

Denise Wheeler Wright

901 Robalo Drive
Fort Myers, Florida 33919
(239)209-6088
denise@wrightmediation.com

Summary

Full time mediator and Board-Certified attorney with over 25 years of experience representing parties in commercial disputes.

Education

Stetson University College of Law, J.D. summa cum laude, 1994

University of South Florida, B.A. Accounting, with honors, 1991

Experience

Wright Mediation, Inc.—Fort Myers, Florida January 2019—current
Owner and founder of mediation practice mediating all types of civil disputes and conducting workplace investigations

Ford Harrison—Fort Myers, Florida June 2016---January 2019
Shareholder in a national labor and employment firm primarily representing employers in disputes with employees, compliance issues and drafting contractors, policies and other documents.

Roetzel & Andress—Fort Myers, Florida August 2011—June 2016
Shareholder in general business firm with offices in Florida and Ohio primarily representing parties in commercial litigation with a focus on employment law.

Fowler White—Fort Myers, Florida June 2005-August 2011
Managing shareholder of the Fort Myers office in firm with offices throughout Florida responsible for the management and growth of an office with 18 attorneys and a staff of 11 while also representing parties in commercial litigation with a focus on employment law.

MacFarlane Ferguson & McMullen—Tampa, Florida December 1992-June 2005
Began as a law clerk while attending law school, became an associate upon graduation from law school in 1994 and became a shareholder in 2001. Represented parties in commercial litigation with a focus on employment law.

Admissions

Florida Bar
US District Court for the Middle District of Florida
US District Court for the Northern District of Florida
US District Court for the Southern District of Florida
US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
US Supreme Court

Memberships

Lee County Association for Women Lawyers, Vice President (2005-2006) President (2006-2008) Mentor Director (2019-2020)

Lee County Bar Association

Federal Bar Association

Academy of Florida Management Attorneys

U.S. District Court, Middle District, Grievance Committee

American Bar Association, Employment Law Section

Voices for Kids of Southwest Florida, Board of Directors (2009-present)

Horizon Council, Member-at-Large (2007-2009)

Ave Maria School of Law, Member, Leadership Council (2008)

United Way of Lee, Hendry and Glades County, Board of Directors (2010-2012)

Players Circle Board of Directors (2019)

Honors and Certifications

AV® Preeminent Peer Review rated from *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*

Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law by The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization

Certified by Florida Supreme Court as Circuit Civil Certified Mediator 2014

Selected as one of the "Nations Most Powerful Employment Attorneys 40 Up-and-Comers" by *Human Resource Executive Magazine* and *Lawdragon* (2013 - 2019)

Named to the "Florida Legal Elite" by *Florida Trend Magazine* which represents approximately 2% of active Florida Bar members practicing in Florida (2006 & 2009)

Selected as a "Florida Super Lawyer" (2006-2019)

Selected as one of the "Top 50 Female Lawyers in Florida" by *Law & Politics* magazine (2007, 2010-2012)

Named in *Gulf Coast Business Review* "40 Under 40" (2006)

Named to *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Employment Law - Management (2010 & 2011); Civil Rights Law (2012-2017); and Commercial Litigation (2013-2019)

Publications and Presentations

September 5, 2019—"The Gender Agenda: Where are the Female Mediators?"—Joint LCBA and LCAWL CLE presentation

June 2019—"How to Prepare for Mediation" article in the LCBA Res Gestate and Florida Academy of Professional Mediator's website

August 25, 2016 - "DOL Has Issued its Final Rule Revising White Collar Overtime Exemptions - Is Your Business Prepared?" Complimentary Breakfast Briefing - Fort Myers

2016 - "Hitting 'Refresh' on Social Media: An Update on Employer Approaches and Policies - Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers

2016 - "Off-Duty Misconduct in the Public Sector" - Florida Public Human Resources Association (FHPRA) Annual Conference, Naples, FL

March 19, 2015 - "The EEOC's 2015 Strategic Initiatives: How to Keep Your Company Out of the EEOC's Crosshairs" - Tampa, FL