

**THOMAS H. BATEMAN III**  
**Attorney at Law**  
**Florida Supreme Court Certified**  
**Appellate, Circuit and County Mediator; Qualified Arbitrator**

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**EDUCATION**

Juris Doctor, George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, VA (1981)

Bachelor of Science, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL (1977)

Associate of Science, Broward Community College, Ft. Lauderdale, FL (1974)

**EXPERIENCE**

2009 – Present      Attorney – Mediator – Arbitrator, Messer Caparello, P.A.

2001 – 2009:      Circuit Judge, Second Judicial Circuit of Florida;

2007 – Present      Florida Supreme Court Certified Appellate, Circuit and County Mediator;  
Qualified Arbitrator (Appellate Certification: 2011)

1990 – 2001:      Leon County Judge, Tallahassee, Florida

1987 – 1990:      General Counsel, Florida Department of Transportation

1985 – 1987:      Assistant Florida Attorney General: Emphasis  
on Civil Rights and Tort Litigation, and Appeals

1984 – 1985:      Assistant Florida Attorney General: Criminal Appeals

1982 – 1984:      Assistant Public Defender – Orlando, Florida,  
Criminal Defense Litigation

1981:              Certified Legal Intern, Commonwealth Attorney's Office,  
Arlington, Virginia

- 1978 – 1982: Bateman Contracting Corporation – Reston, VA.  
Road Construction and Site Development  
(Family Owned Business - During Law School)
- 1971 – 1978: Broward County Sheriff's Department – Fort Lauderdale, Florida:  
Lieutenant (1978); Sergeant (1974 – 78); Deputy Sheriff (1970 – 74)

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - MEMBERSHIP**

The Florida Bar

American Bar Association (ABA)

Tallahassee Bar Association (TBA)

Tallahassee Women Lawyers Association (TWL)

Florida Association of Women Lawyers (FAWL)

National Association of Distinguished Neutrals (NADN)

Florida Circuit–Civil Mediator Society, a Chapter of the NADN

## **LAW PROFESSION RELATED BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Assistant Public Defender, 9th Judicial Circuit of Florida Orange County (1982 – 1984)

Assistant Attorney General, Florida Department of Legal Affairs  
Criminal Appeals Division (1984 – 1985)  
Civil Trial Division (1985 – 1987)

General Counsel, Florida Department of Transportation (1987 – 1990)

County Judge, Leon County (1990 – 2001)

Circuit Judge, Second Judicial Circuit (2001 – 2009)

Mediator, Florida Supreme Court Certified Appellate, Circuit Civil and County Court  
Certification Number: 21641 CRA

Arbitrator, Qualified Pursuant to Florida Rules for Mediators and Arbitrators

## **FLORIDA STATE COURT EDUCATION RELATED EXPERIENCE**

### **Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies:**

**Associate Dean** (1994 – 2000)  
**Judicial Faculty:** (1993 – 2009)  
**Civil Dept. Co-Head:** (2009)

### **Florida Judicial College:**

**Judicial Faculty:** (1998 – 2009)

### **Florida Conference of Circuit Court Judges:**

**Member:** Education Committee  
Domestic Relations Department (Chairperson)  
Criminal Department (Chairperson)  
Judicial Education Faculty  
Most Recent - May 2009: “Important Ethical Issues for Senior Judges Serving as Mediators”

### **Florida Conference of County Court Judges:**

**Member:** Education Committee  
Professional Affairs Committee  
Traffic Committee  
Judicial Assistants Committee  
Article V Task Force Committee  
Judicial Education Faculty

### **Florida Supreme Court:**

**Member:** Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules and Policy Committee  
(2001 – 2015);  
Arbitration Subcommittee; Mortgage Foreclosure Subcommittee; Voluntary Trial Resolution Judge Legislation Subcommittee Chairperson (2006 – present); ADR in the Criminal Context Subcommittee; ADR Systems and Processes Subcommittee

Mediation Qualifications Review Board, Northern Division  
(1995 – 2009), Chairperson (1997 – 1998)

Criminal Court Steering Committee (2003 – 2010)

Jury Innovations Committee,  
Judicial Management Council; Subcommittee Chairperson (1999 – 2001)

