



SPEAKERS' BIOS



Sharon Dixon, Esq. • Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

Sharon Quinn Dixon is a Shareholder in both the Tax Department and Labor & Employment Department and is Board Certified by The Florida Bar in tax law. She is also a Fellow of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel. Ms. Dixon counsels employers about compliance of their employee retirement and welfare benefit plans. She was ranked in Band One in Tax: Employee Benefits in Florida by Chambers USA, from 2005-2018 and was recognized by Florida Super Lawyers Magazine, from 2006-2018, The Best Lawyers in America, from 1993-2019 (Miami Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law Lawyer of the Year, 2012, 2016, 2019), and South Florida Legal Guide "Top Lawyers in South Florida," from 2008- 2018. She earned her L.L.M. in Taxation and her J.D., cum laude, from the University of Miami.



Christopher T. Perré, Esq. • Jackson Lewis P.C.

Christopher T. Perré is an Associate in the Miami, Florida, office of Jackson Lewis P.C. His practice focuses on representing employers in workplace law matters, including preventive advice and counseling.

Mr. Perré advises and represents employers in a broad range of employment law matters, including those involving discrimination and harassment, wage and hour, wrongful termination, and whistleblower and retaliation claims brought in state and federal courts, as well as in arbitration.

Mr. Perré received his J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, with specialized studies at Columbia Law School and the École de Droit de l'Institut d'Études Politiques ("Sciences Po Paris"). He was named a *Super Lawyers Rising Star* in 2018.



Elizabeth M. Rodriguez, Esq. • Ford Harrison LLP

Elizabeth M. Rodriguez manages the Miami office of Ford & Harrison LLP, a labor and employment boutique law firm. She is an accomplished trial lawyer, having represented clients across a broad range of industries in trials and arbitrations. While Elizabeth takes a bottom-line approach to resolving clients' issues, she goes to trial when necessary. She has defended over 500 cases to conclusion. She has handled more than 100 appeals in state and federal courts. She has even appeared in the United States Supreme Court. She is well-suited to defend class action and bet-the-company cases.

Elizabeth's experience includes the representation of employers in the entire spectrum of employment related litigation, appeals, and administrative proceedings, both individual and class-wide. She litigates employment matters in state and federal courts including claims of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, violations of wage and hour laws, and arising from restrictive covenant agreements including trade secret and non-compete provisions.

She provides cost-effective strategic advice, and counseling for companies in both English and Spanish. She tries to identify problems before they occur. She also conducts investigations and training. She has drafted handbooks, policies and agreements in both English and Spanish.

Elizabeth has been ranked as a top lawyer in *Best Lawyers of America*, *South Florida Legal Guide*, *Florida Trend Magazine*, and *Super Lawyers*. She is a Senior Fellow with the Litigation Counsel of America. She is active with the Phi Sigma Sigma Foundation, the University of Miami, and several professional and community groups.



Deirdre D. Nero, Esq. • NERO Immigration Law, P.L.

Deirdre D. Nero started her own Immigration & Nationality Law Practice, NERO Immigration Law, in 2009 after having practiced in two large law firms for several years. Deirdre previously served as the attorney in charge of the Individual and Small/Medium Company division at the Coral Gables, Florida office of a major international immigration law firm; and prior to that as an attorney in the International and Immigration and Nationality Law Groups for a domestic and international commercial law firm in Florida. She led that firm's immigration practice from 2006-2008.

Originally from New Jersey, Deirdre has lived in Florida for over 20 years. Deirdre earned a Bachelor's Degree from FSU, graduating Magna Cum Laude. Additionally, she attended the University of Miami School of Law, where she graduated with honors and passed the Florida Bar in 2003.

Deirdre's practice focuses on all types of business immigration including employment-based immigrant (permanent residency) and nonimmigrant (temporary) visa petitions, and related business immigration matters. She has extensive experience with PERM Labor certification applications, and also routinely handles family immigration matters and naturalizations. She frequently works with companies to ensure they are compliant with Immigration laws relating to Form I-9 and Immigration Related Discrimination.

Ms. Nero works closely with companies and individual clients to personally coordinate and execute all aspects of the client's Immigration strategy and represent them in front of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Department of State. She represents clients in all 50 States and from countries around the globe and takes pride in providing individualized service and maintaining a very high success rate. She is honored to hold an AV® Preeminent™ Rating, which shows that she is well-respected by her peers.

