



## John Elliott Leighton

### Leighton Law, P.A.

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## PROFESSIONAL

### Managing Partner, **Leighton Law, P.A., Miami & Orlando, Florida**

Board certified trial lawyer specializing in complex civil litigation, specifically catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death, medical malpractice, nursing home liability, product liability, negligence, inadequate premises security/violent crime, sexual abuse, toxic torts, motor vehicle, maritime and aviation disasters, Resort Torts/vacation injuries, insurance, legal malpractice, and commercial torts in all state and federal courts.

## MEMBERSHIPS, HONORS and AWARDS

### **Board Certified Specialist (B.C.S.) in Civil Trial Law**

Florida Board of Legal Specialization (certified 1996; re-certified: 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016)

### **Martindale-Hubbell AV pre-eminent rating**

#### ***The Best Lawyers in America*, 2008-2018**

- Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs
- Medical Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs
- Product Liability Litigation - Plaintiffs

### **Florida SuperLawyers® 2006-2018**

- Top 100 SuperLawyers in Florida (2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016)
- Top 50 SuperLawyers in South Florida (2010-12)
- Top 100 SuperLawyers in Miami (2015, 2017, 2018)

### **Top Lawyers in South Florida, *South Florida Legal Guide* (2003-2018)**

- For Medical Malpractice, Product Liability and Wrongful Death

### **Florida Trend *Legal Elite*™ 2006-2009, 2012-2018**

(Top 2% of Lawyers in Florida)

### **Orlando Legal Elite, *Orlando Style* magazine 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017**

<http://orlandostylemagazine.com/john-elliott-leighton-esq/>

### **AVVO.com attorney rating 10/10 ("superb" - highest rating)**

### **America's Top 100 Attorneys – Lifetime Achievement - peer selection**

### **America's Top 100 High Stakes Litigators**

### **Business Leader Media "Mover & Shaker Award", 2009**

*Daily Business Review* "Verdicts Hall of Fame" Winner for Wrongful Death, 2015  
 American Association for Justice (AAJ)(formerly The Association of Trial Lawyers of America - ATLA) - Sustaining member  
     Inadequate Security Litigation Group  
         Chairman (1996-present); Treasurer (1994-96)  
     Motor Vehicle Collision, Highway and Premises Liability Section  
         (Chairman (1996-97); Vice Chairman (1995-96)  
     Nursing Home Litigation Group  
     Professional Negligence Section  
     Leader's Forum Member (2009-present)  
     Communications, Computers and Law Office Technology Committee (Co-Chair 2001-05)  
     AAJ Press Advisory Board Committee (Vice Chair, 2003-06; member 2015-)  
     ATLA Exchange Advisory Committee (2003-06)  
     Medical Negligence Information Exchange Group  
     Birth Trauma Litigation Group  
     Interstate Trucking Litigation Group  
     Founding Co-Chairman, National Trial Advocacy Competition Committee (1992-95)  
     Co-Chairman, Law Student Services Committee (1993-95)  
     Permanent Endowment Committee (1994-95)  
     Recipient, "Wiedmann-Wysocki Citation of Excellence" (1993)  
     Editorial manuscript reviewer, *Trial* magazine  
     Resort Tort Litigation Group (Founding Member)  
     AAJ PAC  
 National College of Advocacy (Certified Advocate and Fellow)(Faculty member)  
     Member, Board of Trustees (2000-2004; 2008-14; Executive Committee 2000-2003, 2011-14)  
 The Academy of Trial Advocacy (Charter Member) Chairman (2007- present)  
     *A national invitation-only association of the nation's leading catastrophic injury trial lawyers*  
 National Crime Victim Bar Association (NCVBA), charter member  
     Member, Board of Advisors  
     Recipient, 2007 "Advocate of Justice" award  
 American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) 2010-  
 Public Justice Foundation (formerly Trial Lawyers for Public Justice), member  
 Melvin M. Belli Society (Fellow)(Marketing Chairman, 2008-11)  
 International Society of Barristers  
 Member, Florida Tort Claims Study Commission, 1989  
     (Commission established by Florida Legislature to study and revise Florida tort law)  
 The Florida Bar (Trial Lawyers Section; CLE and Civil Procedure Rule Committees)  
 Florida Justice Association (Formerly Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers) (EAGLE Sponsor)  
 American Bar Association, Tort and Insurance Practice Section,  
     Vice Chair, Product, General Liability and Consumer Law Committee (1987-88)  
 Cooperative Association of Medical Malpractice Attorneys (CAMA), charter member  
 Dade County Trial Lawyers Association (Board of Directors, 1987-91)  
 Miami-Dade County Bar Association  
 Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (A.P.I.L.) (U.K.) (overseas member)  
 International Personal Injury Network (I.P.I.N.), charter member  
 Who's Who in America, Who's Who in American Law  
 Who's Who of Emerging Leaders in America, International Who's Who of Professionals  
 Co-Nominee, Trial Lawyer of the Year, Trial Lawyers for Public Justice (1995)  
*National Law Journal* "Top 100 verdicts of 2011"  
 "Attorney of the Month," *Attorney at Law* magazine, Vol. 3 No. 2, April 2013

