



Michael S. Pasano

SHAREHOLDER

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CONNECT

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Overview

Michael Pasano focuses his practice primarily on complex criminal and civil litigation in both federal and state court, including the handling of appeals. Michael's areas of concentration include the defense of a wide variety of white collar matters, including fraud and money-laundering; forfeitures; tax issues; FDA, FTC and SEC cases; and antitrust and environmental issues. He has represented a wide array of professionals in the corporate arena, including attorneys, doctors, accountants, and executives.

Michael worked for seven years in the U.S. attorney's office in Washington, D.C., and the Southern District of Florida, where he was a member of the major crimes, public corruption, and fraud units, and where he served as chief of the Broward and West Palm Beach satellite offices. In March 1983, he became chief of the Miami Fraud Section and, in October of that year, was named chief of the U.S. attorney's Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach offices.

Michael is former chair of the ABA Criminal Justice Section and remains active in the ABA, which has published a book he authored on trial practice. He is a frequent lecturer and has received numerous awards and commendations for his legal work. One commenter remarked in *Chambers USA*, a leading guide to the legal profession, that "he is one of the best white-collar defense lawyers down here. He's just got great, great judgment and has seen everything — he has that experience and really represents his clients well."

All Insights

- 03.31.2020 Federal and State Officials Launch Joint Efforts to Investigate and Prosecute Fraud Related to the Coronavirus
- 04.14.2016 Trial Pros: Carlton Fields' Mike Pasano
- 09.14.2015 New Department of Justice Memo to Increase Prosecutions of White Collar Executives and Other Employees
- 03.11.2015 Witness Coaching: Blurred Lines

10.17.2013	Criminal Agreements in Antitrust Prosecutions: Through a Looking Glass
01.03.2012	Exemplar Motion in Limine
06.04.2010	Tax Evasion: Father-and-Son South Florida Businessmen Accused of Fraud, Filing False Tax Returns
04.24.2009	Former Puerto Rico Governor, Assistant Acquitted on All Charges in Corruption Trial
03.17.2009	Internal Investigations: Why Two Are Better Than One
03.16.2009	United States v. Val M. Northcutt, et. al. – An Antitrust Case Study
01.01.2008	Program Hypo
11.02.2007	Ethics and Professionalism in Plea Negotiations --The Specter of Ineffectiveness Claims
05.25.2007	Joint Defense Agreements: An Update on Loss Issues in Fraud Conspiracy Cases
03.01.2004	2003 - Bad Laws, Bad Guidelines, Bad Times Ahead
01.01.2003	Collateral Impeachment – What Do You Mean I Can't Do That?
01.01.2003	Fraud and White Collar Prosecutions - Where the Government is Pushing the Envelope
01.01.2003	Government Tapes and Government Stings: When the Process is Not Due
01.01.2003	Pushing the Guidelines Envelope
01.01.2003	The Ethics of Government Stings
01.01.2003	The Zen of Jury Selection
01.01.2002	ABA & Criminal Justice Issues in the New Millennium
01.01.2002	Downward Departure - Not an Oxymoron

01.01.2002	Zen and the Art of Cross Examination
06.01.2001	Developments in Environmental Criminal Law: It's Not Just Directors and Officers Who Are Facing Jail
01.01.2001	Substitute Asset and Nominee Forfeitures: Government White Lies
01.01.1999	War On Business - The Perils of Parallel Proceedings
01.01.1998	The Saga of the Bell Gardens Bicycle Club – Lessons and Nightmares
01.01.1996	The Bell Gardens Bicycle Club: How Forfeiture Works and Who Gets Hurt
01.01.1995	Plea Agreements and the Emperor's New Clothes
01.01.1994	Bail and the Foreign Client Cart Teams and Rule 16
01.01.1993	Publications Prior to 1994

All News

04.23.2020	Carlton Fields Ranks Among Best in Chambers USA 2020 Guide
05.03.2019	Carlton Fields Ranks Among Best in Chambers USA 2019 Guide
07.09.2018	Super Lawyers Honors 81 Carlton Fields Attorneys on 2018 Florida "Super Lawyers" and "Rising Stars"
05.04.2018	Carlton Fields Ranks Among Best in 2018 Chambers USA Guide
08.15.2017	78 Carlton Fields Attorneys Named "Best Lawyers in America"
06.23.2017	Florida Super Lawyers Ranks 92 Carlton Fields Attorneys as 2017 "Super Lawyers" and "Rising Stars"
01.02.2017	Carlton Fields Attorneys Named to the 2017 "South Florida Legal Guide"

Recognition

- AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- "Local Litigation Star" in Florida, Antitrust, Appellate, Commercial Litigation, and Products Liability, *Benchmark Litigation* (2012, 2013)

- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Criminal Defense: White-Collar (2003–2021)
- *Chambers USA* (2010–2018)
- Florida Legal Elite, *Florida Trend Magazine* (2005–2008)
- Top Lawyers, *South Florida Legal Guide* (2006–2010, 2014–2015)
- Florida Super Lawyers, *Super Lawyers Magazine* (2008–2020)
- Charles R. English Award, ABA Criminal Justice Section
- Key Partners Award, White Collar Crime, *South Florida Business Journal* (2009)

Professional & Community Involvement

- American Bar Association
 - Former Chair, Criminal Justice Section
 - Former Chair, Defense Function Committee
 - Former Chair, White Collar Crime Committee, Florida Regional Subcommittee
 - White Collar Crime Committee
 - Executive Committee
- American College of Trial Lawyers
- The Florida Bar
- Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Eleventh Circuit Lawyer Disciplinary Committee
- Eleventh Circuit Federal Public Defender Committee
- Southern District Criminal Justice Act Panel Committee

Speaking Engagements

- "Answering Your Civil and Criminal Offshore Disclosure Questions," ABA Webinar (February 24, 2015)
- "Top Ten Blunders to Avoid in Front of a Jury," ABA Section of Litigation Annual CLE Conference, Miami Beach, FL (April 13–16, 2011)
- "Sentencing Advocacy, Practice and Reform Institute," ABA Criminal Justice Section Fall Conference, Washington, D.C. (October 24, 2008)

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Yale Law School (J.D., 1976)
- Georgetown University (B.A., summa cum laude, 1973)

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Second

BAR ADMISSIONS

- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Missouri

Circuit

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
- Florida State Courts

Background

- Partner, Zuckerman Spaeder, LLP, Miami, FL
- U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Southern District of Florida

Areas of Focus

PRACTICES

- International
- Qui Tam/Whistleblower Defense
- White Collar Crime & Government Investigations