



Dennis D. Mele (Partner)

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Areas of Practice

- ENVIRONMENTAL
 - Regulatory
- GOVERNMENTAL
 - Administrative/Government Relations/Land Use
 - Government Contracts & Procurement
- LAND USE & ZONING

Education

- J.D., *summa cum laude*, University of Miami School of Law, 1988
- M.U.P., University of Michigan, 1979
- A.M., University of Michigan, 1978
- A.B., University of Michigan, 1976

Bar Admissions

- Florida

Memberships

- American Institute of Certified Planners
- American Planning Association

Mr. Mele concentrates his practice in zoning, environmental, land use and governmental law. Prior to joining Ruden, McClosky, Smith, Schuster & Russell, P.A., Mr. Mele was a land planner with the South Florida Regional Planning Council, Broward County and the City of Coconut Creek. He also served as City Manager of the City of Coconut Creek from 1984 to 1989.

Mr. Mele represents developers, property owners and local governments seeking development entitlements for their real estate projects. Mr. Mele has represented clients before federal, state, regional and local government agencies. Because of Mr. Mele's background as a certified planner and city manager, as well as his legal qualifications, he is able to advise clients in a wide range of environmental and land use permitting issues.

Mr. Mele has extensive experience in local governmental land development, construction and budgeting issues. He has also been involved in the annexation of large land areas into municipalities including the preparation of annexation agreements and special acts to protect property owners' rights. Mr. Mele has represented developers in obtaining approvals for developments of regional impact (DRI's), land use plan amendments and a variety of other development approvals. Mr. Mele's practice also includes local, regional, state and federal wetlands jurisdictional determinations and dredge and fill/environmental resource permitting. Mr. Mele works closely with real estate attorneys on land use and environmental issues affecting real estate transactions.

Mr. Mele lectures frequently on land use issues including environmental permitting, comprehensive planning and concurrency.

He is recognized in Best Lawyers In America for the past 10 years, Florida Super Lawyers, 2007 and 2008, and is AV® rated by Martindale Hubble.

News

- 23 RUDEN McCLOSKEY ATTORNEYS INCLUDED IN THE BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA 2009
- TWENTY-NINE RUDEN McCLOSKEY ATTORNEYS NAMED IN FLORIDA SUPER LAWYERS 2008