

People



James J. Porter

Partner, Real Estate
Florida Land Use and Entitlements

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Jim Porter is board certified by the Florida Bar as an expert in City, County, and Local Government Law. He concentrates his practice on land use and zoning, as well as government relations, and also has experience with the wireless communications industry, including cellular tower zoning issues. Jim is also the current School Board Attorney for the Hillsborough County School Board, the 8th largest school district in the nation.

Jim formerly served as the Chief Assistant County Attorney for the Hillsborough County Attorney's Office where he handled all aspects of land use for Hillsborough County including rezonings, comprehensive plan amendments, DRIs, development agreements, transportation issues (as the attorney for the MPO), amendments to the Land Development Code, and impact fees.

Affiliations

- Hillsborough County Bar Association, Land Use and Environmental Law Section, Past Chair
- Arts Council of Hillsborough, Past Chair
- Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, Board Member
- Leadership Tampa, Alumni, Chair of Class 2015, Cabinet Member, 2016-2017
- International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)

Honors and Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers*, 2020-2025, Listed in Florida for Real Estate Law, Land Use and Zoning Law
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine, 2008-2020, Listed in Florida for Land Use and Zoning

Areas of Experience

Florida Land Use and Entitlements
Real Estate
Land Use and Development
Local Government Advocacy
Government Strategies

Education

J.D., Emory University School of Law, 1989
B.A., Bethany College, 1986

Admissions

Bars

Florida

Related Content

Akerman Secures Writ of Mandamus in Fight Between Florida County Commissioners and School Board
August 15, 2024

Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney Dennis A. Kerbel Joins Akerman as Florida Land Use and Entitlements Practice Chair
May 02, 2024

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