

### STEVE SCHEMBER

Retired

*"Successfully building a strong Litigation team and a Fidelity and Surety Law team, gave me the chance to meet and become friends with some of the best lawyers in the country."*



**Q: What is your current position and company?**

**A:** In my retirement, after practicing law for more than 20 years in the Tampa and Sarasota offices, my titles include husband, father, grandfather, band member, and board member, just to name a few.

**Q: What was your practice area at Shumaker?**

**A:** I was a senior litigation partner and head of the firm's Fidelity and Surety group for the majority of my time at Shumaker. I also practiced general commercial litigation and product liability defense and I was AV Preeminent™ rated by Martindale-Hubbell, a Florida Super Lawyer and Best Lawyers in America, Board Certified in Civil Trial and Business litigation, an American Arbitration Association (AAA) commercial and construction arbitrator, and Vice Chair of the American Bar Association (ABA) Fidelity and Security Division.

**Q: What do you enjoy most about your career?**

**A:** The most rewarding aspect of my career was building a strong Litigation team, which could successfully handle the most complex types of litigation. I also enjoyed building and maintaining a successful Fidelity and Surety law practice.

**Q: What is your favorite Shumaker memory?**

**A:** It is tough for me to pick a single memory about Shumaker. My partners in all of the firm's offices were some of the finest people I have had the privilege to meet. We also knew how to have fun together and some of us even formed a rock-n-roll band called the "Non Billable Hours," which played at our firm retreats.

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

**A:** I used to tell associates that if they tried to be a "totem pole" and do everything themselves, they would be much less successful than if they built a pyramid of lawyers that was much stronger and able to accomplish much more than the individual "totem pole."

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

**A:** I am on the Outback Bowl's Selection Committee and in November, I am finishing a four-year term on the Board of Directors of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy (CGA). Finally, I am a band member for the "Gents," a band formed when I was a CGA cadet that we have since revived.