

KELLY M. SCIFRES

SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Workers' Compensation

CONTACT INFO

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50 N. Laura Street, Suite 1900
Jacksonville, FL 32202

ADMISSIONS

Florida
2013

EDUCATION

Florida Coastal School of Law
(J.D., cum laude, 2013)

University of Central Florida (B.S.,
2005)

HONORS & AWARDS

The Best Lawyers: Ones to
Watch®, Workers' Compensation
Law – Employers
2024

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

E. Robert Williams Inn of Court
Florida Bar
Jacksonville Bar Association

YEAR JOINED

2018

OVERVIEW

Kelly represents and advises insured and uninsured employers in workers' compensation litigation and compliance matters. Her practice focuses on the defense of employers/carriers in workers' compensation claims in the State of Florida before the Judge of Compensation Claims. She works closely with adjusters and employers to defend claims during the pre-suit and litigation process, from the date of injury to settlement or final hearing.

Kelly also defends employers in matters involving workers' compensation coverage compliance investigations, stop work orders, penalty assessments, business records request and audits imposed by the Division of Workers' Compensation. Kelly has represented numerous employers and businesses in the dispute of penalty assessments and compliance actions before the Division of Administrative Hearings. She also advises employers and businesses in general workers' compensation compliance matters and handling of workplace accidents to minimize exposure and premiums.

A specific area of focus for Kelly is defending employers against stop work orders. She has achieved successful results in matters involving stop work orders, business records requests and penalty assessments from the state of Florida. By working to lift stop orders and reduce penalties, and advising on future compliance, Kelly helps employers resume business operations as quickly as possible.

Before joining Marshall Dennehey, Kelly worked for a statewide insurance defense firm as a member of the workers' compensation and general liability practice groups. While there, she practiced in the areas of workers' compensation defense and subrogation, employer compliance, general liability defense and asbestos litigation.

Kelly graduated in the top 10 percent of her class, and earned her *juris doctor* in 2013. During law school, Kelly served on the Mock Trial and Moot Court Teams where she received numerous oral advocacy and professionalism awards. She also worked during law school, gaining a wide range of experience in all areas of law while clerking with a solo practitioner. She also clerked with a preeminent Jacksonville plaintiff's personal injury law firm, as well as a Duval County Circuit Court Judge.

Prior to attending law school, Kelly worked for five years in sales and marketing with two Fortune 500 companies where she received high level corporate sales and customer service training.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Marshall Dennehey Expands Florida Workers' Compensation Team With Addition of Erykah L. Jackson

Workers' Compensation

February 19, 2024

Marshall Dennehey is pleased to announce that Erykah L. Jackson has joined the firm's Jacksonville office as an associate in the Workers' Compensation Department.

[Read More](#)

Marshall Dennehey Announces 2023 Shareholder Class - Largest in Firm's 60-Year History

December 8, 2022

Marshall Dennehey is pleased to announce that 20 attorneys, 12 men and eight women, have been elevated to shareholder effective January 1, 2023.

[Read More](#)

Tips for Avoiding Stop-Work Orders

Jacksonville

Workers' Compensation

July 6, 2020

First DCA reaffirms ban on “bootstrapping” inadmissible medical opinions in self-help cases in favor of the employer.

Workers' Compensation

April 1, 2019

After the employer denied surgery recommended by the authorized provider, the claimant underwent a less invasive surgery with an unauthorized provider. Case Law Alerts, 2nd Quarter, April 2019

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

Workers' Compensation Law and Ethics Update, Marshall Dennehey webinar, May 13, 2022

Pre-Existing Conditions, Major Contributing Cause and Apportionment, Marshall Dennehey webinar, December 3, 2020

PUBLISHED WORKS

"Tips for Avoiding Stop-Work Orders," *Jacksonville Daily Record*, July 6, 2020

RESULTS

Secured a Defense Verdict on Behalf of an employer/carrier in a previously compensable workers' compensation claim

Workers' Compensation

June 6, 2024

We obtained a workers' compensation defense verdict on behalf of an employer/carrier in a previously compensable claim by proving the claimant knowingly and intentionally made false, fraudulent, and misleading statements under oath during two depositions, and to two authorized treating providers, which were contradicted by surveillance and other evidence, ultimately barring the claimant from further benefits. The case involved multiple expert and fact witness testimony and presentation of multiple days of surveillance to the court.

Workers' Compensation Defense Verdict Secured in a Previously Compensable Claim in Florida

Workers' Compensation

May 30, 2024

We obtained a defense verdict on behalf of an employer/carrier in a previously compensable claim. We were able to prove the claimant knowingly and intentionally made false, fraudulent, and misleading statements under oath during two depositions, and to two authorized treating providers, which were contradicted by surveillance and other evidence, ultimately barring the claimant from further benefits. The fraud/misrepresentation defense is an affirmative defense, and the burden was on the employer/carrier to prove same.

