



JOHN QUICK

PARTNER

CO-CHAIR OF EDUCATION PRACTICE GROUP

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John Quick is an innovative and creative thinker who is both a local government attorney and a litigator. In his role as city attorney for municipal clients, John handles land use and zoning matters, statutory and code interpretation issues, ethics concerns, taxation and budget matters, special assessments, police and fire issues, disability accommodations, public development and historic preservation.

John's trial practice experience includes contract disputes, business torts, real estate and construction litigation, bankruptcy and other creditor's rights issues, maritime and aviation litigation, banking and secured transactions, and employment-related litigation before federal and state courts, as well as mediation and arbitration. John's appellate practice includes cases before the Florida Supreme Court, Florida's District Courts of Appeal, and United States Circuit Courts of Appeals. John also handles international litigation, involving the laws of multiple foreign jurisdictions.

John's insights as a former in-house corporate counsel for Royal Caribbean Cruises inform his current work. At Royal Caribbean, he represented the company's subsidiary brands in matters involving bankruptcy and creditor's rights, shipboard and land-based

PRACTICE AREAS

- [Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement](#)
- [Police Legal Advisement](#)
- [Governmental Affairs and Procurement](#)
- [Municipal Counsel](#)
- [Public Sector Land Use and Zoning](#)
- [Accessibility and Accommodations](#)
- [Administrative Proceedings](#)
- [Appellate](#)
- [Civil Rights and Torts](#)
- [Complex Commercial](#)

employment and labor defense, premises liability defense, privacy law, intellectual property, and international law. John partnered with Royal Caribbean's revenue and accounting departments to implement strategies and programs to capture and manage potential lost revenue.

Civically, John is a passionate advocate for enhanced community relations and improvement of our society and holds leadership positions in numerous organizations dedicated to those issues. He is Chair of the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board, is President of the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, and served on the Miami-Dade County Commission's 2020 Census Task Force.

John served as the long-time Independent Counsel to the City of Miami Civilian Investigative Panel, which oversaw civilian complaints against police officers prior to a change in state law. As one of only a few attorneys in Florida to serve as a civilian oversight practitioner, John was recognized as a Certified Practitioner of Oversight by the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement. One of John's most significant litigation victories resulted in the Florida Supreme Court upholding the validity of civilian oversight of law enforcement in the face of a constitutional challenge. This unanimous decision freed local governments impacted by a previous adverse appellate decision to resume operation of civilian oversight agencies.

John is a Past President of the Friends of the Miami-Dade Public Library and in 2014 brought together community leaders to form the Coalition to Save Our Libraries. His efforts ultimately resulted in an increase of the annual library budget from \$30 million to \$54.4 million, putting an end to four years of budget reductions and marking a turnaround for the library system. Under John's leadership, the Coalition successfully increased the library's budget each year for a total increase of almost \$35 million, thus expanding the library's offerings.

John is a Past Chair of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Historical Society and served on the Board of Trustees for HistoryMiami. John was also previously appointed by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners to serve on its Parks & Recreations Citizens' Advisory Committee and was appointed by the Village of Palmetto Bay to serve on its Charter Revision Committee. John was also instrumental in the Town of Cutler Bay's incorporation.

John has been quoted in the Huffington Post, Associated Press, Miami Herald and Sun Sentinel. He has appeared on NPR, Bloomberg Radio, Sirius XM, WPLG and WLRN.

John has also undertaken pro bono representation of individuals in criminal, probate and family law matters.

- [Constitutional Challenges](#)
- [Labor and Employment Litigation](#)
- [Environmental and Regulatory Challenges](#)
- [Governmental Actions and Defense](#)
- [Real Estate, Land Use and Zoning Disputes](#)
- [Education Law](#)

ADMISSIONS

Florida, 2003

District of Columbia, 2004
(inactive)

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, 2004

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, 2004

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida, 2004

U.S. Court of Appeals, 1st Circuit, 2004

U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit, 2004

U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, 2004

U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit, 2003

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Miami-Dade County 2020 Census Task Force, 2019
- Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board, Chair, 2018-2023; First Vice Chair, 2017-2018; Board Member, 2016-present
- Friends of the Miami-Dade Public Library, President, 2012-2014; Vice President, 2011-2012, 2023-present; Board of Trustees, 2009-2018, 2021-present
- The Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, President, 2018-2021; Board of Trustees, 2017-2022
- Miami-Dade County Parks & Recreations Citizens' Advisory Committee, Member, 2015-2017
- Eleventh Judicial Circuit Historical Society, Chair, 2015-2016; Vice-Chair, 2014-2015; Secretary, 2014; Board of Trustees, 2011-2019
- Village of Palmetto Bay Charter Review Committee, Member, 2015-2016
- Miami-Dade County Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force for the Miami-Dade Public Library System, Member, 2013- 2014
- HistoryMiami, Secretary, 2011-2014, 2015-2016; Treasurer, 2014-2015; Board of Trustees, 2009-2016; Education Chair, 2010-2014; Audit Chair, 2014-2016
- Flagler Street Society, Chair, 2007-2009; Member, 2005-2009

