



KATHERINE E. COLE

Shareholder

600 Cleveland Street
Suite 800
Clearwater, Florida 33755
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PRACTICE FOCUS

Real Estate Acquisition & Development

Governmental Relations, Bid Protests and Procurement

Administrative/Regulatory

Healthcare Development & Construction

Land Use & Development Rights

Opportunity Zones

EDUCATION

University of Tennessee, B.S., 1995

Stetson University College of Law, J.D., 2007, *cum laude*

- Stetson Law Review: Managing Editor
- Stetson Moot Court Honor Board

BAR ADMISSIONS

American Bar Association

The Florida Bar

Hillsborough County Bar

Katie Cole's work can be seen in the skyline of Tampa Bay as she skillfully helps clients navigate all phases of land development and the approval process.

Katie currently serves on the firm's Management Committee. Her practice primarily involves representing property owners in the development of commercial projects and residential subdivisions in Pinellas and Pasco counties.

She works with clients beginning with the acquisition of the land, determining opportunities for development, refining processes for approvals, and seeing the project through the final approvals of entitlements to construction with the goal of helping her clients open for business with all the licenses and permits they need to do so.

Katie works closely with government staff members and elected officials throughout Pinellas County negotiating agreements, code amendments, and plans to allow her clients' projects reach the construction stage.

In 2017, Katie was appointed by Governor Rick Scott to the St. Petersburg College Board of Trustees and twice reappointed by Governor Ron DeSantis. She served for two years as chairperson of the Board.

Outside the office, you'll find Katie and her husband, Clint, cheering for their daughters at gymnastics competitions and volleyball tournaments across the state.

KATHERINE E. COLE

Association
Clearwater Bar Association

HONORS

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2021-2026)
 - 2026 St. Petersburg Land Use and Zoning Law Lawyer of the Year
- *TAMPA Magazine's* Top Lawyers (2023-2025)
 - Land Use & Zoning Law
- Florida Trend's Notable Women Leaders in Law (2023, 2025)
- Florida Trend's Legal Elite Notable Real Estate/Land Use Attorney (2025)

EXPERIENCE

Recent representative engagements include:

- Negotiation of and eventual approval of one of the first mixed use developments in 20 years in Madeira Beach, despite neighbor objections and lawsuit requiring more than seven public hearings
- Approval of a 42 unit residential infill subdivision in Tarpon Springs over significant neighbor objections while navigating the multi-layered regulatory scheme for land use and annexations in Pinellas County
- Approval of more than eight new Clearwater Beach projects with over 1800 hotel rooms
- Serves as legal counsel for property owners seeking to maximize use of industrial land despite current regulatory prohibitions

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

- St. Petersburg College
 - Board of Trustees (2017-present)
 - Vice-Chair (2018)
 - Chair (2019-2021)
- Morton Plant Mease Hospital: Board of Directors (2017-present)
- BayCare: Board of Directors (2020-present)
- UPARC's Omelette Party Committee (2009-present)
- City of Clearwater: Past Member, Business Task Force; Charter Review Committee
- Amplify Clearwater (formerly known as Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce)

KATHERINE E. COLE

- Chair (2018)
- Executive Committee (2015-2019)
- Pinellas County: Member, Development Customer Advisory Group (DCAG); Past Member, Charter Review Committee
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pinellas County; Former President

NEWS & INSIGHTS

Hill Ward Henderson Attorney Reappointed to Board of Trustees for St. Petersburg College

1.13.26

Three Attorneys Selected to Florida Trend Legal Elite NOTABLE Women Leaders in Law

Firm News, 10.30.25

Five Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in Florida Trend's Legal Elite Notable Real Estate/Land Use Attorney List

Firm News, 9.2.25

Seventy-Seven Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in the 2026 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*® and *The Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® in America

Firm News, 8.21.25

Thirty-Eight Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in *Tampa Magazine's* 2025 Top Lawyers

Firm News, 1.6.25

Eighty-Three Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2025 Publication

Firm News, 8.15.24

Two Attorneys Selected to Florida Trend Legal Elite Notable Women Leaders in Law

Firm News, 12.5.23

Eighty-Three Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2024 Publication

Firm News, 8.17.23

Twenty-Six Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in TAMPA Magazine's 2023 Top Lawyers

Firm News, 1.3.23

KATHERINE E. COLE

Eighty-One Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2023 Publication
Firm News, 8.18.22

Katie Cole Reappointed to Board of Trustees for St. Petersburg College
Firm News, 12.7.21

Seventy Six Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2022 Publication
Firm News, 8.19.21

67 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2021 Publication
Firm News, 8.20.20

Shareholder Katherine E. Cole Elected As Board Chair of The Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce
Firm News, 1.26.18

Hill Ward Henderson Shareholder Cole Reappointed To Board Of Trustees For St. Petersburg College
Firm News, 7.14.17

Hill Ward Henderson Shareholder Appointed Board Of Trustees For St. Petersburg College
Firm News, 3.31.17

Hill Ward Henderson Shareholder Elected Chair-Elect Of Clearwater Regional Chamber
Firm News, 2.22.17

Hill Ward Henderson Elects Three New Shareholders
Firm News, 1.14.16

Hill Ward Henderson Signs Lease on New Clearwater Office
Firm News, 6.1.15

E. D. Armstrong, III and Katherine E. Cole Join Hill Ward Henderson
Firm News, 4.30.13

ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

- 2013 Florida Bar ELULS conference speaker regarding mitigation banking and clearing title encumbrances within the mitigation banking area.