

Shumaker Alumni



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.

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