

WHO WE ARE

DEMAHY LABRADOR DRAKE VICTOR PAYNE & CABEZA, established in 1984, is a civil litigation firm engaged primarily in trial practice for the insurance industry and self-insured companies. Our partners have well over 250 completed jury trials in addition to extensive appellate experience, resulting in landmark decisions in Florida.

The firm is "AV" rated by Martindale-Hubbell and collectively its partners have over 75 years of trial experience in all state and federal courts of Florida. Initially representing clients in South Florida, the firm now represents clients throughout the entire state of Florida. We also appear in all of Florida's appellate courts and the Federal Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

In an effort to best serve our clients, we have made a strong commitment to use the finest available technology to help us defend cases efficiently and cost-effectively. While we focus on attempting to resolve cases during the initial stages of litigation, when early resolution is not possible, we are equipped and prepared to proceed through trial where our attorneys have enjoyed considerable success.

We strongly believe that we serve our community as good citizens by striving at all times to exhibit the highest ethical and moral standards. Contributing to the advancement of our community is a fundamental part of our philosophy. Each member of our firm is encouraged to remain active in the numerous professional, civic, charitable and religious organizations that make Florida a better place to live, work and raise our families.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The firm maintains offices in the center of Coral Gables, Miami-Dade's international and financial hub and minutes from Miami International Airport and downtown Miami.



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LAWYERS
DEMAHY | LABRADOR
DRAKE | VICTOR
PAYNE | CABEZA



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MISSION STATEMENT

It is our mission to provide superior service to our clients at a reasonable cost by:

- Establishing strong personal relationships and consistently delivering services in a timely and efficient manner.
- Staffing all matters with the most qualified lawyers or staff personnel to handle the tasks at the most reasonable cost, and soliciting comments from our clients as to our performance.
- Informing our clients on a continuous basis of opportunities and precautionary measures resulting from changes in the law as these developments occur.
- Keeping our clients informed with timely and regular case status reporting and informal telephone conferences.
- Providing initial evaluations of new matters early in the litigation process so that our clients are fully informed of the nature of the suit from the beginning.
- Serving our community as good citizens by striving at all times to exhibit the highest ethical and moral standards.



AREAS OF PRACTICE

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

We consider ourselves a leading professional liability defense firm with over two decades of experience defending a wide array of professionals. Due to the complexities often involved in professional liability cases, we believe in early investigation and evaluation of claims, as well as the retention of necessary and appropriate experts to defend those claims.

- ACCOUNTANTS

We represent accounting firms and provide an aggressive liability defense.

- AGENTS & INSURANCE BROKERS

We have a recognized expertise in this area and experienced attorneys with broad exposure to the potential areas of liability.

- ATTORNEY MALPRACTICE

We represent lawyers in claims covering a broad spectrum from underlying litigation matters of all types to complex securities transactions, trusts and estates, and real-estate and commercial transactions.

- ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS

Claims brought against architects and engineers are considered among the most complex and time-consuming matters. We represent architects and engineers in all phases of litigation and arbitration matters.

- MEDICAL & DENTAL MALPRACTICE

We have built a reputation for successfully defending doctors, nurses, hospitals and other healthcare providers in all types of medical and dental negligence claims, including complex malpractice actions. We believe in early investigation and assessment of claims and obtaining the necessary and appropriate experts to best defend against the claims. We aggressively defend our clients and their insurers and will not waver on the courthouse steps.

CONSTRUCTION

We represent construction professionals including owners, developers, contractors, and construction managers in all phases of litigation and arbitration matters.

DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

D&O liability represents a unique and complex practice area, which requires special consideration and handling. We are acutely aware that these claims involve legal attacks against the most senior executives of a corporation.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

The firm represents employers throughout the State of Florida on worker's compensation matters. The firm stays current in changes to all statutory rules and regulations that govern this area of practice.



AREAS OF PRACTICE

GENERAL & PRODUCTS LIABILITY/CATASTROPHIC CLAIMS

We have an extensive practice and significant trial experience representing businesses, individuals and insureds in a wide array of personal injury actions. Our experience covers the spectrum from routine general liability claims to complex multi-party, multi-million dollar catastrophic injury claims. We defend claims involving all aspects of:

- Automobile/Trucking
- Premises Liability/Security-Related Claims
- Products Liability

ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITIES & NURSING HOME DEFENSE

We offer a wide variety of litigation defense services to healthcare facilities, medical professionals and their insurers, including the highly regulated and litigious area of ALF and nursing homes. This representation includes both litigation defense and proactive risk management with preventive liability counsel.

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

We offer representation for employers and insurers providing Employment Practices Liability coverage in all areas of employment law including federal EEOC and state FCHR administrative law forums, class action litigation, trials in federal and state courts, appeals in federal and state courts, labor union formation issues, labor contract negotiations, plant closures, FLSA compliance and defense, defense of Title VII and FCRA claims, ADA compliance defense, defense of public and private whistleblower claims, enforcement of non-compete and protection of trade secrets contracts, defense of breach of employment contract claims, and defense claims for deprivation of civil rights in employment in the public sector.

INSURANCE COVERAGE/PROPERTY & CASUALTY

We offer complete insurance defense, including declaratory coverage suits and insurance coverage analysis of issues involving coverage, denial of coverage and "bad faith." We provide opinion letters setting forth in-depth analysis of coverage issues. We have extensive experience with first-party and third-party insurance coverage issues arising from a broad array of insurance policies.

Our experience in this area dates back over twenty-five years and includes the defense of the largest property insurance carriers writing coverage in Florida as well as smaller carriers that emerged from the downfall of the property insurance market following Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Our attorneys have successfully advised and defended these carriers throughout all aspects of the claims process including trials.

APPELLATE

We handle appeals in every appellate court in Florida, including the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. We have been involved in hundreds of published and unpublished opinions in the Florida Supreme Court, the five District Courts of Appeal throughout Florida, and Federal Appellate Courts.