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Recognized for his work as past president by the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, 2023
- Daily Business Review, Unsung Hero, 2022
- South Florida Business & Wealth 2021, Social Impact, 2021
- South Florida Legal Guide
 - Top Lawyer, 2019 - present
 - Top Up and Comer, 2015-2018
- Florida Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2009-2011, 2014-2017
- South Florida Business & Wealth, Up and Comer Finalist, 2016 & 2017
- South Florida Legal Guide, Top Lawyers, 2016
- Sun Sentinel Top Workplace Professionals, 2016
- South Florida Business Journal, 40 Under 40, 2015
- Miami-Dade County League of Cities, President's Community Service Award, 2014
- Daily Business Review, Rising Stars 40 Under 40, 2014
- Florida Library Association, Friends, Foundations & Boards Outstanding Member Award, 2014
- Florida Trend's Legal Elite, Up and Comer, 2007-2010

EDUCATION

Boston University School of Law, J.D., 2003

University of California at Los Angeles, B.A., 2000

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Practitioner of Oversight, National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement, 2018

CLERKSHIPS

Clerk, Honorable Stephen P. Nugent of the State of Rhode Island Superior Court

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Successfully defended multiple Bert J. Harris Act claims on behalf of municipalities.
- Successfully defended a Miami-Dade municipality in an alleged First Amendment violation.
- Successfully defended the development of a large mixed use project in South Miami-Dade anchored by one of the largest retailers in the state.
- Successfully enforced the ownership rights of a large, multi-building condominium association.
- Successfully defended multinational corporate manufacturer of breath-alcohol testing instruments used by Florida law enforcement against declaratory judgment action challenging corporation's ownership of intellectual property associated with the instruments.
- Successfully represented a large bank in a series of multimillion dollar commercial foreclosures of hotel properties throughout the United States.
- Successfully represented a large international shipping company in a \$5 million arbitration claim against a former shipping agent.
- Successfully defended dozens of municipalities throughout Florida against a challenge to the home venue privilege.
- Successfully prosecuted pension forfeiture matters against police and firefighters engaged in felonious behavior.
- Successfully enforced contractual mining rights against both corporate defendant and environmental regulators.
- Successfully asserted a constitutional challenge to a municipal ordinance precluding a private country club from fencing its property.
- Successfully opposed a competitive bid challenge concerning a municipality's stormwater system.
- Successfully defended a constitutional challenge to a municipal charter provision allowing for appointment of official to fill vacancy on elected body.
- Successfully challenged a statewide ballot question as unconstitutional, invalidated an unconstitutional statute, and upheld the constitutional powers granted to various government officials.

- [Press Mentions](#)
- [Presentations](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Reported Cases](#)

Press Mentions

- [Complaints Lodged Against Village Council Members, Charter Officers Have a Set Procedure](#), Keys Weekly, June 13, 2025

