



ticard@icardmerrill.com
(941) 953-8132 (direct)
Fax (941) 366-6384
2033 Main Street, Suite 600
Sarasota, FL 34237-6091

PRACTICES

- Business disputes and transactions, with emphasis on construction related matters
- Mediator and Arbitrator

INDUSTRIES

- Construction
- Development
- Real Estate
- Insurance

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Florida

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. District Courts, Middle, Southern and Northern Districts of Florida
- Florida State Courts

Thomas F. Icard, Jr.

Shareholder

Practice Experience

- Tom Icard focuses his nationally recognized practice on construction related matters, from preparation and review of contract documents to claims negotiation and multiparty litigation. He is also regularly engaged as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) proceedings.
- Mr. Icard is a Diplomate of the Florida Academy of Professional Mediators. He is also a member (by invitation) of the Florida Circuit Civil Mediator Society and the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. He has served as a single arbitrator and as the chief arbitrator on a panel of three in matters involving major property damage claims, insurance coverage, securities, estate litigation and other business disputes. He has mediated a broad spectrum of more than 200 construction and other matters ranging from 2 to 19 parties.

Representative Matters

- He has represented both public and private owners, as well as developers, contractors, subcontractors and design professionals with respect to the construction of industrial facilities, airports, power plants, municipal sewer systems, hospitals, office and condominium buildings. His trial and ADR experience also includes employment, land use, condemnation, securities, corporate, personal injury, wrongful death, products liability and professional malpractice in matters with exposures ranging from \$25,000 to over \$50 million.

Professional Recognition

- Mr. Icard holds Florida Bar Board Certifications in both Civil Trial Law and Construction Law.
 - AV Martindale-Hubbell rating since 1984.
 - Selected by his peers in the legal profession as among *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2006 through 2011; listed in both Construction Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution.
 - Selected by his peers for inclusion in *Florida Super Lawyers*®, 2006 through 2010.
-

- Selected by his peers for inclusion in FLORIDA TREND'S 2011 *Florida Legal Elite*.
- Ranked among the top construction lawyers in Florida in surveys conducted between 2003 and 2010 of clients and attorneys statewide, as published in Chambers, USA, *The Client's Guide to America's Leading Lawyers for Business*®.
- Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil Mediator since 1993 in all of the Circuit Courts of Florida and in the Federal District Court for the Middle District of Florida.
- Certified Appellate Mediator, 2011.
- Qualified to accept Florida Circuit Court appointments as a binding arbitrator or trial resolution judge (pursuant to *Fla. Stat.* §44.104).
- Member of the Public Arbitration Panel of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA; formerly NASD).

Professional and Civic Activities

- Board of Directors, Bay Area Legal Services, Inc., a non-profit corporation that provides legal services to the indigent (2004 to present).
 - Member, Advisory Committee on Local Rules and Chair (2009) of the Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel for the U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida.
 - Chair, Forum on the Construction Industry of the American Bar Association (1990).
 - Fellow and Life Member, American Bar Foundation.
 - Member, Executive Council, Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar (1995).
 - Fellow, Florida Bar Foundation.
 - President, Hillsborough County Bar Association (1987).
 - Chair, United Way Attorneys Division, Hillsborough County (1986).
 - Leadership Florida Program of the Florida Chamber of Commerce (1984 to present).
-

Speaking Engagements

- “Statutory Prompt Payment Provisions” and “Florida Construction Lien Law – Ethical Issues and Related Considerations”, Lorman Education Services, Sarasota, November, 2011.
 - “Mediation of Construction Disputes,” Hillsborough County Bar Association, Construction Law Section, Tampa, February, 2011.
 - “Advanced Litigation Skills Training: Selecting, Preparing, Attacking and Defending Expert Witnesses,” 3rd Annual Construction Law Institute, The Florida Bar, Orlando, April, 2010.
 - “Florida Law for Design Professionals,” Lorman Education Services, Sarasota, 2002.
 - Co-chair and presenter – “Taking the High Road,” annual professional ethics program of the Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar, Miami, Tampa, Jacksonville and Orlando, 1997 to 2000.
 - “Sick Building Syndrome – A Primer for Owners, Contractors, Designers and Attorneys,” The Construction Superconference, San Francisco, 1994.
 - “Sick Building Syndrome and Building-Related Illness Claims,” EnviroSense, St. Petersburg, 1993.
 - “Indoor Air Quality – Liability Issues for the Construction Industry and Design Professionals,” The Florida Bar, Tampa, 1993.
 - “Bid Protests on Public Jobs,” Associated General Contractors of Mid-Florida Annual Management Forum, Tampa, 1992.
 - “Florida Construction Lien Law,” Hillsborough County Bar Association, Tampa, 1991.
 - “State of the Forum/Overview of the U.S. Construction Industry and the Construction Bar,” Forum on the Construction Industry of the American Bar Association Annual Meeting, Boston, 1990.
 - Co-chair and presenter, “Current Issues in the Construction Industry – Point and Counterpoint,” Forum on the Construction Industry of the American Bar Association Annual Meeting, Tampa, 1988.
 - “Florida Construction Law: What Do You Do When . . . ?” National Business Institute, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa and Fort Myers (annually, from 1986 to 1994).
 - “Voir Dire, Direct and Cross Examination,” Hillsborough County Bar Association Civil Trial Seminar, Tampa, 1986.
-

Publications

- Co-author, "Sick Building Syndrome and Building-Related Illness Claims: Defining the Practical and Legal Issues," *The Construction Lawyer* of the Forum on the Construction Industry of the American Bar Association, October, 1994.
- "Construction Law – An Overview," *Florida Constructor* (Magazine for Florida's Commercial, Industrial and Highway Builders), September/October, 1990.
- Contributor, *Florida Construction Law: What Do You Do When . . . ?*, National Business Institute, 1986 to 1994.
- Guest Editor and contributor, *The Florida Bar Journal*, symposium issue concerning revisions to the Florida Constitution, October, 1978.
- "The Applicability of Florida Direct Action in the Law of Admiralty," 1 *Florida State University Law Review* 335 (1973).

Background

- Captain, U.S. Army Reserve, retired.
- Joined the Tampa office of the Carlton Fields law firm in 1973, became a shareholder in 1979 and practiced there until 1995.

Education

- Florida State University College of Law (J.D., 1973)
Notes and Comments Editor, *Florida State University Law Review* (1972-73).
 - Mercer University (B.A., 1970)
-