

CHAD S. FRIEDMAN

CHAIRMAN

CO-CHAIR OF MUNICIPAL COUNSEL PRACTICE GROUP

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Chad Friedman represents developers and governmental entities in land use, zoning and general government matters. He is also a leader in the field of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs.

Chad represents local governments in the drafting, adoption, and implementation of land development regulations, including green regulations. In addition, he represents local governments in comprehensive plan amendment and quasi-judicial hearings (variances, site plans, rezoning, and special exceptions). Chad has also successfully defended governmental entities, such as the Village of Key Biscayne and Town of Cutler Bay, in land use litigation.

On the private sector side, Chad helps developers and private property owners navigate the intricacies of the development review process. Over the years, he has assisted many private clients in securing the necessary development permits and other approvals required for the development of property.

Chad is a leader in the creation of PACE programs pursuant to Section 163.08 of the Florida Statutes. Chad helped to create the Green Corridor PACE District, a partnership of local governments that provides funding to property owners for energy efficient, renewable

PRACTICE AREAS

- Governmental Affairs and Procurement
- Municipal Counsel
- Public Sector Land Use and Zoning
- Special Counsel to Local Government
- Capital Improvement, Infrastructure Development & Project Management
- Utilities
- Affordable Housing
- Environmental
- Public/Private

energy, and wind resistant improvements to their property. To date, the program has funded over $500 million in improvements.

Chad serves as legal counsel to the Green Corridor PACE District and assists private entities in the creation of other PACE programs across the State of Florida.

Chad is a frequent author and speaker on the subject of growth management and local government law and is a former Co-Chair of the Dade County Bar Association's Environmental and Land Use Committee.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Dade County Bar Association, Co-Chair Environmental and Land Use Section
- Young Lawyers Section
- Jackson Health System General Obligations Bond Citizens' Advisory Committee

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Florida Trend, Notable Real Estate/Land Use Attorneys, 2025
- Daily Business Review Florida Legal Awards, Innovators category - RTWC2026 Focus Group, 2024
- *South Florida Legal Guide*, Top Lawyer, 2021 - present
- Best Lawyers in America, 2021-present
- Florida Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2009-2018
- Daily Business Review's Professional Excellence Awards, On the Rise, 2017
- Brickell Magazine, Top 20 Professionals Under Forty, 2016
- Attorneys' Title Insurance Fund, Excellence in Land Use Planning
- William F. Blews Pro Bono Service Award

- Presentations
- Press Mentions
- Publications

Presentations

- *Code Enforcement Webinar: Creating More Livable Communities with Form-Based Codes*, International Municipal Lawyers Association, August 17, 2023
- *Local Government Financing for Climate Change & Resilience,* Florida Climate Institute, February 5, 2021
- Moderator, *The Rising Tides in South Florida: Find Out What the Community is Doing to be Proactive, and How Will This Impact the Economy and Taxes,* South Florida Association for Financial Professionals, March 12, 2020
- *Water, Energy, and Climate Change,* CLE International, 2010
- *Form and Function Both Important to Zoning Codes,* Florida American Planning Conference, 2007

Partnership (P3) Transactions
- Private Sector Land Use and Zoning
- Road to The World Cup 2026 Focus Group
- Investigations & Audits of Governmental Agencies
- Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology

ADMISSIONS

Florida, 2004

EDUCATION

Stetson University College of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2004

University of Florida, BSBA, with honors, 2001

Press Mentions

- *Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + Bierman Takes on South Florida's Growing Legal Market with New Chair*, Daily Business Review, May 13, 2026
- *Key Biscayne's manager tried to rebrand gag policy to Village Council when faced with First Amendment lawsuit*, Key Biscayne Independent, March 27, 2026
- *Fight over tycoon's yacht could affect how Key Biscayne handles code enforcement cases*, Key Biscayne Independent, January 9, 2026
- *Village takes step toward compliance with new state recovery-home rules*, Islander News, November 28, 2025
- *Crackdown on swale hazards coming as Village plans homeowner education*, Islander News, November 26, 2025
- *Without discussion, Council sets path for more litigation with Independent over media policy and is silent on public records*, Key Biscayne Independent, November 20, 2025
- *Council Postpones Action on Media Gag Policy*, Key Biscayne Independent, October 15, 2025
- *Orange County joins in Lawsuit over Senate Bill 180's Legality*, The Apopka Chief, October 3, 2025
- *City of Alachua Joins 24 Other Municipalities and Counties in Lawsuit Challenging SB 180*, Alachua Chronicle, September 29, 2025
- *Council scrambles to extend e-bike ban before it expires*, Key Biscayne Independent, August 20, 2025
- *Miami-Dade County Advances Composting Ordinance for Environmental Protection and Local Agriculture*, Citizen Portal, September 8, 2025
- *What to expect during Key Biscayne's special Council meeting on the E-Bike Ban*, Islander Media Group, Inc., August 21, 2025
- *Key Biscayne's Williamson Endorses Immigration "Reserve Force"*, Key Biscayne Independent, April 5, 2025
- *Will Trump's Immigration Crackdown Come to Key Biscayne? Village Still Reviewing*, Key Biscayne Independent, March 26, 2025
- *Court appeal challenges Silver Sands Condo Project in Key Biscayne*, Key Biscayne Independent, March 10, 2025
- *Council discusses proposed FY 24-25 department budgets, makes cuts, lowers millage rate*, Islander News, September 18, 2024
- *Village's 2023 playground swing lawsuit appears headed for a settlement this week*, Islander News, August 27, 2024
- *Key Biscayne fails to get full e-bike ban on its busiest road.*, Key Biscayne Independent, June 27, 2024
- *Federal judge blocks Form 6, ruling the financial disclosure form for elected officials is an unconstitutional breach of the First Amendment*, Islander News, June 11, 2024
- *Village throwing two critical e-bike regulation issues to state Florida's Attorney General Moody*, Islander News, May 22, 2024
- *County gives Village authority to enforce laws on e-bikes and e-scooters on Crandon Boulevard, but more steps needed first*, Islander News, May 7, 2024
- *Golf Cart Rules Violator to Pay Stiffer Fines*, Islander News, April 26, 2024
- *Key Biscayne extends e-bike and scooter ban till June, but law's future is murky*, Key Biscayne Independent, April 10, 2024
- *Rep. Lopez vows to pass e-bike legislation and to name it in honor of Megan Andrews*, WLRN 91.3 FM, April 4, 2024
- *Key Biscayne's e-bike and e-scooters ban likely to be extended into summer*, Islander News, March 13, 2024
- *After woman dies in crash, effort to let Florida cities restrict e-bikes collapses*, Miami Herald, March 10, 2024
- *Village Manager reports to Council members progress being made to clarify the laws for 'micro-mobility devices'*, Islander News, February 21, 2024
- *Candlelight vigil honors crash victim after Key Biscayne council issues e-bike, scooter ban*, WPLG, February

