

## SOPHIA E. D. PHILOR

ASSOCIATE

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### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Miscellaneous Professional  
Liability  
Commercial Litigation  
Employment Law  
Real Estate E&O Liability  
Architectural, Engineering &  
Construction Defect Litigation  
Insurance Agents & Brokers  
Liability

### CONTACT INFO

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**SEPhilor@mdwcg.com**

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2400 E. Commercial  
Boulevard  
Suite 1100  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

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### ADMISSIONS

Florida  
2021

U.S. District Court  
Southern District of  
Florida  
2025

U.S. District Court Middle  
District of Florida  
2025

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## OVERVIEW

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### EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern  
University Shepard Broad  
College of Law (J.D.,  
2021)

Nova Southeastern  
University (MBA, 2014)

Florida Atlantic University  
(B.A., 2013)

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### HONORS & AWARDS

Florida Super Lawyers,  
Rising Stars  
2024-2025

Palm Beach Illustrated,  
Top Lawyer  
2024

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### ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Florida Supreme Court  
Certified Mediator

Florida Supreme Court  
Qualified Arbitrator

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### LANGUAGES

English (fluent), French  
(fluent), and Haitian  
Creole (fluent)

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### YEAR JOINED

2024

Sophia is a member of the Professional Liability Department where she focuses her practice on representing businesses, directors and officers, design professionals, contractors and homeowners' associations in commercial, professional liability, construct defect, architectural, engineering, and employment disputes

Prior to joining Marshall Dennehey, Sophia practiced first-party property defense. In 2024, she was selected to the Super Lawyers© Rising Stars list for her exceptional work in civil litigation defense and was named a Top Lawyer by *Palm Beach Illustrated*.

Sophia received her *juris doctor* from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law. During law school, Sophia participated in several student organizations. She served as the Social Media and Marketing Director for the Black Law Student Association. She also gained valuable experience and knowledge as an intern with Legal-Aid Coast to Coast Family law division, where she provided legal information and guidance to Pro Se litigants and a law clerk at an Immigration firm. Further, Sophia also participated in legal clinics including the Dispute Resolution Clinic, where she co-mediated and arbitrated cases and eventually became a Florida Supreme Court County Mediator and a Qualified Arbitrator, as well as the Sharon and Mitchell W. Berger Entrepreneur Law Clinic, where she offered transactional representation and legal advice to entry level entrepreneurs, innovators and start-up businesses under the supervision of the clinic director.

Sophia currently lives in Broward and enjoys spending her spare time at the beach, with family, and working with her non-profit providing support to Haiti.

# THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

## **Appellate Court Applies Business Judgment Rule and Reverses Summary Judgment in Condominium Assessment Dispute**

**Fort Lauderdale**

**Non-Profit D&O**

**April 1, 2026**

An appeals court ruled that the trial court erred in judgement for condo owners in a dispute over association fees.

## **Court Affirms Strong Liability Protections for Rideshare Companies Under Florida Law**

**Fort Lauderdale**

**Miscellaneous Professional Liability**

**March 1, 2026**

Key Points: Florida law treats rideshare drivers as independent contractors when statutory conditions are met.

## **Florida 5th DCA Decides Proof of Available Insurance in the Marketplace Is Not Required for All Claims Against an Agent or Broker**

**Fort Lauderdale**

**Insurance Agents & Brokers Liability**

**January 12, 2026**

In its January 2, 2026, decision, the Fifth District Court of Appeal (DCA) remanded a case for a new trial on damages, where the jury's damage award for breach of fiduciary duty and negligent misrepresentation was based on an ins

## **Federal Court Dismisses Derivative Action Against HOA President for Lack of Jurisdiction**

**Fort Lauderdale**

**Non-Profit D&O**

**January 1, 2026**

Timothy Pagliara initially sued his homeowners' association for failing to

maintain property and fiscal mismanagement.

## **Eight Marshall Dennehey Attorneys Selected to the 2025 Florida Super Lawyers & Florida Rising Stars Lists**

June 26, 2025

Eight attorneys from the Florida offices of Marshall Dennehey have been selected to the 2025 edition of Florida Super Lawyers magazine.

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