

William D. Townsend

William D. Townsend practices in the areas of state and local taxation and multi-state taxation. He has represented clients in various states on issues in administrative and judicial actions relating to sales, corporate income, B & O and telecommunications taxes, as well as state taxation of intellectual property, electronic commerce taxation (E-commerce) and unclaimed property (escheat) issues. Additionally, he represents clients on legislative tax matters, including the taxation of computer services, corporate income tax issues and sales tax exemption matters.

Representative Experience

- Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod LLP
2005-2006
- Steel Hector & Davis LLP
2003-2005
- Holland & Knight LLP
1994-2003
- Huey Guilday Kuersteiner & Tucker
1989-1994
- Florida Department of Revenue
General Counsel, 1984-1989
- Florida Department of Revenue
Deputy General Counsel, 1980-1984
- Office of the Attorney General
Assistant Attorney General, 1977-1980

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association: Section on Taxation
- The Florida Bar: Chairman, Tax Section, 2004-2005; Former Chairman, State and Local Taxation Division; Long Range Planning Committee; Secretary, 1996-1997
- Georgetown University Law School State and Local Tax Seminar: Advisory Board Member; Co-Chair, National Multi State Tax Symposium
- National Association of State Bar Tax Section (NASBTS): Executive Council
- New York University College of Law State and Local Tax Seminar: Advisory Board Member

Community Involvement

- Tallahassee Little Theatre: Board Member, 2003-2006; Treasurer, 2006-present

Distinctions

AV Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell

The Best Lawyers in America, 2006-2012

Chambers USA, 2003-2011; listed as a leading Tax lawyer in Florida

Florida Legal Elite, *Florida Trend Magazine*, 2003-2009; ranked in the top 2% of practicing Florida Bar Members



Shareholder State and Local Tax Practice Group Leader

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Practice Areas

Business Transactions and Corporate Law
State and Local Tax
Taxation

Industries

Energy
Hospitality
Manufacturing
Technology and E-Commerce

Education

J.D., University of Florida Levin College of Law, 1971
B.A., Florida State University, 1969

Bar Admissions

Florida

Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

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Florida Super Lawyers, 2007-2011

The Legal 500, 2009-2011, listed as a Recommended Lawyer in Domestic Tax in Florida