

# Kristen A. Ballard Hobkirk

Associate

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Kristen is an associate in the Professional Liability Department where she focuses her practice on the defense of architects, engineers, owners, developers, general contractors, construction managers, subcontractors and design professionals. Prior to joining Marshall Dennehey as an associate, she previously served as a summer law clerk at our firm.

Kristen received her *juris doctor, magna cum laude*, with a concentration in advocacy from Stetson University College of Law. While at Stetson, Kristen was very active in university organizations and activities. She was a team member for both the Mock Trial Team and Dispute Resolution Board and won National Championships with both boards. She served as a teaching assistant for Evidence and Insurance Law and a research assistant to Professor Elizabeth Boals. She was also an associate for both *Stetson Law Review & Business Law Review* and was named Outstanding New Associate for *Stetson Law Review*. Further, Kristen was awarded the E. Harris Drew Memorial Award, Victor O. Whele Award in Trial Advocacy and inducted into the National Order of the Barristers. Outside of class, Kristen volunteered her time with the Bay Area Legal Services Family Forms Clinic & Pinellas County Teen Court.

In her spare time, Kristen enjoys going to yoga classes, spending time with her family, and attending concerts.

## Education

- Stetson University College of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2025)
- University of North Florida (B.A., *summa cum laude*, 2020)

## Admissions

- Florida, 2025
- U.S. District Court Middle District of Florida, 2026

## Practices

- Architectural, Engineering & Construction Defect Litigation

- U.S. District Court Southern District of Florida, 2026

## **Associations & Memberships**

- National Order of the Barristers (2025)
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## **Thought Leadership**

April 1, 2026

**Florida Appellate Court Holds Right to Arbitrate Did Not Apply Within Lien Transfer Bond**