

PEGGY SMITH BUSH

SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Automobile Liability
Premises & Retail Liability
Product Liability
General Liability
Trucking & Transportation Liability
Environmental & Toxic Tort Litigation
Public Entity & Civil Rights Litigation
Amusements, Sports & Recreation Liability

CONTACT INFO

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Orlando, FL 32801

ADMISSIONS

Florida

U.S. District Court Middle District
of Florida

U.S. District Court Northern District
of Florida

U.S. District Court Southern
District of Florida

U.S. Court of Appeals 11th Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

EDUCATION

Barry University School of Law
(J.D., cum laude, 2002)

University of North Alabama (B.S.,
1984)

OVERVIEW

Peggy is a shareholder in the Casualty Department. She is an experienced litigator, advocate and counselor. She joins the firm with has almost 18 years' experience defending corporations, large self-insureds, and public entities against claims of premises liability and product liability. Born and raised in North Alabama, Peggy is proud of her reputation for balancing strategic thinking and results-oriented litigation skills with professionalism and civility.

Peggy routinely defends claims involving premises liability, product liability, negligent security, food contamination and adulteration, amusement and theme park litigation, and general liability.

Peggy brings experience handling commercial matters (breach of contract, breach of warranty, contract review and interpretation, indemnification), code compliance and enforcement, defamation, environmental toxic tort, crisis management and damage control, false imprisonment, malicious prosecution, negligent hiring and retention, non-compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in premises and complex website claims. She also has over ten years experience in public entity defense, including: Florida's Public Records Act (Chapter 119, Florida Statutes); Florida's Sunshine Law (Chapter 286, Florida Statutes); sovereign immunity in tort actions, statutory damage limitations, attorney fee issues, statutes of limitations, protections and exclusions under Florida Statute §768.28; reviewing and advising on compliance with policies and procedures, enforcement of performance contracts; and working with risk management in investigation of claims, litigation and risk avoidance.

Peggy began her legal career at a well respected Orlando defense litigation firm where she earned valuable trial experience. In 2010 she became a founding shareholder of Southern Trial Counsel | PLC where she served as managing partner for several years. She worked her way through law school, including law clerk to in-house general counsel of an international restaurant company headquartered in Orlando. Rounding out her over 30-year career of working with and for businesses, she began in television, radio and then stock brokerage (carrying Series 7, Series 6, and Series 63 licenses). She holds Martindale-Hubbell's highest rating 5.0/5.0 Preeminent®, is a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator, and a Certified Claims and Litigation Management Professional.

Peggy has been married to her husband, Stephen, since 1985. Stephen is a software engineer and at the moment a stay at home parent to their 3-year old twins, Jack and Finnian. They live in Orlando with their calico cat, Harlie. Peggy treasures time with her children exploring their backyard and eating snacks out of dump trucks, and enjoys music, cooking, reading, and spending time with family and friends. She dedicates her professional volunteer activities to mentorship of younger professionals, and her personal free time is dedicated to activities which benefit children and animal welfare.

HONORS & AWARDS

AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell®

The Best Lawyers in America®,
Personal Injury Litigation -
Defendants
2023-2026

Florida Trend Legal Elite
NOTABLE Women Leaders in Law
2024

Barry University School of Law
Outstanding Achievement Alumni
Award, 2017

Florida Elite-Civil Trial by Florida
Trend Magazine
2013

Florida Super Lawyers Rising Star
2010-2012

Florida Supreme Court Certified
Circuit Court Mediator

Litigation Management Institute,
Graduate 2013 (CLMP)

University of North Alabama 2023
Alumni Award for Public Service

WTS International Executive
Signature Leadership Program

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

98 Marshall Dennehey Attorneys Recognized in the 2026 Editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America

August 20, 2025

Marshall Dennehey is proud to highlight the firm's 98 attorneys who have been recognized in the 2026 editions of The Best Lawyers in America® and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America. Less than 6% of all practicing lawyers in the U.S.

[Read More](#)

Marshall Dennehey Shareholders Recognized as Florida Trend Legal Elite NOTABLE Women Leaders in Law

Premises & Retail Liability

Product Liability

Workers' Compensation

December 2, 2024

Marshall Dennehey is pleased to announce that two of its Florida shareholders, Peggy Smith Bush and Heath

[Read More](#)

Marshall Dennehey Announces 2024 Shareholder Class And Special Counsel Promotions

December 19, 2023

Marshall Dennehey is pleased to announce that 10 attorneys have been elected shareholders of the firm effective January 1, 2024. Additionally, three attorneys have been promoted from associate to special counsel.

[Read More](#)

How to Get Your Business Relationships – and Yourself – Back on Track After a Year of Isolation

Orlando

General Liability

February 23, 2021

CLASSES/ SEMINAR TAUGHT

Mock Trial, Trial Run, Tabletop Role Playing – Guilty or Not Guilty?, Bus Industry Safety Council (BISC) Annual Summer Meeting, Orlando, FL, July 22, 2024

"Current Employment Law Issues in Trucking & Transportation Litigation," *AM Best Insurance Law Podcast*, June 4, 2024

Rules of the Trucking Industry: Staying on Track!, Transportation Lawyers Association (TLA) Annual Conference - Virtual, June 24th, 2021

PUBLISHED WORKS

"How to Get Your Business Relationships - And Yourself - Back on Track After a Year of Isolation," *Orlando Business Journal*, February 23, 2021

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs (AFWC), 1992-Present

American Bar Association

Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers - Awards Chair (2019-2020)

Florida Association for Women Lawyers

Florida Bar Association - Standing Committee on Mental Health & Wellness of Florida Lawyers, Senior Lawyers Committee (2017-2019), Animal Law Section

The George C. Young First Central Florida American Inns of Court - Master Level

GFWC du Midi Women's Club, 1992-Present

International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC) - In-House and Law Firm Management Committee; Product Liability Committee

National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms

Orange County Bar Association - In-House and General Counsel Committee, Professionalism Committee, Mentorship Program

Public Risk Management Association (PRIMA)

Transportation Lawyers Association (TLA) - Co-Chair of Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee; Executive Committee

WTS International, Central Florida

YEAR JOINED

2020