Florida Local Court Rules Advisory Committee (1993 – 2009)

Task Force on the Management of Cases Involving Complex Litigation  
(2006 – 2009), Chairperson

Trial Court Performance and Accountability Committee Work  
Group on Court Appointed Counsel and Indigent Due Process  
(2004 – 2009)

Trial Court Performance and Accountability Committee Work  
Group on Post Conviction Relief (2005 – 2009)

Work Group on Standard Jury Panel Sizes  
(2004 – 2006), Chairperson

**Florida Legislature:**

**Member:** Article V, Indigent Services Advisory Board (2003 – 2005)  
(Legislatively board created to make recommendations to the Florida  
Legislature regarding qualifications, compensation and cost containment  
strategies for state-funded due process services.)

**The Florida Bar:**

**Committees:** Civil Procedure Rules Committee (2009-2015)  
Chairperson (2013 – 2014); Vice-Chairperson (2012 – 2013)  
Subcommittee Chairperson, Internal Operating Procedures  
Subcommittee Chairperson, Uniform Time Computation

Criminal Procedure Rules Committee  
(2003 – 2009); Chairperson (2004 – 2005; 2008 – 2009)

Judicial Administration Rules Committee

Professional Ethics Committee (Past Chair, Vice-Chair and Member)

Traffic Court Rules Committee (Past Chair, Vice-Chair and Member)

**Sections:** Administrative Law  
Alternative Dispute Resolution (Executive Council)  
Criminal Law  
Government Lawyers (Past Chair and a Founding Member)  
Trial Lawyers

**Other:** Second Judicial Circuit of Florida, Bench-Bar Committee (Past Chair)  
Second Judicial Circuit of Florida Grievance Committee

**DHSMV:** Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles DUI  
Programs Review Board (1997 – 2010); Chairperson (2001 – 2003)

## **JUDICIAL, ATTORNEY AND ADR FACULTY EXPERIENCE**

### **American Bar Association**

“Symposium on Dispute Resolution in the Courts: Foreclosure Mediation 2.0”  
(ABA Section of Dispute Resolution 14th Annual Spring Conference, Wash., D.C.,  
2012)

### **The Collins Center for Public Policy**

“Foreclosure Mediation Training;  
Managed Mediation: A Community Approach to the Home Foreclosure Crisis in Florida”  
(Ft. Lauderdale, FL March 2009; Pensacola, FL April 2009; Miami, FL May 2009)

### **Florida Supreme Court Dispute Resolution Center**

“Residential Foreclosure Mediation – A Tsunami Wave?”  
(Annual DRC Conference for Mediators & Arbitrators – 2008)  
“Important Ethical Issues for Senior Judges Serving as Mediators” (2007 and 2008);  
Video Taped for Online Long Distance Education Program (2009)

### **Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies**

“Attorney Fees” (1993 & 1994)  
“County Court Specialty Course: Sentencing and Restitution” (1995)  
“Effective Case Management” (1996)  
“County Court Specialty Course: Civil Matters” (1997)  
“Juror Justice: Enhancing Jury Trials Through Innovation” (2005)  
“Handling Capital Cases” (2006)  
“Civil Fundamentals” (2006 & 2007)  
“Managing Complex Case Litigation” (2008) (Canceled Due to Budget Restrictions;  
Rescheduled to June 2009)  
“Foreclosures and Residential Mortgages,” (2009)  
“Mortgage Foreclosures 101” (Online Webinar Sept. 2009 – 150 judges statewide)

### **Florida Judicial College**

“Trial Skills Workshop,” (1998 – 2007)  
“Evidence,” (2007, 2008 and 2009)  
“Evidence for Magistrates and Hearing Officers,” (2008)  
Blue Ribbon Committee Review of Florida Courts Judicial College Curriculum (2003)  
Blue Ribbon Committee to Evaluate Florida Courts Traffic Adjudication Program (2010)

### **Florida Conference of Circuit Court Judges**

- “Mediation for Judges: How Far Can You Go?” (2002)
- “Hot Topics in Criminal Law” (2006)
- “Important Ethical Issues for Senior Judges Serving as Mediators” (Dec. 2006 and June 2007; DVD Video Course - 2009)
- “Dealing with Difficult Defendants” (Dec. 2008)

