

People

James A. Bombulie

Partner, Real Estate
Real Estate Litigation

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As an experienced business litigator, James Bombulie's practice focuses on navigating real estate and commercial disputes in state and federal court as well as in arbitration. James has a wealth of experience representing public and private real estate companies, developers, financial companies, real estate investment trusts, retailers, and other businesses in all types of real estate litigation matters, including commercial landlord-tenant disputes, commercial evictions, lease defaults, property damage claims, purchase and sale disputes, and a host of other real estate related damages, tort and injunction actions. In addition to representing his clients in formal legal proceedings, James's clients also rely on his knowledge of and practical approach to handling real estate disputes to assist them in traversing pre-litigation matters and to provide litigation-related negotiation advice.

James also regularly represents sophisticated companies, private equity firms, insurance companies, and lending institutions in contract and collection litigation, securities litigation, private equity litigation, investment/lending litigation, and insurance bad faith litigation. James has vast courtroom experience. He has tried jury and non-jury trials, has handled final arbitration hearings, and regularly handles evidentiary and non-evidentiary hearings in complex real estate and business actions.

Notable Work

Damages Arbitration: Commercial Lease: Representation of a multinational real estate investment trust through final arbitration hearing in a damages lawsuit stemming from a tenant's failure to make repairs to the roof and the exterior of a commercial warehouse building.

Commercial Eviction Trial: Representation of industrial property owner through non-jury eviction trial stemming from commercial

Areas of Experience

Real Estate Litigation
Litigation
Commercial Disputes
Insurance Litigation
Private Equity Litigation
Financial Services
Commercial Lease Dispute Resolution and Litigation

Education

J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 2006, magna cum laude, CALI Excellence for the Future Award (Torts); Dean's List; Dean's Merit Scholarship; Dean's Certificate of Achievement (Torts and Civil Procedures); *University of Miami Business Law Review*
B.A., Grinnell College, Political Science, 2003, Grinnell College Trustee Honor Scholarship

Admissions

Bars

Florida
Texas

Courts

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

Related Content

Akerman Sponsors ACC South Florida's 11th Annual CLE Conference
April 30, 2021

South Florida Legal Guide Names Akerman a Top Law Firm
April 01, 2019

tenant's failure to pay rent and maintain adequate insurance coverage pursuant to a negotiated lease agreement.

Injunction / Damages: Representation of cell phone tower easement owner in an injunction / damages lawsuit against the owner of the parent parcel pertaining to the access and maintenance of the cell phone tower.

Private Equity / Derivative: Representation of private equity firm in derivative lawsuit initiated by a fund investor stemming from alleged breaches of fiduciary duty relating to the firm's management of the fund's portfolio companies.

Commercial Lease Dispute: Representation of national restaurant chain in dispute relating to the exercise of a lease renewal option.

Commercial Tenant Eviction: Representation of national property owners and property management companies in commercial tenant eviction actions arising from both monetary and non-monetary defaults.

Commercial Lease Defaults: Representation of national property owners and property management companies in damages actions against both commercial tenants and personal guarantors relating to commercial lease defaults.

Purchase and Sale Dispute: Representation of seller of real property in dispute with real estate purchaser and escrow agent relating to the sale of residential real estate.

Real Estate Development Dispute: Representation of developer in dispute with contractor regarding the development of a commercial real estate project.

Homeowners' Dispute: Representation of high net worth individual in a homeowners' dispute lawsuit stemming from alleged failures to obtain approvals from the homeowners' association and the architectural design committee pertaining to improvements made to a multi-million dollar ocean front residence.

Contract Collection Suit: Representation of a national office furniture company in contractual collection lawsuits stemming from corporate purchasers' failures to pay for goods and services.

Private Equity / Fraud: Representation of private equity firm in lawsuit initiated by members of management of a portfolio company stemming from alleged fraudulent acts pertaining to the portfolio company's financing arrangements.

Private Equity / Lender: Representation of private equity firm in dispute with the mezzanine lender of one of its portfolio companies.

Contract Collection Trial: Representation of premium finance company through non-jury trial in a payment dispute with a corporate borrower.

Bad Faith Jury Trial: Representation of insurance carrier through jury trial in bad faith claim arising from an automobile insurance policy alleging that carrier failed to properly and promptly investigate the claim and failed to settle with claimant within the time period in which the claimant was willing to accept settlement.

Bad Faith: Representation of insurance carrier in products liability bad faith claims alleging that carrier improperly exhausted \$2 million policy limits in settlement of paraplegic claim for a release of an additional insured but without a release for the named insured. *Shin Crest v. AIU Insurance Company*.

Bad Faith: Representation of insurance carrier in bad faith claim arising from a commercial automobile insurance policy alleging that carrier improperly settled a claim for one insured to the exclusion of another insured.

Published Work and Lectures

- Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) South Florida's 11th Annual CLE Conference, Speaker, "Roaring Into the 20s: The Next Decade In-House," April 30, 2021

Affiliations

- Dade County Bar Association, Member
- The Florida Bar, Member

Honors and Distinctions

- *South Florida Legal Guide* Top Up and Comers 2018-2019, 2021, Listed for Corporate and Business Litigation
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine 2016, Listed in Florida as a "Rising Star" for Business Litigation
- *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite 2016, Listed as an "Up and Comer" for Commercial Litigation