## Guest Lecturer:

Association of Trial Lawyers of America  
Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers  
Kansas Trial Lawyers Association  
National Business Institute  
Consumer Attorneys of California  
National LawCamp  
National College of Advocacy  
Georgia Association of Trial Lawyers  
Nevada Trial Lawyers Association  
Texas Trial Lawyers Association  
Florida Bar Association  
National Center for Victims of Crime  
Monroe County Bar Association  
Florida Facility Managers Association  
Orange County Bar Association  
Florida Mediation Institute  
Miami-Dade County Bar Association  
New York State Trial Lawyers Association  
St. Thomas University School of Law

Arizona Trial Lawyers Association  
Maryland Trial Lawyers Association  
Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association  
ATLA-NJ/New Jersey Trial Lawyers Association  
Kentucky Academy of Trial Attorneys  
Hawaii Trial Lawyers Association  
South Dakota Bar Association  
National Employment Lawyers Association  
National Crime Victim Bar Association  
Melvin M. Belli Society  
Florida Defense Lawyers Association  
Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office  
Colorado Trial Lawyers Association  
Louisiana Association for Justice  
Association of Health Underwriters  
Miami Daily Business Review  
New Jersey Bar Association  
Florida Justice Association  
Dade County Bar Association

## EDUCATION

**Juris Doctor (*with honors*)**, The University of Florida, 1985

Editor and Board Member, *Florida Law Review*

University of Florida **Trial Competition Team**

Jurisprudence Instructor, University of Florida College of Law (1983-1984)

Who's Who Among American Law Students, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> ed.

Recipient, American Jurisprudence Awards for Torts and Civil Procedure

Faculty, Teaching Fellows Program

**Bachelor of Arts (*with honors*)**, The University of Florida, 1982

President, Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honorary fraternity

Florida Blue Key leadership honorary; Savant UF leadership honorary

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

Student Senate Majority Leader

Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity (Life Member, Chapter Supervisor/Graduate Advisor 1982-85)

## ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

Supreme Court of Florida

United States Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

United States District Court

Southern District of Florida (General and Trial Bars)

Middle District of Florida

Northern District of Florida

State Courts *pro hac vice*:

Texas, Wisconsin, Georgia, New York, Indiana, North Carolina, Illinois, Arizona,  
Kentucky

## **SELECT LECTURES and SEMINARS**

"Mass Shootings in America: Is the Solution Legislation or Litigation?," National Crime Victim Bar Association National Conference, Orlando, FL September 2018.

"Beyond the Shooter: Litigating Mass Shooting Cases in America," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, Denver, CO, July 2018.

