

JENNIFER L. HUTCHINS

ASSOCIATE



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Miscellaneous Professional Liability
Automobile Liability
Premises & Retail Liability
General Liability
Architectural, Engineering & Construction
Defect Litigation
Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith
Litigation

CONTACT INFO

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ADMISSIONS

Florida
2019

U.S. District Court Middle District
of Florida
2020

EDUCATION

Stetson University College of Law
(J.D., 2018)

University of South Florida (B.A.,
2005)

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association

Florida Association for Women
Lawyers

Florida Bar, Young Lawyers
Division

George Edgecomb Bar
Association

Hillsborough County Bar
Association

Saint Petersburg Bar Association

OVERVIEW

Jennifer is an associate attorney in the firm's Professional Liability Department representing many large insurance carriers and their insureds. She handles all phases of the litigation process from pre-suit through trial and effectively represents clients in litigation involving automobile liability, premise liability, and other general liability matters.

As a seasoned corporate business administrator, Jennifer has over twelve years of strategic experience in directing and overseeing a regional healthcare practice. She also brings a diverse and robust skill set to meet the needs of every client as a former commercial and employment litigation attorney.

Jennifer is involved in legal pro-bono work with Guardian Ad Litem for the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Pinellas County, advocating for the best of interests of children. She also volunteers her time with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Office of General Counsel.

Jennifer is a graduate from the University of South Florida earning a B.A. in History. She received her *juris doctor* from Stetson University School of Law. Jennifer is admitted to practice in the state Florida.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Fourth District Court of Appeals finds that insureds failed to provide insurance carrier with “prompt notice” as a matter of law.

Tampa

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

September 1, 2024

On September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma allegedly caused damage to the roof of the homeowners' property, resulting in interior water intrusion issues. Legal Update for Florida Coverage & Property Litigation – September 2024 is prepared by Marshall Dennehey to provide information on recent legal d

Trial court abused its discretion by awarding counsel an hourly rate \$50 above requested rate without any justification for its decision and trial court erred by applying 2.0 contingency multiplier as it was not supported by record evidence.

Tampa

Property Litigation

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

August 1, 2024

The homeowners filed a complaint against their insurance carrier, SafePoint, following the denial of their January 2016 hurricane claim. Legal Update for Florida Coverage & Property Litigation – August 2024 is prepared by Marshall Dennehey to provide information on recent legal deve

Second District Court of Appeals finds the trial court erred in granting summary judgment in favor of insured where she and carrier's competing affidavits created a general issue of material fact which should have precluded summary judgment.

Tampa

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

Property Litigation

July 1, 2024

Ms. Lassiter alleged that in April 2020, her home sustained damage when wind and hail damaged her roof, causing leaks and resulting in interior water intrusion damage. Legal Update for Florida Coverage & Property Litigation – July 2024 is prepared by Marshall Dennehey to provide information on recent legal develo

Addition of a definition for the term “structural damage” to Section 627.706(2) does not alter an insured's burden of proof.

Tampa

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

Property Litigation

June 1, 2024

In April, the Second District Court of Appeal affirmed the lower court's ruling that a statutory change, which added a definition for the term “structural damage” to a particular statute governing insurance coverage for sinkhole losses (Florida St Legal Update for Florida Coverage & Property Litigation – June 2024 is prepared by Marshall Dennehey to provide information on recent legal develo

Florida Statute § 627.70152 applies to all insurance policies, regardless of the date of the policy's inception.

Tampa

Insurance Services – Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

May 1, 2024

In March, the Third District Court of Appeals affirmed dismissal of a complaint for its failure to comply with Florida Statute § 627.70152. Legal Update for Florida Coverage & Property Litigation – May 2024 is prepared by Marshall Dennehey to provide information on recent legal develop

PUBLISHED WORKS

“Decision Requiring Strict Compliance with § 627.7152 Provides Insurance Carriers with Another Tool to Combat Litigation of Assignment of Benefit Claims,” *Defense Digest*, Vol. 28, No. 12, December 2022

“Eleventh Circuit Says Insurer Had No Duty to Cover Property Not Listed in Policy’s Scheduled Properties,” *Defense Digest*, Vol. 27, No. 4, September 2021