- [Islamorada Council Settles Lawsuit by Former Development Services Director](#), Keys Weekly, March 25, 2025
- [Islamorada Council Eyes Another Temporary Village Manager](#), Keys Weekly, February 7, 2025
- [Council Seat Remains Open After Deadlock](#), Keys News, February 5, 2025
- [Islamorada Council Fails to Fill Vacant Seat Following a Stalemate; a Lawsuit Could Not Be Filed](#), Keys Weekly, January 31, 2025
- [New Islamorada Council Convenes For Orientation Ahead Of First Meeting](#), Keys Weekly, November 15, 2024
- [Newly Expanded Voucher Program Boosts Private School Enrollment](#), South Florida Business Journal, November 3, 2023
- [Council discusses Yates replacement – sort of](#), Keys News, July 21, 2023
- [Interim Village Manager Search Underway In Islamorada](#), Keys Weekly, July 21, 2023
- [Civilian Investigative Panel holds meeting to address rough arrest of pregnant woman in Miami](#), WSVN 7News, March 15, 2022
- [Appellants Ran to the Courthouse Steps Too Quickly: South Florida Property Ruling Offers Warning](#), Daily Business Review, July 29, 2021
- [Officials reveal plan to keep Miami Beach under control during Memorial Day Weekend](#), Local 10 News, May 19, 2021
- [Miami Beach Restaurants Impacted by Spring Break Crowds](#), NBC6, April 4, 2021
- [Miami Beach officials say they're prepared for another weekend of large spring break crowds](#), CNN, March 26, 2021
- [Spring break safety during COVID-19](#), Channel 4 News, March 17, 2021
- [Discussing civilian oversight of law enforcement](#), Miami Cop Talk, March 17, 2021
- [For Our Future, Americans Must Come Together](#), SocialMiami, November 2, 2020
- [In Miami-Dade, I urge you to vote. Then when the polls close, be ready to move forward](#), Miami Herald, November 2, 2020
- [El discurso civil debe marcar el camino en el día de las elecciones y más allá](#), El Nuevo Herald, November 2, 2020
- [Community relations' board proposal doesn't include defunding the police](#), WPLG Local 10, June 21, 2020
- [Tensions rise over monuments to supporters of slavery](#), WPLG Local 10, June 11, 2020
- [Judge dismisses Bert Harris claim related to Walgreens proposal, entry block](#), The Islander News, January 3, 2018
- [Florida Supreme Court rules Miami civilian agency doesn't have power to subpoena police officer](#), Florida Record, July 2017
- [Globe-trotting attorneys offer new-era strategies for efficient business travel](#), ABA Journal, July 1, 2017
- [Court: No Subpoena Power for Miami Civilian Review Panel](#), Daily Business Review, June 28, 2017
- [John Quick Interviewed on NBC](#), NBC6, February 15, 2017
- [Subpoena Power of Miami Police Probe Panel Faces Challenge](#), Daily Business Review, February 7, 2017
- [Miami's Independent Police Oversight Board Fights for Its Right to Investigate Rogue Cops](#), Miami New Times, February 7, 2017
- [John Quick - Board Member at Miami-Dade Parks Foundation](#), South Florida Business Journal, January 17, 2017
- [Third District Preserves Citizen Oversight of Miami Police](#), Daily Business Review, March 22, 2016
- [Miami Dade: Budget for Parks and Public Spaces Increases by 20%](#), Miami Diario, September 21, 2015
- [Cutler Bay wins legal battle to build Publix in town center](#), Miami Herald, September 11, 2015
- [Cutler Bay Shopping Center Outmaneuvered by Publix](#), Daily Business Review, September 8, 2015
- [Publix wins legal battle over new store in Cutler Bay](#), South Florida Business Journal, September 3, 2015
- [Judge Grants Luxury Condo Owners Rights to Miami Club](#), Daily Business Review, August 14, 2015
- [Miami Private Island Developer Ordered To Keep Club Open](#), Law360, August 14, 2015
- [Miami-Dade voters to decide courthouse tax, FIU growth, park rules](#), Miami Herald, October 15, 2014
- [Save Miami-Dade Libraries Because an Educated Community is Priceless](#), Huffington Post, September 19,