16, 2024
- *Responding to the tragic death of a beloved resident, Village Council hears citizen outrage and bans e-bikes and related devices from the community*, Islander News, February 16, 2024
- *Ban scooters and e-bikes in Key Biscayne? Council moves toward vote*, Key Biscayne Independent, February 14, 2024
- *Plaintiffs lining up to join Key Biscayne lawsuit challenging Form 6 law*, Islander News, February 13, 2024
- *Village Council joins Form 6 financial disclosure lawsuit against the state*, Islander News, January 24, 2024
- Council to kick off the new year by addressing familiar topics, including golf cart regs and K-8 School stormwater drainage, Islander News, January 22, 2024
- *New state laws take effect Jan. 1, including financial disclosures by elected local officials*, Islander News, January 1, 2024
- *Council discussion over who will lead Village's youth soccer program leads to questions about transparency*, Islander News, December 19, 2023
- *Villages Golf Cart Ordinance Update*, Islander News, November 22, 2023
- *Who Dunnit? The Case of The Purloined Sign-In Sheet*, Key Biscayne Independent, October 5, 2023
- *"We're improving the aesthetics," Council approves driveway variance*, Islander News, July 26, 2023
- *Addressing persistent speculation, Village Council goes on record restricting density increases*, Islander News, June 8, 2023
- *Litigation Departments: Having a 'Lasting and Broader Impact' Is What Drives Lawyers at Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + Bierman*, Daily Business Review, May 25, 2023
- *Rasco: State housing bill threatens Key Biscayne's safety*, Key Biscayne Independent, March 15, 2023
- *Pinecrest referendum would put zoning, land use changes in the hands of voters*, Political Cortadito, March 2, 2023
- *Charter Revision Commission members explain reasoning on proposed amendments*, Islander News, October 6, 2022
- *Appeals court upholds $100 million resiliency bond*, Key Biscayne Independent, July 20, 2022
- *Funding Resilience*, Miami Herald, December 1, 2020
- *Bayfront redevelopment brightens Grove's tourism picture*, Miami Today, February 18, 2016
- *Insiders detail upward trend in Grove's residential market*, Miami Today, February 10, 2016
- *Custom Home Projects Face Obstacles From Historic Preservation*, South Florida Business Journal, September 11, 2015
- *Cutler Bay Wins Legal Battle to Build Publix in Town Center*, Miami Herald, September 8, 2015
- *Cutler Bay Shopping Center Outmaneuvered by Publix*, Daily Business Review, September 8, 2015
- *Future of Golf Courses Relies on Cities Shooting for 'PAR'*, Daily Business Review, September 12, 2014
- *Pinecrest Hires New Village Attorney*, Miami Herald, September 5, 2013
- *Program Will Help Homeowners Pay for Energy Efficiency*, Miami Herald, October 8, 2011

Publications

- Update on PACE: Litigation, Legislation, and New Initiatives, Smart Growth and Green Buildings Committee Newsletter, August 2013
- Update on PACE One Year Later: Litigation, Legislation, and New Initiatives, The Environmental and Land Use Law Section Reporter, December 2012
- Update on PACE One Year Later: Litigation, Legislation, and New Initiatives, The Environmental and Land Use Law Section Reporter, September 2011
- HB 7179 Keeps PACE with Green Initiatives, Florida Real Estate Journal, June 2010
- Senate Bill 360: The Impact of the 2007 Legislative Session on Local Government Growth Management, Part II, The Florida Bar Journal, Volume 81, Number 11, 2007
- Senate Bill 360: The Impact of the 2007 Legislative Session on Local Government Growth Management, Part I, The Florida Bar Journal, Volume 81, Number 10, 2007

- Senate Bill 360: Growth Management Reform Arrives and It is All About Infrastructure, The Florida Bar Journal, Volume 79, Number 9, 2005