation*, "Florida Litigation Star," 2019-2021
- *U.S. News & World Report*, Best Lawyers in America "Lawyer of the Year," Appellate, 2022
- *U.S. News & World Report*, "Best Lawyers in America," Appellate, 2008-2022
- *Super Lawyers* magazine, Florida "Super Lawyers," Appellate, 2006-2017, 2019-2020
- Top Lawyers, *South Florida Legal Guide*, 2014-2015
- *Super Lawyers* magazine, Super Lawyers Business Edition, Appellate, 2014, 2018
- *The American Lawyer* magazine, "Top Rated Lawyers," 2012

In the News

- Quoted, "Appellate Court Revives Claims That Pop-up Window Blocked Gym Contract's Language," *Daily Business Review*, December 19, 2019
- Featured, "Insurer Wins Reversal of Seven-Figure Judgement in Surety Bond Case," *The Real Deal*, December 10, 2017
- Featured, "Fort Lauderdale Attorneys Save Developer from \$7.3 Million Judgment," *Daily Business Review*, December 8, 2017
- Featured, "Greenspoon Marder Beats Back \$12M Claim Client Duped Investors," *Daily Business Review*, June 28, 2017

- Arizona Supreme Court Reverses Lower Court Rulings that Would Have Outlawed Cannabis Extracts

News

- Greenspoon Marder Recognized By Benchmark Litigation For 2022
- Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Recognized as "Top Lawyers" by Fort Lauderdale Illustrated for 2021
- Greenspoon Marder Partner John H. Pelzer Selected As A "Lawyer Of The Year" By Best Lawyers© For 2022
- 37 Attorneys At Greenspoon Marder Listed In The Best Lawyers In America© 2022
- Greenspoon Marder Recognized By Benchmark Litigation For 2021
- Greenspoon Marder Partner John Pelzer Re-Appointed To The Florida Bar's Appellate Practice Certification Committee As Vice Chair
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 18 Attorneys At Greenspoon Marder As "Super Lawyers" In Florida
- Greenspoon Marder Recognized By Benchmark Litigation USA 2020
- 33 Attorneys From Greenspoon Marder Listed in the Best Lawyers in America© 2020
- Greenspoon Marder Secures Florida Supreme Court Ruling Upholding Decisions Against Nonpartisan County Constitutional Officer Elections
- Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Selected as 2018 Legal Leaders
- 35 Attorneys From Greenspoon Marder Listed In The Best Lawyers in America© 2019
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 22 Attorneys at Greenspoon Marder as "Super Lawyers" in Florida
- Florida Judge Upholds Orange County Trial Court's Judgement Against Nonpartisan County Constitutional Officer Elections
- Greenspoon Marder Secures Reversal of \$7.3 Million Judgement Against Client Lexon
- Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Receive 2018 AV Preeminent Rating By Martindale-Hubbell
- Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Receive 2017 AV Preeminent Rating By Martindale-Hubbell
- 34 Attorneys from Greenspoon Marder Listed in The Best Lawyers in America© 2018
- 11th Circuit Affirms Jury Trial Win for Defendants in Al Ghena International Corp. et al v. Radwan et al.
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 21 Attorneys at Greenspoon Marder in Florida
- Greenspoon Marder Shareholder John H. Pelzer Appointed To The Florida Bar's Appellate Practice Certification Committee
- Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Selected as 2016 Legal Leaders
- 32 Attorneys from Greenspoon Marder Listed in the Best Lawyers in America 2017
- Super Lawyers Recognizes 38 Attorneys at Greenspoon Marder
- 20 Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Listed Among South Florida Legal Guide's Top Lawyers in 2016
- 25 Greenspoon Marder Law Attorneys Listed Among 2016 Best Lawyers in America
- Greenspoon Marder Law's Victor Kline and Jack Pelzer Win Appeal in the Appellate Court
- 26 Greenspoon Marder Law Attorneys Listed Among 2015 Florida Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- Nine Greenspoon Marder Law Attorney's Selected for the 2014 Super Lawyers Business Edition
- Twenty-Three Greenspoon Marder Law Attorneys Listed Among Best Lawyers in America in 2015
- Fifteen Greenspoon Marder Law Attorney's Selected as 2014 Florida Super Lawyers, and Ten as 2014 Florida Rising Stars
- Greenspoon Marder's John Pelzer Reappointed Chair of the Board of Legal Specialization and Education of The Florida Bar
- Twenty One Attorneys Ranked as "Top Lawyers" and Greenspoon Marder Listed as a "Top Law Firm" in the 2014 South Florida Legal Guide
- John H. Pelzer appointed chair of the 2013-2014 Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education
- People in the news
- Greenspoon Marder's John H. Pelzer is appointed the chairman of the board of legal specialization and education of The Florida Bar

- Greenspoon Marder Shareholder Appointed as Chair of the Board of Legal Specialization and Education of the Florida Bar
- Twenty-Three Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Listed Among Best Lawyers in America in 2014
- 26 Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Listed Among Florida Super Lawyers
- Greenspoon Marder Named Among the 2013 “Best Law Firms”
- Greenspoon Marder Attorneys Named Among The Best Lawyers in America® 2013
- South Florida’s Top Rated Lawyers, 2012

