



James J. Porter (Partner)

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Mr. Porter is a Partner in the Firm's Land Use Practice Group. He is certified by The Florida Bar as an expert in City, County and Local Government Law and focuses his practice on land use, zoning and land use litigation.

Mr. Porter was Chief Assistant County Attorney of the Land Use Section for Hillsborough County, Florida, from 1997 to 2004, and an Assistant County Attorney with the Hillsborough County Attorney's Office from 1990-97. He has extensive experience working with hearing officers in quasi-judicial hearings and with the Board of County Commissioners and other elected officials on rezoning requests and other land use matters.

In his many years with the County Attorney's Office, Mr. Porter represented Hillsborough County in all aspects of land development including zoning comprehensive planning, community-based planning, developments of regional impact, development agreements, transportation, eminent domain, land use litigation, adult uses and billboards.

In addition, Mr. Porter has served on committees to streamline the zoning process in Hillsborough County and to improve coordination with the Environmental Protection Commission in the zoning process; created an instructional video on the zoning process; and worked with state legislators to establish a process for handling claims brought under the Florida Land Use and Environmental Dispute Resolution Act (Bert J. Harris). He is a frequent lecturer on land use law, and he addressed the Governor's Committee on Growth Management on the subject of quasi-judicial hearings and the utilization of hearing officers.

Mr. Porter has been recognized in Florida Super Lawyers, 2006-2008.

Speaking Engagements

- Advanced Zoning And Land Use In Florida Seminar
- Negotiating the Maze of Land Use Regulations in Florida

News

- TWENTY-NINE RUDEN McCLOSKEY ATTORNEYS NAMED IN FLORIDA SUPER LAWYERS 2008

Areas of Practice

- Government
Contracts &
Procurement
- LAND USE & ZONING

Education

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

Bar Admissions

- Florida

Memberships

- Hillsborough County Charter Review Board
- Hillsborough County Arts Council
- Hillsborough County Bar Association, past chair of Land Use and Environmental Law Section
- Leadership Tampa, class of 1999
- Leadership Hillsborough, class of 1995

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