2014

- [Giving Back: Hallmark of Rising Star Lawyers](#), Daily Business Review, September 17, 2014
- [John Quick interviewed by Danny Parra](#), The Danny Parra Experience WIOD, September 4, 2014
- [Almuerzo en honor de History Miami](#), el Nuevo Herald, August 2, 2014
- [Preliminary library tax rate must survive](#), Miami Herald, July 24, 2014
- [Miami-Dade commissioners raise property tax to pay for libraries](#), Library Journal, July 22, 2014
- [Libraries lack LeBron's pull as Miami arena deal precedes cuts](#), Bloomberg, July 18, 2014
- [Miami-Dade Commission raises taxes to help fund libraries](#), WLRN, July 18, 2014
- [John Quick interviewed on 880 AM radio, Grant Stern Show](#), Sun-Sentinel, July 17, 2014
- [Higher library tax in Miami-Dade "maintains the status quo](#), Miami Herald, July 16, 2014
- [Save our library](#), WSVN, July 15, 2014
- [John Quick interviewed by Grant Stern](#), 880 AM Bloomberg Radio, July 14, 2014
- [John Quick featured on The Maggie Linton Show](#), Sirius XM, July 10, 2014
- [Gimenez calls budget the "worst case" for Miami-Dade](#), Miami Herald, July 10, 2014
- [How will libraries fare in Gimenez's budget?](#) WLRN, July 8, 2014
- [How to Tell a World-Class City](#), Biscayne Times, July 2014
- [Programs and staffing are at great risk](#), The Miami Times, July 3, 2014
- [Opinion: The Latest Chapter](#), Miami Herald, June 30, 2014
- [John Quick interviewed for Topical Currents](#), WLRN, June 24, 2014
- [John Quick interviewed for Issues](#), WPBT2, June 30, 2014
- [Opinion: Fund Libraries](#), Miami Herald, June 7, 2014
- [Piden busqueda nacional del nuevo director de bibliotecas](#), Diarios los Americas, June 7, 2014
- [Opinion: Restore Miami-Dade's library budget to \\$64 million](#), Miami Herald, June 3, 2014
- [Issues: Libraries on an August Referendum?](#) WPBT2 Interview with Helen Ferré, April 18, 2014
- [Without more tax dollars, Miami-Dade library system would fire more than half its full-time staff](#), Miami Herald, April 10, 2014
- [Arts, library advocates push for higher taxes in Miami-Dade](#), Miami Herald, April 7, 2014
- [John Quick of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole Bierman & Popok Elected Secretary of the 11th Judicial Circuit Historical Society](#), CityBizList South Florida, January 21, 2014
- [John Quick Appointed to the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Taskforce](#), CityBizList South Florida, October 28, 2013
- [Miami-Dade Reduces Number of Libraries on Chopping Block to Four](#), Miami Herald, August 15, 2013
- [Miami-Dade Public Libraries: Hundreds Rally to Save Local Branches \(PHOTOS\)](#), Huffington Post, August 5, 2013
- [Library Closings in Miami-Dade Could Affect 250 Jobs](#), South Florida Business Journal, August 2, 2013
- [Trustee Spotlight: John J. Quick](#), HistoryMiami, August 1, 2013
- [Miami-Dade Libraries, Fire Stations to Bear Brunt of Proposed Budget Cuts](#), Miami Herald, July 18, 2013
- [Miami Dade Library to Close Nearly Half of its Branches](#), Library Journal, July 18, 2013
- [Miami-Dade Commissioners OK Flat Property-Tax Rate That Means Library, Fire Cuts](#), Miami Herald, July 16, 2013
- [Friends of Library Names President](#), Miami Today, November 29, 2012

Presentations

- [State Preemption of Local Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement](#), NACOLE, October 27, 2025
- [The Importance of Community Activism](#), John Due and Patricia Stephens Due Freedom Spirit conference, Atlanta, GA, May 5, 2022
- [Policing the Police](#), Guest Lecturer, Williams College, February 25, 2022
- [Road to Civilian Oversight in Miami-Dade County](#), 2021 Annual NACOLE Conference, Tucson, Arizona, December 14, 2021
- [How Do We Mobilize? Understanding Your Right to Protest](#), Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association, May

2021

- *Independent Civilian Oversight for Miami-Dade County*, ACLU of Florida Greater Miami Chapter, June 2020
- *The Role of Independent Counsel for Civilian Oversight*, 25th annual NACOLE conference, Detroit, Michigan, September 2019
- *In the Company of Women Awards Gala*, March 2019
- *Miami-Dade County Parks Department 90th Anniversary Presentation*, January 2019
- *ParkLife: Celebrating 90 Years of Miami-Dade Parks*, November 2018
- *Civilian Oversight in Florida*, 24th annual NACOLE conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 2018
- *50 Years, 50 Voices*, Legal Services of Greater Miami, October 2015

Publications

- *Why have we forgotten that children detained in Homestead are human beings?* Miami Herald, July 23, 2019
- *Controlling Pandora's Box: The Need for Patent Protection in Transgenic Research*, 15 U. Miami Bus. L. Rev. 303, 2007
- *Genetic Discrimination and the Need for Federal Legislation*, 8 J. BioLaw & Bus. 22, 2005
- *Intellectual Property: Plants Patentable Under the Utility Patent Statute, PVA, and PVPA*, 30 J.L. Med. & Ethics 317, 2002

