

COUNSEL

David M. Costello

Fort Lauderdale  
401 East Las Olas Blvd.  
Suite 1200  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
Phone 954 356 0011

PROFILE

David, the former Chief Deputy Solicitor General for the State of Florida, helps clients navigate complex commercial and regulatory issues from trial through appeal. He has litigated in federal courts across the country and has a deep understanding of Florida’s state court system.

David has litigated high-profile matters at all levels, including the U.S. Supreme Court, the federal courts of appeal, every Florida federal district court, and Florida’s state trial and appellate courts. He has argued several times in the Florida Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and Florida’s District Courts of Appeal. He also serves as an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law, where he teaches Florida Appellate Advocacy.

Before joining the firm, David served as Chief Deputy Solicitor General in the Florida Attorney General’s Office. In that role, he supervised the State of Florida’s civil appellate docket, managed its key trial-court matters, directed its civil amicus practice, and served as managing attorney for some of the state’s most impactful litigations.

David began his career clerking for the Hon. Robert L. Hinkle of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida and for the Hon. Charles R. Wilson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He also worked at a large international law firm in Miami, where he focused on insurance-coverage matters.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Publications

PRACTICES

- Appellate
- Constitutional Law
- Government Litigation
- Media and First Amendment
- Class Actions
- Elections and Political Disputes
- Commercial Disputes

EDUCATION

- Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., *cum laude*
- University of Florida, B.A., *cum laude*

ADMISSIONS

- Bars
- Florida

AWARDS AND ASSOCIATIONS

- Hillsborough County Bar Association Appellate Practice Section, Past Co-Chair
- Stetson University College of Law, Adjunct Professor (Appellate Advocacy)

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

**Presentations**

Moderator, The Great Debate: Does the Prior-Panel-Precedent Rule Apply in Florida’s District Courts, Appellate Practice Section Event hosted by the Hillsborough County Bar Association (February 2025)

Panelist, Supreme Court Review and The State of Humphrey’s Executor, Florida Young Lawyers Summit hosted by The Federalist Society (July 2025)

Lecturer, Advanced Legal Writing Techniques, Young Lawyers Division Summit hosted by the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (Spring 2024)

**CLERKSHIPS**

×

Hon. Robert L. Hinkle, U.S. District Court: Northern District of Florida

Hon. Charles Wilson, U.S. Court of Appeals: Eleventh Circuit