Faculty and lecturer, "Reaching Your Goal: Let's Talk Damages," The Ultimate Trial Advocacy Course: The Art of Persuasion, Harvard University Law School, March 2018

"Hotels, Resorts & Amusements: Litigating Security Cases," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, Boston, MA, July 2017.

"Jury Selection in Premises Liability Cases," Florida Justice Association, Workhorse Seminar, Orlando, FL, March 2017.

"Terrorism and Negligent Security Cases: The Next Big Thing," National Crime Victim Bar Association, National Conference, Philadelphia, PA, September 2016.

"Safe or Scary? Negligent Security in Schools, Colleges, and Day Care," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, Los Angeles, CA, July 2016.

"Proving Mild Traumatic Brain Injury at Trial," Annual Melvin M. Belli Seminar, Los Angeles, CA, July 2016.

"Civil Justice for Victims of Crime in Florida," National Crime Victim Bar Association/National Center for Victims of Crime, St. Thomas University School of Law, Miami, FL, May 2016.

"Selecting Juries in Inadequate Security Cases," American Association for Justice Winter Convention, Boca Raton, FL, Feb. 2016.

"How Are Generation X and Y Jurors Different and How Do They See Premises Security Cases?," National Crime Victim Bar Association, National Conference, Anaheim, CA, September 2015.

"Rules of the Road for Security and Violent Crime Cases," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, Montreal, Canada, July 2015.

"21<sup>st</sup> Century Jurors," American Association for Justice/National College of Advocacy, webinar, April 2015.

Negligent Security: People+Premises+Data, Daily Business Review/Leighton Lecture Series seminar, Miami, FL, March 2015.

"Jury Selection in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: This Isn't Your Father's Jury Anymore," Weekend With The Stars seminar, American Association for Justice, New York, NY, December 2014.

"Litigating Security Cases Involving Resorts, Bars & Theme Parks," National Crime Victim Bar Association, National Conference, Miami, FL, September 2014.

"Like Flies to Honey: Crime Management and the Dangers of ATMs, Convenience Stores and Other High Risk Retail Premises," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD, July 2014.

"Sex, Drugs & Violence: Inadequate Premises Security Litigation in Florida," Annual Leighton Seminar Series, Daily Business Review, Miami, FL, November 2013.

"Jury Selection in Premises Security Cases," Inadequate Security Education Program, American Association for Justice Annual Convention, San Francisco, July 2013.

"Mediation 2.0," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, San Francisco, July 2013.

"Daubert Strategies and Litigation Update" teleseminar, American Association for Justice, July, 2013.

"Depositions and Discovery," The Florida Bar Basic Basics Seminar, Tampa, FL, May 2013.

"Alternative Dispute Resolution," The Florida Bar Basic Basics Seminar, Tampa, FL, May 2013.

"Selecting and Investigating Premises Liability Cases," American Association for Justice Winter Convention, Miami, FL, Feb. 2013.

"Plaintiff's Perspective on Breaking the Impasse at Mediation," 67<sup>th</sup> Annual National Workers Compensation/Mediation Conference, Orlando, FL, August, 2012.

"Why Can't We Be Friends? Attacking The Defense Security Expert," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, July 2012.

"Reducing Institutional Sexual Abuse Through Litigation," Annual Melvin M. Belli Society Seminar, Chicago, July 2012.

Demonstration of Cross Examination of a Defendant, Dade County Bar Association *Super Lawyers CLE*, June 2012.

"Resort Torts...and the Courts," 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Leighton Seminar Series, Daily Business Review, Miami, FL, November 2011.

"Designing The Mediation," 66<sup>th</sup> Annual National Workers Compensation Conference, Orlando, FL, August, 2011.

"Evaluating, Assessing and Litigating Premises Security Cases," American Association for Justice, Annual Convention, New York, NY, July 2011.

"\$24 million verdict: Trial of ATM Shooting Case," Melvin M. Belli Society Annual Seminar, New York, NY, July 2011.

"Terrorism and Civil Actions," National Crime Victim Bar Association National Conference, Washington, DC, June 2011.

