



May 1, 2024

ANDREA ACKLEY SUAREZ

Chief Operating Officer
EARA Management, LLC

Q: When were you at Shumaker and what was your position/practice area?

A: I worked at Shumaker in the Sarasota office from September 2016 through April 2022. I was an associate in the Corporate, Tax and Transactions and Wealth Strategies Service Lines.

Q: What is your current position and company?

A: I am the Chief Operating Officer for EARA Management, LLC, a real estate and business management company.

Q: What do you enjoy most about your career?

A: I love the ins and outs of running a business. EARA Management, LLC is a family business, so I mostly love getting to work with my family.

Q: What is one thing you learned at Shumaker that has benefitted you ever since?

A: There are too many things to list! Other than the legal expertise that I gleaned from my previous position, I also learned how to work as a team efficiently and effectively and work with a diverse group of people. I learned how to manage time, not only for myself but for the team as a whole, maximizing efficiency by delegating tasks where optimal.

Q: What is your favorite memory of your time working at Shumaker?

A: It is hard to pinpoint one favorite memory. I loved learning from Cheryl Gordon and Ben Hanan, as well as working with my friend, David Heedy, who is now partner in Sarasota. Shumaker had various social events throughout the year, but I always liked our department lunches/dinners. Work wise, I always liked the end of a business acquisition or merger. Things always got really busy at the end of a business deal, and it was exciting to get the deal to the finish line. I also loved getting to know families by helping them with their estate planning.

Q: What is the best advice you can give a new attorney?

A: Ask questions. Don't be afraid to speak up.

Q: What news would you like to share about your personal or professional life?

A: I have to mention my son, who is 19 months old. He is the greatest joy. My husband and I are expecting our second son this August. When I am not at work or chasing my toddler, I also volunteer as the Treasurer and a Director of the Ackley Foundation, Inc. The Ackley Foundation is a 501c3 company that strives to have a transformative impact on individuals and families in need who have a drive to improve their lives in a sustainable way.