

People



## Philip Schwartz

Partner, Corporate

Fort Lauderdale

T: +1 954 468 2455

[philip.schwartz@akerman.com](mailto:philip.schwartz@akerman.com)

vCard

Philip Schwartz's practice focuses on securities disclosure, private and public debt and equity offerings, commercial loan and real estate loan transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and general corporate matters. Philip is co-chair of Akerman's Legal Opinions Committee.

Philip has been an active participant in the activities of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar for more than 30 years, and chaired the section from July 1996 to June 1997. During his many years of involvement with the section, Philip has either chaired or was a key participant in the section's efforts to update and modernize Florida's entity statutes, including Florida's general partnership statute, Florida's limited partnership statute, Florida's limited liability company statute, and the Florida Business Corporation Act.

Philip was the reporter for the "Report on Third-Party Legal Opinion Customary Practice in Florida" that was jointly issued in December 2011 by the Legal Opinion Standards Committee of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar and the Legal Opinions Committee of the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar. He was also a key participant in the drafting of the first supplement to the report that was published in July 2021.

Philip is a member of the Board of Directors of the Working Group on Legal Opinions Foundation, an organization that brings together key thought leaders from across the United States in third-party legal opinion practice, and he represents The Florida Bar Business Law Section in that organization. He is also a member of the ABA Business Law Section's Corporate Laws Committee, which oversees the Model Business Corporation Act, and is an active participant in the Legal Opinions Committee and the Federal Regulation of Securities Law Committee of the ABA Business Law Section. Philip is a frequent speaker and author on corporate and securities law topics, and on the topic of third-party legal opinion letters.

Philip is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed for many years by *Best Lawyers* in Florida for Corporate Law.

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### Areas of Experience

Corporate  
Capital Markets  
Restaurant  
Financial Services  
Gaming Law

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### Education

LL.M., New York University School of Law, Taxation, 1979  
J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 1978  
B.A., State University of New York at Stony Brook, 1975

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### Admissions

#### Bars

Florida

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### Related Content

Record Number of Akerman Lawyers Named to *The Best Lawyers in America* 2024 Guide  
August 22, 2023

Record Number of Akerman Lawyers Across the United States Named to *The Best Lawyers in America* 2022 Guide  
August 19, 2021

172 Akerman Lawyers Across the United States Named to 2020 *Super Lawyers* and *Rising Stars* Lists  
October 28, 2020

## Published Work and Lectures

- The Florida Bar Business Law Section's 41st Annual Federal Securities Institute, Moderator, "Focus on Important Ethics Issues - Blending the Old with the New," February 25, 2025
- The Florida Bar Business Law Section's 37th Annual Federal Securities Institute, Panelist, "Ethics for Transaction Lawyers - How Transactional Lawyers Can Avoid Ethical Traps," February 12, 2019
- Akerman's Guide to Doing Business in Florida: A Legal Guide for Out-of-State and Foreign Businesses, Author, "Corporations, LLCs and Partnership Entities," "Florida B-and SP-Corporations," 2013 and 2016
- The Florida Bar CLE Committee and Tax Section, Tax Planning for Real Property Developers and Investors, Speaker, "The Impact of the New Florida LLC Act on Real Transactions," September 27, 2013
- The Florida Bar Business Law Section's 18th Annual Retreat, Panelist, "The New Florida Limited Liability Company Act," August 30, 2013

## Affiliations

- The Florida Bar, Business Law Section, Chair, 1996-1997

## Honors and Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers*, 2025, Listed as "Lawyer of the Year" in Fort Lauderdale for Corporate Law
- *Best Lawyers*, 2008-2017, 2019-2025, Listed in Florida for Corporate Law
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine, 2019-2020, Listed in Florida for Banking
- *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite, 2006, 2010, Listed for Business Law