"Medical Malpractice: What You Don't Know May Kill You," Association of Health Underwriters, Miami Dade, March 2011.

Moderator, "Social Media: Considerations for Today's Trial Lawyer," American Association for Justice Winter Convention, Miami, FL, February 2011.

"Terrorism as an Inadequate Security Case," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, Vancouver, Canada, July 2010.

"Dealing With The Violent Criminal in Civil Cases," Annual Belli Seminar, Vancouver, Canada, July 2010.

"Depositions and Discovery," The Florida Bar Basic Basics Seminar, Tampa and Miami, FL, May 2010.

"Alternative Dispute Resolution," The Florida Bar Basic Basics Seminar, Tampa and Miami, FL, May 2010.

"Resort Torts: Vacation, Resort & Recreational Liability," Daily Business Review seminar series, Miami, FL, May 2010.

"DWD: Driving While Distracted - The New DUI," Jazzfest Seminar: Litigating Auto Collision Cases, New Orleans, LA, April 2010.

"Resort Torts: Vacation, Resort & Recreational Liability," Orange County Bar Association, Orlando, FL, April 2010.

"Jury Selection in Today's Economy," American Association for Justice Winter Convention, Maui, Hawaii, February 2010.

"Civil Remedies for Criminal Acts," National Crime Victim Bar Association Crime Victim Advocate Training Program, West Palm Beach, FL and Orlando, FL, December 2009.

"Sex, Drugs & Violence: Inadequate Premises Security Litigation," Louisiana Justice Association, *Winning With The Masters Seminar*, New Orleans, LA, December 2009.

"Sex, Drugs & Violence," Negligent Premises Security Litigation, Daily Business Review Roundtable seminar, Miami, FL, October 2009.

"Direct Examination: Storytelling at Trial," American Association for Justice Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, July 2009.

Academy of Trial Advocacy, Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, July 2009.

Moderator and Chair, Litigating Inadequate Security Cases, American Association for Justice Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, July 2009.

"Resort Torts," Melvin M. Belli Seminar, San Francisco, CA, July 2009.

"Building a Resort Tort Case," Resort Torts™ seminar, Miami Daily Business Review, Miami, FL, May 2009.

Course Chairman, Essentials of Trial College, National College of Advocacy, 2009.

"Presenting Tragic Violence at Trial: Closing Argument in Security and Violent Crime Cases," National Crime Victim Bar Assn., 2008 National Conference, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2008.

"Jury Selection and Today's Juror," Colorado Trial Lawyers Association, Annual Convention, Snowmass, CO, August 2008.

"Juror Perceptions and Responses to the Use of Technology and How to Deal With Them," American Association for Justice, Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, July 2008.

"Insurance Coverage: Getting Around Exclusions," American Association for Justice, Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, July 2008.

"Sex, Drugs & Violence; What You Need to Know About Violent Crime Cases and Negligent Premises Security Litigation," Florida Facilities Managers Association, Annual Meeting, Palm Beach, FL, June 2008.

"Parasailing Recreation," American Association for Justice Winter Convention, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Jan. 2008.

"Standing Up for a Fair Jury: Voir Dire in Security Cases," American Association for Justice, Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, July 2007.

"Picking Civil Juries for Crime Victims," National Crime Victim Bar Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC, June 2007.

"Increasing Civility in Civil Litigation," 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Liability Claims Conference/Florida Defense Lawyers Association, Orlando, FL, June 2007.

Keynote Speaker, "Resort Torts," Monroe County Bar Association Annual Seminar, Key West, FL, May 2007.

"Premises Liability," Basic Tort Litigation Seminar, The Florida Bar, Tampa and Miami, FL, May 2007.

"Inadequate Security Litigation," New Jersey Trial Lawyers Association, Boardwalk Seminar, Atlantic City, NJ, April 2007.

Keynote Speaker, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, "Victims' Rights Conference," State Attorney's Office - Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Miami, FL April 2007.

