

## Ezequiel Lugo

Shareholder

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Ezequiel Lugo is Board Certified by The Florida Bar as a Specialist in Appellate Practice. His practice focuses on appeals and litigation support in Florida state courts and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. He primarily handles appeals that involve insurance coverage disputes and casualty defense cases. Ezequiel has garnered an AV® Preeminent distinction, the highest available mark for professional excellence from Martindale-Hubbell's Peer Review Ratings.

### Representative Experience

- Banker Lopez Gassler P.A., Tampa, FL  
Shareholder, March 2017 to Present
- Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP, Tampa FL  
Senior Associate, 2013-2017  
Associate, 2009-2013
- Florida Second District Court of Appeal, Lakeland/Tampa FL  
Staff Attorney to the Honorable Douglas A. Wallace, 2007-2009

### Presentations and Publications

#### Presentations

- "A Former Law Clerk's Views on Appellate Practice." Presented at the Breakfast and CLE with the Second DCA of the Hillsborough County Bar Association, March 2011

#### Publications

- Ezequiel Lugo, No Magic Words Required: A Brief Guide to Preserving Error in Florida State Courts from Opening Statements to the Discharge of the Jury, 37 No. 3 TRIAL ADVOC. Q. 19 (Summer 2018)
- Anthony Russo & Ezequiel Lugo, Section [627.428 Attorneys' Fees & the Confession of Judgment Doctrine: What's a Court to](#)

### Practice Areas

Appellate, Law & Coverage  
Bad Faith Litigation  
Civil Litigation  
Insurance

### Education

J.D., *cum laude*, Stetson University College of Law, 2007 (Law Review, Moot Court Board, Suzanne Armstrong Memorial Award for Excellence in Legal Writing and for Professional Conduct, Moot Court Award of Excellence, National Order of Barristers)

A.B., *cum laude*, Harvard, Biology, 1999 (Faculty of Arts and Science Scholar)

### Bar Admissions

Florida

### Court Admissions

Florida State Courts  
U.S. Court of Appeals  
Eleventh Circuit

Consider After a Post-Suit Payment?, 35 TRIAL ADVOC. Q. 25 (Fall 2016)

- Ezequiel Lugo, Harmless Error Redefined, 25 HCBA LAWYER 22 (March - April 2015)
- Ezequiel Lugo, The End of Terms of Court, 24 HCBA LAWYER 19 (September - October 2013)
- Anthony Russo, Ezequiel Lugo & Jared Krukar, Certiorari Redefined: Would the "Functional Restatement" Function?, 42 STETSON L. REV. 403 (Winter 2013)
- Ezequiel Lugo, The Conflict PCA: When an Affirmance Without Opinion Conflicts with a Written Opinion, 85 FLA. B.J. 46 (April 2011)

#### **Professional Affiliations**

- The Florida Bar
- Hillsborough County Bar Association
- Florida Defense Lawyers Association

#### **Distinctions**

**AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated** by Martindale-Hubbell

**Board Certified** in Appellate Practice by The Florida Bar

**The Best Lawyers® in America**, 2019-2023

**Former Co-Chair of the Appellate Practice Section of the Hillsborough County Bar Association**, 2012-2014

**Former Adjunct Professor**, Stetson University College of Law