

## Michele Leo Hintson

PARTNER, MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



With a practice spanning more than two decades, Michele primarily represents real estate developers, owners, contractors, sureties, manufacturers and distributors, and health care-related entities in complex commercial litigation. She is a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator. Her dispute resolution experience includes matters related to real estate and development, commercial construction, government contracts, and other disputes arising from contracts. Michele frequently assists clients outside of the courtroom by analyzing risk during contract negotiations or when a business conflict first arises.

Michele works closely with clients to handle matters such as:

- Non-disclosure claims arising from purchase agreement
- Performance and payment bond claims raised by owners, contractors, and subcontractors on behalf of sureties
- Claims to judgment in favor of sureties pursuant to terms of general agreement of indemnity against bond principal and individual indemnitors
- Intellectual property rights, distribution agreements, and trade secret misappropriation claims
- Non-compete litigation
- Hostile work environment sexual harassment and retaliation lawsuit defense

### SERVICE LINE

Litigation & Disputes  
Real Estate and Development

### INDUSTRY SECTOR

Financial Institutions &  
Insurance  
Hospitality, Leisure, & Sports  
Manufacturing  
Real Estate, Construction, &  
Development

Michele enjoys donating her time to various Tampa Bay organizations, the community where she grew up— including her involvement as a Board Member and Chair of the Pasco Economic Development Council and with the Junior League of Tampa, where she served as legal chair and Community Advisory Board chair. She also enjoys traveling, spending time on the water, and cheering at sporting events with her husband and two sons.

## BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Florida, 2002

United States Supreme Court, 2008

United States District Court, Middle District, Florida, 2003

United States Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit, 2003

## PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- Leadership Tampa, Class of 2019
- Pasco Economic Development Council Board of Directors (2017-Present)
  - Immediate Past Chair
  - Chair (2023-2024)
  - Growth Task Force, Vice-Chair (2015-2016)
- The Florida Bar
  - Judicial Nominating Procedures Committee, Past Member
  - Gender Equality Subcommittee of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Past Member
  - Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Past Member
  - Professional Ethics Committee, Member (2016-2019)
- Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "B," Member and Chair (2012-2015)
- Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Unlicensed Practice of Law Committee "A," Former Member and Chair (2006-2012)
- PACE Center for Girls Pasco, Board of Directors (2015-2017)
- Leadership Pasco, Class of 2013
- The Junior League of Tampa, Sustainer Member
  - Leadership Council
    - Chair, Community Advisory Board (2014-2015)
  - Board of Directors
    - Grants Committee Chair (2012-2013)
    - Legal Chair (2010-2011)
    - Public Affairs Chair (2009-2010)
- Stetson Lawyers Association Advisory Council, Former Member
- First Annual Stetson University College of Law Scholarship Gala, Former Co-Chair

## PRIMARY LOCATION

Tampa, FL

## EDUCATION

J.D., *cum laude*, Stetson University College of Law, 2002

B.A., University of Central Florida, 1995

- Clearwater Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division, Former Treasurer
- Humane Society of Pinellas County, Former Board Member
- Women's President Organization, Past Member

## HONORS

- *Best Lawyers in America*, 2021-2025
- Florida Super Lawyer by *Super Lawyers* magazine, 2020-2024
- Florida Legal Elite by *Florida Trend* magazine, 2015-2018
- Florida Rising Star by *Super Lawyers* magazine, 2009-2011, 2013-2015