

Felicia Kitzmiller



Associate

Tallahassee Office

fkitzmiller@stearnsweaver.com

Phone: 850-354-7617

PRACTICE AREAS

Environmental & Natural
Resources

Land Development/Land
Use/Zoning

Litigation - Land Use,
Environmental & Property Rights
Government & Administrative
Real Estate

OVERVIEW

Felicia Kitzmiller's practice focuses on all aspects of land development, and helping clients resolve multi-faceted issues through the administrative process, litigation, or legislation.

She works on issues involving wetland and imperiled species permitting and compliance, along with real property issues regarding title analysis, easements, sovereign submerged lands authorizations and more. Felicia has particular experience in a variety of issues associated with mining and mineral extraction.

Felicia believes the law should work for the people it governs and is a strategic and creative problem solver. Prior to pursuing her legal career, she was a newspaper journalist covering state and local government in Florida and South Carolina. That experience provides her unique insight to operations of governmental permitting and regulatory bodies.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Fults v. Wakulla County, Second Judicial Circuit, Case No. 2018 CA 96 – Awarded summary judgment on a Sunshine Law violation related to the plaintiff's property and proposed boat ramp.

Louis Del Favero Orchids, Inc. v. Fla. Dep't of Health, 290 So. 3d 165 (Fla. 1st DCA 2020) – Granted a motion to dismiss a challenge to multiple medical marijuana licenses from the Florida Department of Health, protecting the client's right to operate a medical marijuana treatment center.

Southwest Florida Water Management District v. Bar Harbor Land Holdings LLC, et. al., DOAH Case No. 21-001711-CI – Successfully negotiated settlement of claims of Environmental Resource Permit violations against a client related to a stormwater system in a residential housing development.

Wallace v. Siesta 41 Associates and DOT, DOT Case No. 21-001/DOAH Case No. 21-000576 – Won dismissal of challenge

to a driveway connection permit and associated traffic signal by demonstrating petitioner's lack of standing.

Benderson-Kendall Associates, LLC v. Department of Transportation, DOT No. 21-020 – Filed petition to protect state road access of client shopping center and negotiated mutually beneficial settlement with Department of Transportation eliminating the need for further litigation.

Columbia County v. Bayfield Mitigation LLC, Third Judicial Circuit, Case No. 19-438-CA – Assisted in pursuing a claim for breach of contract against operators of a mitigation bank after the bank's credits were suspended for lack of sufficient property interest, and assisted with negotiating settlement following the reinstatement of proper property interests and mitigation bank credits.

Assisted in the permitting of the North Florida Resiliency Connection, an electric transmission line through the seven counties and 176 miles of the Panhandle to create service redundancy by Gulf Power. Assistance included navigating the NEPA process and unique challenges related to National Forests and historic preservation evaluations, and local government negotiations regarding comprehensive plan and land development regulation compliance.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Tallahassee Women Lawyers (TWL), Board of Directors, 2018-Present
Secretary, 2023-Present

Judicial Reception Director, 2022-2023

Public Relations Director, 2020-2022

Meetings Coordinator, 2019-2020

The Florida Bar Environmental & Land Use Law Section (ELULS)
Executive Council, 2019-2023

Co-Editor of The Reporter, 2019-Present

Tallahassee Bar Association, 2018-Present
Young Lawyers Section, Board of Directors, 2018-2020

RECOGNITION

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, 2023-Present

American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition, National Semi-finalist, 2017

Florida Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2022- Present

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Publications: [Federal court strikes down Florida's CWA section 404 permit program](#)

American Bar Association | May 2024

Land Development News Update, Publications: [Federal Court Says “No” to A Stay: Florida’s CWA Section 404 Permitting Program Remains Wholly Vacated](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | April 2024

Land Development News Update, Publications: [Federal Court Strikes Down Florida’s Assumption of CWA Section 404 Permitting](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | February 2024

Publications: [Traffic Jams Are Not Enough: Administrative Standing in Permitting Challenges](#)

Tallahassee Women Lawyers Fall 2023 Newsletter | October 2023

Land Development News Update, Publications: [Two New Major Environmental Law Updates You Should Know About](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | September 2023

Publications: [Traffic Jams Are Not Enough: Administrative Standing in Permitting Challenges](#)

The Florida Bar | August 2023

Events: [What’s New in Environmental Resource Permitting](#)

37th Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School | | July 2023

Events: [Getting it Right with Mineral Rights](#)

Florida Bar CLE Committee and the Environmental and Land Use Law Section Webcast | | May 2023

Land Development News Update, Publications: [Florida Funds Agricultural Conservation Easements at Record Amounts](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | March 2023

Land Development News Update, Publications: [Five Important Environmental Topics You Should Know About](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | February 2023

Land Development News Update, Publications: [USFWS to Revise Critical Habitat Rules For Manatees](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | July 2022

Land Development News Update, Publications: [Bird, Bird, Bird - Bird Is The Word!](#)

Stearns Weaver Millers News Update | November 2021

Land Development News Update, Publications: [Development Demand Drives Opportunity for Conservation of Gopher Tortoise Sites](#)

Stearns Weaver Millers News Update | October 2021

Government Affairs News Update, Land Development News Update, Publications: [What’s Developing | Fall 2021](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | September 2021

Land Development News Update, Publications: [FWC Seeks Public Input on Beach-Nesting Birds Draft Guidelines](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | September 2021

NEWSROOM

In the Media: [Tallahassee Women Lawyers 2023 Fall Newsletter](#)

| October 2023

Firm Announcements: [Felicia Kitzmiller Honored with the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of the Florida Bar's Stephens/Register Award](#)

| July 2023

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Expands Tallahassee Office Space and Offered Services](#)

| February 2022

In the Media: [Fall 2021 TBA Member News](#)

Fall Edition of the Tallahassee Bar Association's Bar Bulletin | | October 2021

Firm Announcements: [Carl Eldred Joins Stearns Weaver Miller's Statewide Land Development, Zoning & Environmental Practice](#)

| September 2021

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Expands Statewide Land Development, Zoning & Environmental Practice with Five New Additions](#)

| September 2021

EDUCATION

J.D., *cum laude*, Stetson University College of Law, 2018

Social Justice Certificate

Journal of Advocacy and the Law, Associate editor

Moot Court Board

Order of the Barristers

B.A., *cum laude*, University of South Carolina, 2008

ADMISSIONS

Florida