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# R. JAMES ROBBINS JR.

Shareholder and President

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Tampa, Florida 33602  
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## PRACTICE FOCUS

Automotive

Real Estate

Real Estate Acquisition & Development

Commercial Leasing

Property Tax Litigation

Real Estate Finance

Corporate & Transactional

General Corporate Advice

Mergers & Acquisitions

Entity Formation & Tax Structuring

Automotive Corporate & Tax

Automotive Commercial Real Estate, Finance & Construction

## EDUCATION

University of Virginia, B.A., 1981,  
High Distinction: Phi Beta  
Kappa

Duke University School of Law,  
J.D., 1984, High Honors

- Order of the Coif

Jim is one of the founding attorneys and serves as President and Chair of the firm. Jim previously served as the Managing Shareholder of the firm for over 20 years.

Jim's practice primarily involves business and real estate transactions. Jim has experience in a wide range of sophisticated commercial business and real estate matters, including land acquisition and development, mergers and acquisitions, leasing and financing transactions. He also regularly acts as outside general counsel to a variety of clients.

Jim has actively represented automobile dealerships, with a particular emphasis on dealership acquisitions and dispositions, as well as related real property transactions. Jim has represented a NYSE dealership group in multiple acquisitions of significant auto dealership real estate portfolios.

Jim represents a number of significant owners of real estate, as well as national and local development entities in their real estate matters. Jim was the lead attorney on the sale of nearly 30,000 acres of real property located in Central Florida, one of the largest single land transfers in the state. He also completed a sales transaction including more than 7,000 acres of citrus and related agricultural properties. Jim was lead counsel for the sale of an approximate 1,000,000 square foot warehouse facility and has been very active in the acquisition and development of distribution facilities for a major internet retailer.

Jim is active in leadership positions with several of Tampa's civic, charitable and social organizations. In addition to being a member of

## R. JAMES ROBBINS JR.

- Law and Contemporary Problems: Senior Editor

### BAR ADMISSIONS

American Bar Association  
The Florida Bar  
Hillsborough County Bar Association

the Florida Council of 100, Jim has served on or is a member of the Boards of Directors of The Florida Aquarium, The Tampa Bay History Center, Jesuit High School, The Academy of the Holy Names, and Positive Coaching Alliance of Tampa Bay. Jim was also a long-time (17 years) youth baseball coach.

### HONORS

- AV Preeminent® Rating, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review
- Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyer, Real Estate (2014-2025)
- Florida Super Lawyers (2006-2025)
  - Top 50: Tampa Bay Super Lawyers List (2021)
- Florida Trend's Legal Elite (2008-2012, 2017)
  - Notable Managing Partner (2023)
  - Notable Real Estate/Land Use Attorney (2025)
- Leadership Tampa: Graduate
- *Legal 500 U.S. City Elite*, Real Estate (2026)
- Super Lawyers Business Edition (2013)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2006-2026)
  - 2019 Tampa Corporate Law Lawyer of the Year
  - 2017 Tampa Corporate Law Lawyer of the Year

### COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

- Member, The Florida Council of 100
- University of Virginia Jefferson Scholarship Selection Committee: Chair, Tampa Region
- Tampa Bay History Center
  - Past Chair
  - Board of Trustees
- Tampa Bay History Center Foundation: Board of Trustees
- Jesuit High School of Tampa: Board of Trustees; Chair, 2021-2024
- Jesuit High School Foundation: President 2020-2021
- American College of Real Estate Lawyers
- American Bar Foundation: Life Fellow
- American Bar Association
  - Business Section

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- Real Estate Section
- Tax Section
- The Florida Bar: Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section, Executive Council
- Inner City Youth Reading Initiative, John Germany Read to Dream Program: Founding Steering Committee Member
- Bayshore Fitness Trail Initiative; Original and Continuing Steering Committee Member
- Graduate, Leadership Tampa

### NEWS & INSIGHTS

Nine Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in 2026 Legal 500 City Elite Rankings  
Firm News, 4.15.26

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

Fifty-Eight Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named to 2025 Florida Super Lawyers List  
Firm News, 6.26.25

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive 2025 Chambers Recognition  
Firm News, 6.5.25

Eighty-Three Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2025 Publication  
Firm News, 8.15.24

Fifty-Seven Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in 2024 Florida Super Lawyers Listing  
Firm News, 6.24.24

