# Jessie Leigh Harrell

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#### **EDUCATION**

# University of Florida - Levin College of Law

Juris Doctorate with honors, May 2001

## University of Florida

B.A. in Classical Studies with highest honors, May 1998

## **Activities and Honors**

- Law School
  - Order of the Coif
  - Class Rank: 7
  - ° Book Awards: Family Law, Criminal Procedure Police Practices, Intellectual Property, and Pro Se Clinic
  - O Journal of Law & Public Policy, Articles Senior
  - ° Legal Research & Writing and Appellate Advocacy Teaching Assistant
  - ° Trial Team, 2L-3L
    - ° Outstanding Graduate, Spring 2001
- Undergraduate Studies
  - ° Florida Academic Scholar, 1995-98
  - Outstanding Student Award, 1998
  - Anderson Scholar, 1996
  - Eta Sigma Phi (Classics Honor Society) Vice President

# PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

- Florida Bar Board Certified Appellate Specialist, 2013-present
- AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, 2013-present
- Appellate Practice Section of the Florida Bar, 2008-present
  - Executive Council, 2013-2016, 2018-present
  - ° Chair, CLE committee, 2012-2016
- First District Appellate Inn of Court, Master, 2014-present
- Chester Bedell Inn of Court
  - Barrister, 2010-2013
  - Associate, 2004-2005
- Jacksonville Bar Association, 2002-present
  - ° Chair, Appellate Practice Section, 2011-2013
- Florida Super Lawyer in Appellant Practice, 2015-21
  - Recognized as among the Top 50 Women Lawyers in Florida, 2017
  - "Rising Star" in Appellate Practice, 2009-2014
- Florida Justice Association, S. Victor Tipton Award (2017)
- Selected by the American Registry as among Florida's Outstanding Young Lawyers in Appellate Law, June 2011, 2012 and 2013, July 2014

- Top Lawyers Selected by Peer Recognition, Jacksonville Magazine, October 2014 and 2015, April 2019, August 2020
- Recognized as Legal Elite, Florida's Top Attorneys by Florida Trend, July 2019
- Recognized as Best Lawyers in America by Best Lawyers®, 2020
- Top-Rated Lawyer 2020, Avvo.com
- America's Most Honored Lawyers Top 1%, American Registry, 2020

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### The Harrell Firm

## January 2018 – present

Sole Proprietor

- Assist clients and counsel with trial support and appeals, with a focus on substantive legal issues and legal writing
- Practice areas include plaintiff's personal injury, commercial litigation, and family law

# Creed & Gowdy, P.A.

September 2008-January 2018

Appellate Attorney

- Handle complex appellate litigation, as well as trial support, in the state and federal courts
- Appellate practice areas include commercial litigation, personal injury, and family law

#### Foley & Lardner, LLP

August 2001 – August 2008

Commercial Litigation Associate

- Extensive experience defending national banking institutions, as well as defending warranty and Lemon Law proceedings
- First and second chair trial experience on behalf of Fortune 100 clients

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Narrowing Clooney: Keeping all Bad Actors in Your Case, The Journal #586, Nov./Dec. 2015

Applying the Collateral Source Rule to Your Next Trial: How Much Can you Board & When Will Damages be Reduced?, The Journal #559, March/April 2012

Graham v. Florida: A Juvenile's Hope for Redemption, Florida Defender, Vol. 23, No. 2, Summer 2010, co-authored with Bryan Gowdy

# COMMUNITY INVOLVMENT

- Pro bono assistance provided through the Appellate Practice Section of the Florida Bar and Catholic Legal Charities, 2018-present
- Girl Scouts of America Adult Member, 2012-2015
  - Brownie/Junior Troop 357 Leader, 2013-2015
  - ° Brownie Troop 1176 Co-leader, 2012-2013
- Voices of Children of the First Coast, Inc.
  - ° Board Member, 2006-2011

- ° Secretary, 2009-2010
- ° Chair, Jax Crop for Kids, 2007
- MDA Downtown Lock Up Participant, 2014

# JURISDICTIONS ADMITTED

Florida Supreme Court of the United States 11th Circuit Court of Appeals Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida