



Tenikka L. Jones

SHAREHOLDER

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Overview

Tenikka Jones has 15 years of experience in the banking and finance industry. She represents insurance companies and institutional lenders, including banks and nonbank lenders, in commercial real estate finance transactional matters. Tenikka handles acquisition, refinance, and construction loans, and she also has experience with commercial mortgage-backed securities and preferred equity transactions. Tenikka's transactional practice involves various asset classes, including office, retail, residential and commercial condominiums, multifamily apartments, hotels, ground leased parcels, and other projects. In addition, she handles leasing and other commercial real estate matters on behalf of lenders and servicers concerning commercial loans owned or serviced by them.

Tenikka provides strategic guidance and advice to her clients, ensures that the loan is properly negotiated and documented, and analyzes any title, zoning, and environmental issues involved in the commercial real estate deal. Tenikka offers clients a rare combination of skills. Although she is a commercial real estate transactional attorney, she is also a commercial litigator. Her litigation and appellate background gives her insight into the issues that could arise if litigation eventually becomes necessary, and she is able to use this insight to better negotiate, early on, terms that will protect her clients' interests in commercial real estate transactions. Tenikka works collaboratively with her lender clients to deliver exceptional customer service and to achieve a positive borrower experience from inception of the deal to loan closing and beyond.

As a litigator, Tenikka represents clients as lead counsel in state and federal court at all phases of the litigation, from inception through trial and in post-trial proceedings. Her clients typically include companies, financial institutions, lenders, and servicers. Although her litigation practice focuses on prosecuting claims on behalf of clients and defending clients in litigation cases, Tenikka is a problem-solver who prioritizes her clients' business objectives. She recognizes the importance of amicably resolving litigation using alternative dispute resolution procedures or by negotiating loan workouts and restructurings when these options

make strategic sense.

Tenikka handles a variety of litigation matters, including contract disputes, fraud, tort, breach of fiduciary duty, legal malpractice, and contested commercial and residential foreclosure proceedings (including those involving commercial mortgage-backed securities). She also defends clients against lender liability and consumer finance claims brought under various federal and state statutes, including the Truth in Lending Act, the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the Fair Credit Reporting Act, Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, and the Florida Consumer Collection Practices Act. In addition, Tenikka counsels clients regarding the regulatory obligations implemented by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and she represents clients in bankruptcy and creditors' rights litigation.

At the start of her career, Tenikka worked as a staff attorney for former Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara J. Pariente during her term as chief justice. She also interned for the late Florida Supreme Court Justice Leander J. Shaw Jr. She credits these early experiences with helping her develop the skills she now brings to her analysis and resolution of complex legal issues.

Tenikka is committed to giving back to her community and working to make a difference in the lives of others. She is particularly passionate about helping young people who face challenging circumstances and serves as an attorney ad litem in juvenile dependency court through the Put Something Back Pro Bono Project. In addition, Tenikka volunteers as a mentor through the Women of Tomorrow Mentor and Scholarship Program.

All Insights

05.20.2016	Foreclosure of Mortgage Securing Electronic Promissory Note Affirmed
12.23.2015	Federal Agencies File Action Against Bank for Discriminatory Redlining
09.28.2015	U.S. Supreme Court Allows Disparate-Impact Claims Under Fair Housing Act
08.07.2015	Supreme Court Allows Fair Housing Disparate-Impact Claims
06.26.2015	U.S. Supreme Court Decides Fair Housing Act Allows Disparate-Impact Claims
05.07.2015	CFPB Releases its Third Fair Lending Report to Congress
03.25.2015	New Regulations Likely to Yield New Theories

All News

12.07.2018 Carlton Fields Receives 2018 Lawyers for Children America Pro Bono Law Firm Award

Recognition

- Advocate of Pro Bono Commitment Award, Dade County Bar Association (2016)
- "40 Under 40 Black Leaders of Today and Tomorrow," *Legacy Miami Magazine* (2015)
- Florida Rising Stars, *Super Lawyers Magazine* (2013–2014)

Professional & Community Involvement

- American Bar Association
- The Florida Bar
- Dade County Bar Association
 - Member and Former Chair, Business Law Committee
 - Creditor's Counsel Panel Member and Presenter, "Getting and Effectively Trying the Foreclosure Case" (2013)
- Dade Legal Aid "Put Something Back" Pro Bono Project
 - Attorney Ad Litem
- Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association
 - Member, Former Treasurer and Secretary
- Leadership Miami, Class of 2009
- National Bar Association, Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter
 - Former Newsletter Committee Member and Contributing Writer
- Women of Tomorrow Mentor and Scholarship Program
 - Mentor

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of Miami School of Law (J.D., cum laude, 2004)
 - Editor, *Inter-American Law Review*
- Florida State University (B.S., cum laude, 2001)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Florida

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
- Florida State Courts

CLERKSHIPS

- Hon. Barbara J. Pariente, Florida Supreme Court

Background

- Associate, Adorno & Yoss LLP, Miami, FL
- Staff Attorney to the Honorable Barbara J. Pariente, Florida Supreme Court

Areas of Focus

PRACTICES

- Consumer Finance
- Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy
- Institutional Investment and Finance
- Labor & Employment
- Litigation and Trials
- Real Property Litigation

INDUSTRIES

- Banking, Commercial, and Consumer Finance
- Real Estate