



# CIVIL RIGHTS AND TORTS

## LITIGATION DIVISION

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We have defended hundreds of cases on behalf of local governments in state and federal trial and appellate courts. Our defense of civil rights actions is unparalleled by virtue of our extensive representation of governments throughout Florida. Our experience extends to defending police departments and officers sued for alleged civil rights violations, including false arrest and excessive force. We also represent municipalities in claims of constitutional rights violations related to the exercise of local government zoning authority.

Because the law is constantly evolving through the development of precedents, it is critical to hire counsel who constantly keeps abreast of jurisprudential and legislative developments that can oftentimes change your potential legal obligations.

While we aggressively defend our clients in litigation and have a remarkable record of success in jury trials, we also understand that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. We ensure that employees have the requisite training to avoid engaging in conduct that gives rise to litigation and assist with development of appropriate procedures and policies, which goes a long way to avoiding unnecessary civil rights claims. Our seasoned litigators and other government attorneys are always ready to put you in the best possible position for a successful outcome.

## OUR INSIGHT

Following best practices for a particular industry or business reduces the risks of litigation. Therefore, make sure proper procedures and policies are in place and that employees are abiding by them. Once in litigation, develop a strategy for quickly assessing the merits of the claims and for concluding them as quickly as possible.