"Deposition Techniques – Lay and Expert Witnesses," American Association for Justice, Winter Convention, Miami Beach, FL, February 2007.

"Using Computer Animation in Civil Cases," 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Melvin Belli Seminar, Seattle, WA, July 2006.

"Fundamentals of a Hospital Chart – What's There and What's Not," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, July 2006.

"Insurance Issues in Inadequate Premises Security Cases," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Seattle, WA, July 2006.

"Winning Through Discovery," Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association, Memphis, TN, June 2006.

"Creating the Silver Lining: Techniques for Opening Statement," New Jersey Trial Lawyers Association, Atlantic City, NJ, April 2006.

"Trying Cases in Trying Times: Jury Selection in Today's Environment," Kentucky Academy of Trial Attorneys, Destin, FL, April 2006.

Moderator, Association of Trial Lawyers of America Annual Convention, Honolulu, HI, February 2006.

Speaker, Civil Remedies for Criminal Acts, National Center for Victims of Crime Victim Advocate Training Program, Fort Lauderdale, FL, January 2006.

"Inadequate Premises Security," PESI Premises Liability seminar, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, November 2005.

"Comparing "Fault" – Current Status of Efforts to Include Perpetrators on Verdict Forms...Restatement Approach/Legislation/Case Law/Comparison to Crashworthiness Doctrine," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada, July 2005.

Course Chair and Speaker, *Litigating Nursing Home Cases* seminar, ATLA/National College of Advocacy, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, March 2005.

Program Chair, *Collateral Sources Seminar*, Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Ft. Lauderdale and Tampa, FL, January 2005.

"Opening Statement," Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Fall Trial Skills Seminar, Orlando, FL, November 2004.

"Jury Selection," National Crime Victim Bar Association *Annual Conference*, Washington, D.C., October 2004.

"Liability for Failure to Admit (EMTALA), Discharge and Transfer", *Holding the Hospital Accountable* seminar, ATLA/National College of Advocacy, Montreal, Canada, October 2004.

"Screening, Selecting and Investigating Inadequate Security Cases: What to Look For Before Taking A Case," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Boston, MA, July 2004.

Speaker, 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Melvin Belli Seminar, Boston, MA, July 2004.

"Apportionment of Fault," *Premises Liability: Inadequate Security Cases*, ATLA/National College of Advocacy Teleseminar, May 2004.

"Jury Selection: Negligent Security," Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers *Everything You Wanted To Know About Jury Selection seminar*, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, March 2004.

Course Co-Chair and Speaker, "Effective Settlement Techniques," *Litigating Nursing Home Cases*, ATLA/National College of Advocacy, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, March 2004.

Co-Chair, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Winter Convention, Orlando, FL, Feb. 2004.

"Opening Statements and Today's Special Considerations," Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Fall Convention, Orlando, FL, October, 2003

"Apportionment of Fault in Inadequate Security Cases," National Crime Victim Bar Association 2003 National Conference: *Rights, Recourse & Recovery: Civil Litigation for Victims of Crime*, Washington, DC, October 2003.

"Creating and Reinforcing the Trial Story: Presenting the Expert Witness," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, July 2003.

"Linguistic Minorities", National Employment Lawyers Association, Annual Convention, Vail, CO, June 2003.

Co-Chairman, *Litigating Nursing Home Cases seminar*, National College of Advocacy, Austin, TX, March 2003.

Co-Chair and moderator, *Litigating Catastrophically Injured Infant Cases*, National College of Advocacy, Atlanta, GA, February 2003.

Co-Chair and moderator, *Weekend With The Stars* annual seminar, National College of Advocacy, New York, NY, Dec. 2002.

"Effective and Efficient Use of Internet Discovery," Advocacy Track, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Atlanta, Georgia, July 2002.

"How *Daubert* Can Help and Hurt Your Case," Annual Jazz Fest seminar, National College of Advocacy/Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Orleans, LA, May 2002.

