



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
CONTACT: Gail Lamarche, Director of Marketing  
PHONE: 239.344.1186

July 19, 2016

**SEVEN HENDERSON FRANKLIN ATTORNEYS  
NAMED TO FLORIDA TREND MAGAZINE'S 2016 LEGAL ELITE**

Fort Myers, Florida — Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A. is pleased to announce that Attorneys **J. Matthew Belcastro, Michael J. Corso, Thomas H. Gunderson, Russell Schropp** and **Robert C. Shearman** were named to the 2016 *Florida Trend Magazine's* Legal Elite.® To compile the list, Florida Trend asked actively practicing Florida attorneys to name the attorneys that they hold in highest regard, lawyers with whom they have personally worked and would recommend to others.

In addition, Attorneys **Amanda L. Brock** and **Traci T. McKee** were recognized as this year's Legal Elite Up and Comers. Florida Trend invited all members of the Florida Bar to nominate young attorneys who exhibit excellence in the law. The votes were tallied by an independent research firm and a Blue Ribbon Panel of prominent lawyers reviewed the list of attorneys who garnered the most votes. The list represents fewer than 2% of all active Florida lawyers. The entire 2016 Legal Elite report can be viewed at [www.FloridaTrend.com/LegalElite](http://www.FloridaTrend.com/LegalElite).

**Henderson Franklin's 2016 Legal Elite Attorneys**



**Belcastro** concentrates his practice in the areas of appellate law, construction litigation, construction contracts, business and real estate litigation. He regularly writes and speaks on pertinent topics in the construction industry. Belcastro is a member of the Chamber of Southwest Florida Board of Directors and is a founding officer of the Lee County A.C.E Mentoring Program. He can be reached at [matthew.belcastro@henlaw.com](mailto:matthew.belcastro@henlaw.com).



**Corso** is Chair of the firm's Tort & Insurance Litigation division. He is Board Certified (by both The Florida Bar and the National Board of Trial Advocacy) in Civil Trial Law and Business Litigation. Corso's current civil trial practice area is heavily involved in the defense of non-medical professionals, including lawyers, accountants, architects, engineers and surveyors, copyright/trademark infringement, product liability, drone law and general tort defense matters. He can be reached at [michael.corso@henlaw.com](mailto:michael.corso@henlaw.com).



**Gunderson** is Board Certified in Real Estate law and handles commercial real estate transactions, commercial and residential real estate development, banking law, property owners' association law and title insurance matters. He is a member of the Uncommon Friends Foundation Board of Directors and is Treasurer of the Conference & Convention Council of Fort Myers, Inc. Gunderson can be reached at [thomas.gunderson@henlaw.com](mailto:thomas.gunderson@henlaw.com).



**Schropp** is the firm's Managing Stockholder. He focuses his practice in land use and zoning and represents property owners and others before local, regional, state and federal agencies. He serves as Chair of the City of Fort Myers Nuisance Abatement Board and is Co-Chair of the Business Issues Task Force of the Horizon Council. Schropp can be reached at [russell.schropp@henlaw.com](mailto:russell.schropp@henlaw.com).



**Shearman** is Board Certified in Civil Trial Law and Florida Supreme Court Certified Civil Mediator. He concentrates his practice in the defense of tort, civil rights, employment and real estate claims, including negligence and errors and omissions claims. Shearman represents numerous law enforcement agencies and officers, as well as public and private entities, with respect to constitutional claims, wrongful termination, discrimination, and harassment matters. He serves on the United Way Board and Southwest Florida Seminole Booster Club Board of Directors. Shearman can be reached at [robert.shearman@henlaw.com](mailto:robert.shearman@henlaw.com).

### **Henderson Franklin's 2016 Up & Comers**



**Brock** concentrates her practice in land use and environmental law, assisting clients secure entitlements for their property through zoning and development approvals. She counsels clients on a broad range of issues, including due diligence review, environmental compliance, property tax appeals, and contaminated site remediation. Brock also blogs on these issues on **The Legal Scoop on Southwest Florida Real Estate**. She serves as President on the Board of Governors for the Real Estate Investment Society (REIS); on the Lee County Conservation Land Acquisition and Stewardship Advisory Committee (CLASAC); on the Executive Council of the Environmental and Land Use Section (ELULS) of the Florida Bar, chairing the Land Use Committee; and, is Co-Chair of the Land Use Bar Section of the Lee County Bar Association. Brock can be reached at [amanda.brock@henlaw.com](mailto:amanda.brock@henlaw.com).



**McKee** concentrates her practice on defending professionals in malpractice lawsuits and grievance disputes. She also represents individuals, corporations, and governmental entities involved in personal injury, products liability, and toxic tort disputes. McKee also represents the firms' clients in appeals and has argued before the Florida Supreme Court. She is a member and serves on the Board of Directors for the Florida Defense Lawyers Association. McKee can be reached at [traci.mckee@henlaw.com](mailto:traci.mckee@henlaw.com).

Henderson Franklin is the largest, locally-based law firm between Tampa and Miami with 55 attorneys dedicated to providing a wide range of legal services in the areas of business and tax planning, commercial and civil litigation, employment law, estate planning, family law, immigration law, intellectual property, workers' compensation, real estate, and land use and environmental law. Since 1924, Henderson Franklin has been assisting clients build their homes, businesses and communities in Southwest Florida. Henderson Franklin operates offices in Fort Myers, Bonita Springs, Sanibel Island and Naples (by appointment only). For more information, please visit [www.henlaw.com](http://www.henlaw.com).