

# Taylor A. Naughton

Shareholder

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As a member of the Professional Liability Department, Taylor represents and defends contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, developers and design professionals when claims are made against them. He routinely counsels clients in construction disputes, handling pre-suit investigations, multi-party claims, code violations, negligence and breach of contract claims. In addition to his construction defect defense practice, Taylor is experienced in representing automotive dealerships throughout Florida in general liability matters and business disputes.

After graduating from Jacksonville University, *cum laude*, with a bachelor's degree in Sports Administration, he earned his *juris doctor* from Florida Coastal School of Law, graduating *magna cum laude*. During law school, Taylor earned the CALI Book Award for the highest grade in Professional Responsibility, Professional Sports Law, Pretrial Litigation Drafting, Family Law, and Environmental and Toxic Torts.

Outside of the office, you will find Taylor on one of the many golf courses in and around Jacksonville or cheering on the Jaguars, Jumbo Shrimp and Oklahoma Sooners.

## Education

- Florida Coastal School of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2015)
- Jacksonville University (B.S., *cum laude*, 2011)

## Admissions

- Florida, 2015

## Honors & Awards

- Florida Super Lawyers, Rising Stars (2025)

## Practices

- Architectural, Engineering & Construction Defect Litigation
- Miscellaneous Professional Liability
- Real Estate E&O Liability

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## Results

### **Summary Judgment Obtained in a Vehicular Accident Case Involving Disputed Liability**

We received summary judgment in a vehicular accident case involving disputed liability. Mr. Thurman was the third vehicle in a three-car collision in which the first vehicle admitted fault and was ticketed. Following the accident, the plaintiffs claimed they were in a fourth vehicle and alleged that Mr. Thurman caused the crash. When the claim was denied—and on the eve of the implementation of tort reform—the plaintiffs filed individual lawsuits against Mr. Thurman alone. We subpoenaed the repair shop that serviced Mr. Thurman’s vehicle and obtained records confirming that there was no front-end damage. When the plaintiffs failed to respond to discovery, we prepared motions for summary judgment in both cases. In response, only one plaintiff submitted an affidavit, while Mr. Thurman provided his own affidavit denying the allegations. We argued the motions, demonstrating that the evidence showed the plaintiffs were not involved in the collision and that Mr. Thurman bore no fault. The court ruled in our favor in both cases. Before the orders could be entered, however, the plaintiffs filed notices of voluntary dismissal with prejudice. Before moving for summary judgment, we had served Proposals for Settlement on the plaintiffs and their counsel. After the dismissals, we filed a motion establishing entitlement to attorney’s fees, and the parties ultimately reached an agreement resolving all fees and costs in both cases.

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## Thought Leadership

April 14, 2023

### **Senate Bill Changes Statute of Limitations, Statute of Repose, and Amends Statutory Building Code Violation**

January 11, 2022

### **Proposed Changes to Florida’s Statutes of Limitations and Repose Would Greatly Impact Construction Defect Litigation**