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive 2024 Chambers Recognition  
Firm News, 6.6.24

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Hill Ward Henderson Announces Managing Shareholder Transition  
Firm News, 2.6.24

Eighty-Three Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers  
in America 2024 Publication  
Firm News, 8.17.23

Jim Robbins Selected as a Florida Trend Legal Elite Notable Managing  
Partner  
Firm News, 7.5.23

Sixty-one Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in 2023 Florida  
Super Lawyers Listing  
Firm News, 6.27.23

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive 2023 Chambers  
Recognition  
Firm News, 6.1.23

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

61 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in 2022 Florida Super  
Lawyers Listing  
Firm News, 7.1.22

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive 2022 Chambers  
Recognition  
6.1.22

58 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Recognized in 2021 Florida Super  
Lawyers Listing  
Firm News, 6.23.21

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive 2021 Chambers  
Recognition  
Firm News, 5.20.21

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

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive Chambers USA  
2020 Recognition  
Firm News, 4.23.20

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Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive Chambers USA  
2019 Recognition  
Firm News, 4.25.19

2019 Best Lawyers Cites 46 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Six "Lawyer of the Year"  
Firm News, 8.16.18

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named 2018 Florida Super Lawyers  
Firm News, 6.25.18

Hill Ward Henderson Recognized By Chambers And Partners 2018  
5.8.18

2018 Best Lawyers Cites 44 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Five "Lawyer Of The Year"  
Firm News, 8.15.17

Florida Trend Names Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys to Hall of Fame,  
Legal Elite, And Up & Comers  
Firm News, 6.22.17

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named 2017 Florida Super Lawyers  
Firm News, 6.8.17

Hill Ward Henderson Recognized By Chambers And Partners 2017  
Firm News, 5.26.17

2017 Best Lawyers Cites 44 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Two "Lawyers Of The Year"  
Firm News, 8.15.16

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named 2016 Florida Super Lawyers  
Firm News, 6.15.16

Hill Ward Henderson Cited By Chambers USA  
Firm News, 6.13.16

2016 Best Lawyers Cites 40 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Five "Lawyer of the Year"  
Firm News, 8.17.15

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named 2015 Florida Super Lawyers  
Firm News, 6.11.15

Hill Ward Henderson Cited by Chambers USA (2015)  
Firm News, 5.19.15

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2014 Best Lawyers Cites 42 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Three "Lawyer Of The Year"  
Firm News, 8.30.13

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named To The 2013 Best Lawyers  
Business Edition  
Firm News, 7.15.13

Best Lawyers In America  
Firm News, 7.31.12

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named To The 2012 Super Lawyers  
Business Edition  
Firm News, 3.28.12

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Named 2012 Florida Super Lawyers  
And Rising Stars  
Firm News, 3.20.12

### ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

- "Ethics: Stay Up To Date So You Don't Stay Up Late", The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section Annual Legislative Update Program, July 2013.
- "Recent Amendments to Article 9 of the UCC." Presenter, The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section Annual Legislative Update Program, July 2012.
- "Ethics in an Evolving Real Estate Marketplace." Presenter, The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section Annual Legislative Update Program, July 2011.

### NOTEWORTHY

*Chambers USA* ranks the leading lawyers and law firms across the USA. Legal rankings are based on in-depth market analysis and independent research, conducted by an experienced team of researchers. Individual lawyers are ranked in their practice area(s) based on legal knowledge and experience, ability, effectiveness and client service.

*"James' knowledge of commercial real estate trends and negotiation skills makes him an invaluable part of our team."* Client quote, *Chambers USA 2025*

*"James has a great mind and is also a great leader."* Client quote, *Chambers USA 2025*

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*"James is an outstanding attorney." Client quote, Chambers USA 2025*

*"Jim Robbins consistently exceeds expectations in every way and delivers the highest level of legal advice. He treats his client's issues as his own." Client quote, Chambers USA 2024*

*"He is excellent commercial counsel." Client quote, Chambers USA 2024*

*"Jim Robbins is an attorney who manages both client issues and firm issues with ease. Attorneys representing the other side of transaction respect and admire his ability to be tough, yet fair." Client quote, Chambers USA 2023*

*"Jim Robbins is an incredible attorney who is thoughtful and detail-oriented." Client quote, Chambers USA 2022*