"Handing the Jury a Package - The Art of a Closing Argument - Lecture and Demonstration," South Dakota Bar Association, Clearwater, FL, March 2002.

Teaching Faculty and Lecturer, *Essentials of Civil Litigation Trial College*, National College of Advocacy, Houston, TX, October 2001: "Opening Statement" and "Computers and Technology in the Courtroom".

Course Chair and Speaker, "Screening Nursing Home Abuse Cases," *Litigating Nursing Home Cases*, National College of Advocacy/Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Phoenix, AZ, October 2001.

"The Boob Tube: Making Videotaped Evidence Interesting," *Advocacy Track – Trial Psychology and Persuasion*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Montreal, Canada, July 2001.

"Expert Testimony: How to Deal With *Daubert/Kumho* Challenges," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Montreal, Canada, July 2001.

Course Chair, *Litigating Nursing Home Cases*, National College of Advocacy/Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Houston, TX, April 2001.

Course Chair and Speaker, "Finding, Selecting and Handling Expert Witnesses," *Premises Liability: Inadequate Security and Violent Crimes*, National College of Advocacy/Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Miami, FL, March 2001.

Course Chair, "Misdiagnosis, Mistreatment and Malpractice in the Nursing Home," *Failure to Diagnose and Treat Diseases*, National College of Advocacy, Waikiki, Hawaii, Feb. 2001.

"The Nursing Home Industry vs. Government and Advocates: Legislation, Litigation and Bankruptcy", Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Winter Convention, New Orleans, LA, February 2001.

Teaching Faculty and Lecturer, "Finding and Using Experts" and "Negotiation and Settlement Techniques," *Medical Trial Skills College*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America/National College of Advocacy, Miami, FL January 2001.



Teaching Faculty and Lecturer, *Essentials of Civil Litigation Trial College*, National College of Advocacy, National Judicial College, Reno, Nevada, October 13-20, 2000.

"Backyard Hazards: Pools, Trampolines and Other Recreational Dangers," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, July 2000.

Keynote Speaker, "Recognizing and Evaluating Nursing Home Cases," Monroe County Bar Association, Key West, FL, April 2000.

"Demonstration of an Opening Statement: Setting the Stage," *Litigating Nursing Home Cases*, National College of Advocacy, Las Vegas, NV, March 2000.

Program Chair, Cooperative Association of Medical Malpractice Attorneys, Winter Conference, Miami, FL, Jan., 2000.

"Courtroom vs. Movie Set: Choreographing Your Case," *Rediscovering the Magic: Taking Back Control of the Courtroom*, Maryland Trial Lawyers Association, Baltimore, MD, December 1999.

"Apportionment of Fault: How To Deal with Placing The Perpetrator on the Verdict Form in Inadequate Security Cases," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, July 1999.

"Combatting Evidentiary Attacks on Expert Testimony: How to Deal With Daubert", *Doubleheader Seminar: Litigating Catastrophically Injured Infant Cases and Inadequate Security and Violent Crimes seminar*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Phoenix, AZ, Feb. 1999.

"Litigating Product Liability Cases," *Federal Civil Litigation in Florida* seminar, Lorman Education Services, Miami, FL, September 1998.

Course Chair and Speaker, "Discovery and Rambo Litigation", Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., July 1998.

"Investigating, Preparing and Litigating the Inadequate Security Case," *Kansas Trial Lawyers Association Premises Liability Seminar*, Overland Park, Kansas, June 1998.

"Overcoming Tort Reform," *How to Practice Law in the Age of Tort Reform: Getting Leaner, Smarter & Tougher*, Texas Trial Lawyers Association, Houston, TX, May 1998.

"Countering the Seat Belt Defense," *Jazzfest Seminar*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Orleans, LA, April 1998.

"ATLA Hornbook Series: Inadequate Premises Security", Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Winter Convention, Maui, Hawaii, February 1998.

Course Chair, Moderator and Speaker, Motor Vehicle Collision, Highway and Premises Liability Educational Program, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, July 1997.

