

Mark R. Antonelli

Mark Antonelli, a partner, has been with the firm since 1985. Mr. Antonelli is the consummate defense lawyer, respected in the legal community for his toughness, fairness and ethics.

Mr. Antonelli regularly represents insureds and self-insured clients in all aspects of civil litigation matters with a primary emphasis in the personal injury and premises liability fields, and negligent security claims, as well as municipal liability, including police civil rights litigation. He regularly acts as statewide Florida litigation counsel for a number of corporate clients. He likewise was actively involved on the defense of Sabreliner as a result of the ValuJet crash and the resulting litigation.

Mr. Antonelli has tried more than 100 jury trials, handling cases through the appellate level, when required. His practice has also included non-jury trials, arbitration proceedings and hundreds of mediations. His arbitration practice includes the representation of insureds, self-insureds and corporate clients in voluntary and contractual arbitration proceedings, and proceedings before the American Arbitration Association, as well as serving as a defense appointed and agreed upon neutral arbitrator.

For more than 10 years, he worked closely with the risk management department of a food store chain in all aspects of the claim process. Close involvement included claims prevention techniques, pre-suit claims handling and coordinating, as well as trial and appellate practice. Together, they established an aggressive defense strategy of fighting questionable liability suits, even in cases involving plaintiffs with serious injuries. The strategy resulted in fewer questionable or marginal cases being pursued.

Mr. Antonelli is admitted to practice the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals- 11th Circuit, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and all Florida state courts.

He is also active in the community serving as a Board Member for the Florida Council, Boy Scouts of American and as a Board Member and a past Board chair for the Board of Managers for the South Dade YMCA.

Mr. Antonelli is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals- 11th Circuit, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and all Florida state courts.

He is a past President of the Florida Defense Lawyers Association, a past President of the Dade County Defense Bar Association, and a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel, the Federal Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Florida Bar, the Coral Gables Bar Association and the Defense Research Institute. Mr. Antonelli is AV Peer Review Rated by *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*.

Education

University of Miami, School of Law - (J.D., cum laude, 1982)

Biscayne College n/k/a St. Thomas University, (B.A., Accounting, Summa Cum Laude, 1979)

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