

## 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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Landmark Center One  
315 E. Robinson Street, Suite 550  
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 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.

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## HONORS & AWARDS

Florida Trend Legal Elite  
NOTABLE Women Leaders in Law  
2024

AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale-  
Hubbell®

Barry University School of Law  
Outstanding Achievement Alumni  
Award, 2017

The Best Lawyers in America®,  
Personal Injury Litigation -  
Defendants  
2023-2025

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

### 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 Heathe

[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

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## **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

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## **YEAR JOINED**

2020