Course Chair, Moderator and Speaker, Inadequate Security Education Program, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, July 1997.

"Terror in the Sky: Security Aboard Airplanes and in Airports", *Mega Seminar: Premises Liability: Inadequate Security and Violent Crimes*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Las Vegas, NV, February 1997 (Course Chair).

Course Chair and Moderator, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Winter Convention, Boca Raton, FL, January 1997.

Course Chair and Moderator, Inadequate Security Education Program, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Winter Convention, Boca Raton, FL, January 1997.

"Top 10 Things to Look (and Look Out) For in Evaluating Inadequate Security Cases," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Boston, MA, July 1996.

"Demonstrative Evidence in Settlement and Mediation," Motor Vehicle, Highway and Premises Liability Section, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Boston, MA, July 1996.

Course Chair, *Premises Liability: Inadequate Security & Violent Crimes*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Scottsdale, AZ, February 1996.

Moderator, "From Classroom to Courtroom", Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, New York, NY, July 1995.

"Preparing, Litigating and Trying the Negligent Security Case", Motor Vehicle Collision, Highway, and Premises Liability Section, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, New York, NY, July 1995.

"Drafting Pleadings and Discovery," *From Classroom To Courtroom: Trial Techniques for the New Lawyer*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Redondo Beach, CA, February 1995.

"Comparative Fault/Joint and Several Liability: Comparing the "Fault" of the Criminal Perpetrator with the Negligence of the Premises Owner", *Premises Liability: Inadequate Security & Violent Crimes*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Las Vegas, NV, October 1994.

Moderator and Chair, *Classroom to Courtroom*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, July 1994.

"Drafting Pleadings and Discovery," *From Classroom To Courtroom: The New Lawyer's Start Up Kit*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Miami, FL, Feb. 1994.

"Depositions: Strategy and Demonstration," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Winter Convention, San Diego, CA, January 1994.

"Anticipating, Addressing and Defeating Defenses and Exclusions," Premises Liability for Violent Crimes: Legal Issues and Practical Solutions, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Atlanta, GA, November 1993.

*Proving and Disputing Damages*, National Business Institute, Miami, FL, Sept. 1993.

"Preparing For Trial: The Last 10 Days," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, August 1993.

"Preparing, Developing, and Trying the Tough Negligent Security Case," *Annual New Orleans Jazzfest Seminar: Liability, Causation and Damages*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Orleans, LA, April 1993.

"Drafting Pleadings and Discovery," *From Classroom To Courtroom: The New Lawyer's Start Up Kit*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Los Angeles, CA, February 1993.

"Cross Examination," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., July 1992.

"Damages," National Business Institute, Miami, FL, February 1992.

"Real and Necessary Trial Preparation: Preparing for Trial Without Reinventing the Wheel," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Winter Convention, Boca Raton, FL, Jan. 1992.

Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Annual Convention, Toronto, Canada, July 1991.

"Jury Selection," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, *Recovering for Psychological Injuries: What You Don't Know Can Hurt Your Client*, San Francisco, CA, November 1990.

"Trial Advocacy," National Business Institute, Miami, FL, November 1990.

"Determining and Proving Damages," National Business Institute, Miami, FL, July 1990.

"Winning the Product Liability Case Through Discovery," Kansas Trial Lawyers Association, *Warm Weather Seminar*, Freeport, Bahamas, February 1990.

"Movies and Videotapes," Association of Trial Lawyers of America, *Demonstrative Evidence Seminar*, San Francisco, CA, May 1989.

"Offer/Demand for Judgment/Settlement - How, When, and Why," Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, *Winning Cases Without Trial*, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Nov. 1988.