### **Florida Conference of County Court Judges**

- “The Dependant Defendant – Handling Baker and Meyers Act Cases” (1992)
- “Ethics and the Unlicensed Practice of Law in County Court” (1993)
- “Ethics and Professionalism” (2006)
- “Jury Issues” (2006)

### **The Florida Bar**

- “Masters of Ethics” (Panel Moderator) (1996)
- “Masters of DUI” (Faculty) (1998)
- “Criminal Law Update” (Faculty) (2005)
- “Constitutional Issues – A Panel Discussion” (2007)

### **Florida State University School of Law**

- Moot Court Competition Practice Judge (1995 – 2008)

### **Florida Department of Law Enforcement**

- “Professionalism and Ethics” (1994)

### **Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association**

- “Ethics and Professionalism Seminar – ‘A View from the Bench’” (2005 – 2007)

### **Florida Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy,**

- Presiding Judge, Mock Trial and Testimony Training Exercises

### **Pat Thomas Law Regional Enforcement Academy**

- “DUI Cases - Testifying in Court”

### **Florida Defense Lawyers Association, FDLA/FSU Trial Academy**

- “The Triangle Relationship: Defense Attorneys in the Middle”

### **State of Georgia Jury Summit, Panel Member**

- “Jury of Your Peers”
- “Who are Non-Responders and What Should Courts Do?”
- “Innovative Trial Procedures”
- “How Courts Go About Implementing Jury System Innovations – Florida’s Experience”

## **Second Judicial Circuit of Florida**

“Professionalism,” Tallahassee Bar Association (2005 & 2007)

**Tallahassee Community College:** Adjunct Instructor, Legal Assisting Program

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

1991 “Davis Productivity Award,” Leon County Judges (Establishment of ADR Mediation Program in Small Claims Court in Leon County, FL)

1993 “Davis Productivity Award,” Leon County Judges (Expansion of ADR Mediation Program in Small Claims Court to 5 surrounding counties)

2004 “Iris Award,” Tallahassee Chapter  
National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)

2005 “Judge Edward R. Finch Law Day Speech Award” (2<sup>nd</sup> Place)  
"The American Jury: We the People in Action"  
American Bar Association National Speech Competition

2006 “Trial Judge of the Year”  
Tallahassee, Florida Chapter  
The American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

I have been recognized widely for my work on special projects on behalf of the Florida Supreme Court; the Florida Legislature; The Florida Bar; the Florida Conference of County Court Judges; the Florida Conference of Circuit Court Judges; and, the Florida Supreme Court Dispute Resolution Center for my commitment to the administration of justice in Florida’s courts and to the study and implementation of alternative forms of dispute resolution.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE & ORGANIZATIONS**

Pro Bono Legal Services, 1987 – 1990; 2009 – present

C.A.S.T. (Center for the Arts, School of Theater)  
Board of Directors, 1988 – 1991

Gulf Winds Track Club, 1983 – 1993

Rotary Club of Tallahassee, 1992 – 1997

St. Marks Trail Association, 1989 – 1994

Habitat for Humanity, 2000 – 2004

Tallahassee Parks and Recreation,  
Baseball and Soccer Coach, 1992 – 2001

Tom Brown Park Little Major League  
Head Coach and Board Secretary, 1995 - 1999

Tallahassee-Leon Babe Ruth Baseball League  
Board of Directors Sr. Vice President, 1999 – 2002

Tallahassee Tomahawks AAU Baseball Team  
Head Coach, 1999 – 2001

Maclay School, Tallahassee, FL  
Middle School Head Baseball Coach, 2000  
Junior Varsity Head Baseball Coach, 2001  
Boy's Soccer Boosters, Chairperson (2002 – 2005)

## **PERSONAL**

Born: December 15, 1950, Ft. Lauderdale, FL (3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Floridian)

Wife: Mary Ellen Stevens Bateman, Esq. (J.D., George Mason Univ. Law School 1980)  
Director: Ethics, Advertising, UPL and Special Projects, The Florida Bar

Children: Brynna (Giles), Kaly (Sullivan), Steven and Patrick