Reported Cases

- *Jenner v. The School Bd. of Lee County, Fla.*, 2023 WL 11983958 (Fla. 20th Cir. Ct. July 14, 2023)
- *City of Tallahassee, Fla. v. Fla. Police Benevolent Assoc., Inc.*, 375 So. 3d 178 (Fla. 2023)
- *Rohtis v. School Dist. of Lee County, Fla.*, 2023 WL 4082126 (M.D. Fla. June 20, 2023)
- *Rohtis v. School Dist. of Lee County, Fla.*, 2022 WL 3028071 (M.D. Fla. Aug. 1, 2022)
- *Jenner v. School Board of Lee County*, 2022 WL 1747522 (M.D. Fla. May 31, 2022)
- *Rohtis v. School District of Lee County*, 2022 WL 523605 (M.D. Fla. Feb. 22, 2022)
- *CRSJ, Inc. v. Miami-Dade County*, 325 So. 3d 976 (Fla. 3d DCA 2021)
- *Morgan v. Miramar*, 2019 WL 3713695 (Fla. Div. Admin. Hrgs. June 26, 2019).
- *Homestead-Miami Speedway, LLC v. City of Homestead*, 241 So. 3d 280 (Fla. 1st DCA 2018).
- *Mullen v. Bal Harbour Village*, 241 So. 3d 949 (Fla. 3d DCA 2018).
- *D'Agastino v. City of Miami*, 220 So. 3d 410 (Fla. 2017).
- *Brock v. Ochs*, 2016 WL 661203 (Fla. 20th Cir. Ct. Feb. 18, 2016).
- *Preserve Grove Isle, LLC v. Grove Isle Yacht & Tennis Club, LLC*, 2015 WL 5769084 (Fla. 11th Cir. Ct. Aug. 13, 2015).
- *Key Biscayne Gateway Partners, LTD. v. Village of Key Biscayne*, 172 So. 3d 499 (Fla. 3d DCA 2015).
- *E.H. ex rel. Moore v. City of Miramar*, 111 F. Supp. 3d 1307 (S.D. Fla. 2015).
- *Cutino v. Untch*, 2015 WL 1855788 (S.D. Fla. April 22, 2015).
- *Cutino v. Untch*, 79 F. Supp. 3d 1305 (S.D. Fla. 2015).
- *Cutino v. Untch*, 303 F.R.D. 413 (S.D. Fla. 2014).
- *Fernandez v. Bal Harbour Village*, 49 F. Supp. 3d 1144, (S.D. Fla. 2014).
- *Ulloa v. CMI, Inc.*, 133 So. 3d 914 (Fla. 2013).
- *O'Boyle v. Bradshaw*, 952 F. Supp. 2d 1310 (S.D. Fla. 2013).
- *Apothecary Development Corp. v. City of Marco Island, Fla.*, 517 Fed. Appx. 890 (11th Cir. 2013).
- *Lobegeiger v. Celebrity Cruises Inc.*, 869 F. Supp. 2d 1356 (S.D. Fla. 2012).
- *Lobegeiger v. Celebrity Cruises Inc.*, 869 F. Supp. 2d 1350 (S.D. Fla. 2012).
- *Lasky v. Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.*, 850 F. Supp. 2d 1309 (S.D. Fla. 2012).
- *CMI, Inc. v. Ulloa*, 73 So. 3d 787 (Fla. 5th DCA 2011).
- *Lobegeiger v. Celebrity Cruises, Inc.*, 2011 WL 3703329 (S.D. Fla. Aug. 23, 2011).
- *Atwater v. City of Weston*, 64 So. 3d 701 (Fla. 1st DCA 2011).
- *Apothecary Dev. Corp. v. City of Marco Island, Fla.*, 2011 WL 1071448 (M.D. Fla. March 18, 2011).

- *Addison v. City of Tampa*, 33 So. 3d 742 (Fla. 2d DCA 2010).
- *City of Weston v. Crist*, 2010 WL 4956375 (Fla. 2d Cir. Ct. Aug. 26, 2010).
- *Flagler Retail Assoc., Ltd. v. Dep't of Cnty. Affairs*, 2010 WL 2948165 (Fla. Div. Admin. Hrgs. July 23, 2010).
- *Bloch-Mullen v. Bal Harbour Village*, 23 So. 3d 725 (Fla. 3d DCA 2009).
- *Companion v. City of Hollywood Police Officers' Ret. Sys.*, 1 So. 3d 1283 (Fla. 4th DCA 2009).
- *Simcox v. City of Hollywood Police Officers' Ret. Sys.*, 988 So. 2d 731 (Fla. 4th DCA 2008).
- *Hames v. City of Miami*, 281 Fed. Appx. 853 (11th Cir. 2008).
- *Hames v. City of Miami Firefighters' & Police Officers' Trust*, 980 So. 2d 1112 (Fla. 3d DCA 2008).
- *Swerdlow v. Dep't of Cnty. Affairs*, 2007 WL 2253612 (Fla. Div. Admin. Hrgs. August 6, 2007).
- *Hames v. City of Miami*, 479 F. Supp. 2d 1279 (S.D. Fla. 2007).
- *Mancini Enterprises, Inc. v. American Express Co.*, 236 F.R.D. 695 (S.D. Fla. 2006).
- *United States v. Norwegian Cruise Line, Ltd.*, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22585 (S.D. Fla. May 25, 2004).