## **SELECT MEDIA APPEARANCES AND COVERAGE**

Miami Herald Business Monday/South Florida Legal Guide (10/16/2017)

[https://issuu.com/sflg/docs/sflg\\_-\\_mhbm\\_october\\_16\\_-\\_2017](https://issuu.com/sflg/docs/sflg_-_mhbm_october_16_-_2017)

<http://sflegalguide.com/John-Leighton.html>

NBC "Today" show - national

CNN "Newsroom" - national

Associated Press - national

"Inside Edition"- national syndicated

WPLG 10 (ABC)/NBC6-WTVJ (NBC)/WSVN (Fox)/WFOR-CBS4 (CBS) - Miami

WFTV (ABC)/WESH (NBC) - Orlando

Univision

Telemundo

Florida Center for Investigative Reporting

<http://fcir.org/2013/11/20/banks-fail-to-follow-laws-meant-to-protect-consumers-from-atm-crime-fcir-investigation-finds/>

## **SELECT PUBLICATIONS**

J. Leighton, "A Farewell to (fire)Arms? Thoughts on the Tipping Point for the New American Revolution," *Miami Daily Business Review*, March 2, 2018.

<https://www.law.com/dailybusinessreview/2018/03/02/a-farewell-to-firearms-thoughts-on-the-tipping-point-for-the-new-american-revolution/>

J. Leighton, "10 Tips to Prevent Child Sex Abuse ...and why publicizing sex abuse cases is good for society," *South Florida Legal Guide*, Vol. 19, No. 1, pp. 116-117.

<http://sflegalguide.com/blog/10-tips-to-prevent-child-sex-abuse-and-why-publici.html>

[https://issuu.com/sflg/docs/2018\\_edition?e=6390277/57212820](https://issuu.com/sflg/docs/2018_edition?e=6390277/57212820)

J. Leighton, "Brain Injuries Aren't Just For NFL Players: Recognizing Traumatic Brain Injuries," *South Florida Legal Guide*, Vol. 18, No. 1, Jan. 2017, p. 125.

<http://sflegalguide.com/blog/recognizing-traumatic-brain-injury-not-limited-to-.html>

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J. Leighton, "Punitive Damages in Florida," *Final Report of the Florida Bar Commission on Tort Litigation*, 1984.

## **PAST LEGAL EMPLOYMENT**

Senior Partner, Leesfield Leighton & Partners, P.A., Miami, FL (1985-2008)  
Summer Associate, Donovan Leisure Newton & Irvine, New York City (1984)

## **SIGNIFICANT REPORTED CASES**

*Buirley v. Aluma Systems*, 494 So.2d 1156 (Fla. 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA 1986)  
*Johnston v. Halliday*, 516 So.2d 84 (Fla. 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA 1987)  
*Amore v. G.D. Searle & Co.*, 748 F.Supp. 845 (S.D. Fla. 1990)  
*White v. Am-Sprad Metals, Inc.*, 583 So.2d 769 (Fla. 4<sup>th</sup> DCA 1991)  
*Rivas v. Freeman*, 940 F.2d 1491 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991)  
*Publix Super Markets, Inc. v. Jeffery*, 650 So.2d 122 (Fla. 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA 1995)  
*Floval Oil Corp. v. Munoz*, 679 So.2d 286 (Fla. 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA 1996)  
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*Adventist Health System/Sunbelt v. Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury*, 865 So.2d 561 (Fla. 5<sup>th</sup> DCA 2004, en banc), rev. den. 882 So.2d 384 (Fla. 2004)  
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*Peninsula Logistics, Inc. v. Erb*, 159 So.3d 301 (Fla 5<sup>th</sup> DCA 2015)

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Temple Beth Am, Miami, Florida, Board of Directors (2004-11), Committee of 100  
Cocoplum Civic Association (Vice President, 2001-2002)  
Dade County Comprehensive Pro Bono Project, "Put Something Back" participant  
Miami Council for International Visitors (Board of Directors, 2001-03)  
National Crime Victim Bar Association Victim Advocate Training Program, 2006-  
Business Network International (South Beach chapter)

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Born April 14, 1959, San Francisco, CA  
Licensed race car driver/Skip Barber Racing