

Erica R. Cagan

Associate

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As an associate in the Casualty Department, Erica represents local and national clients in a variety of civil litigation matters. With a strong dedication to advocacy, Erica is focused on ensuring the interests of her clients are protected throughout the litigation process.

Prior to joining the firm, Erica worked as a Contracts and Compliance Specialist at a local non-profit where she oversaw procurement, drafted contracts, ensured regulatory compliance, and conducted risk assessments. She also served as a Special Deputy for Florida's Department of Economic Opportunity, conducting hearings and issuing rulings on Reemployment Assistance claims, which honed her litigation and dispute resolution skills.

Erica earned her *juris doctor* from Florida State University College of Law in 2018, following her undergraduate studies at the University of South Florida, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

In her free time, Erica enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, kayaking, and exploring nature. She is also an avid cook and artist, finding balance between her legal career and her creative pursuits.

Education

- Florida State University College of Law (J.D., 2018)
- University of South Florida (B.A., 2015)

Admissions

- Florida, 2024

Practices

- Construction Injury Litigation
- Premises & Retail Liability
- Automobile Liability
- General Liability

Published Works

- “Win for Employers: Florida Appellate Court Limits Negligence Claims,” *Defense Digest*, 2025-09-01, Vol. 31, No. 3
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Results

Summary Judgment Obtained in Florida Premises Liability Case

We won a motion for summary judgment in a premises liability case where the plaintiff lost control of her e-bike while riding over leaves in our client’s RV sales lot. The plaintiff claimed that the fall caused an aggravation of a prior shoulder injury, resulting in surgery, as well as chronic pain in her low back. We argued that the leaves were a naturally occurring element of a wooded lot and, even if they were hazardous, they were open and obvious. The plaintiff argued that she did not perceive the leaves as being hazardous; therefore, there was an issue of fact regarding whether her perception was reasonable. The plaintiff also argued, the fact that our client had a maintenance contract with a service to remove fallen leaves indicated that they were on notice of the leaves being hazardous. The court did not agree with this argument and found in favor of our client.

Thought Leadership

September 1, 2025

Win for Employers: Florida Appellate Court Limits Negligence Claims