JONES
FOSTER

Melanie R. Skenian

Associate

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Location

505 South Flagler Drive
Suite 1100
West Palm Beach
Florida 33401

Education

J.D., University of Florida Levin College of Law, *cum laude*

B.A., University of Florida, *cum laude*

Admissions

The Florida Bar



Melanie Skenian, a member of Jones Foster's Trust & Estate Litigation team, focuses her practice in the areas of trust litigation, probate litigation, and guardianship litigation. She represents fiduciaries, creditors, and individuals in all probate, trust, and guardianship settings, including will and trust contests, breach of trust actions, personal representative and trustee removal and accounting actions, will and trust reformation and modification proceedings, contested guardianships, exploitation, and tortious interference litigation.

Mel is a Class VII graduate of the prestigious Florida Fellows Institute of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), a rigorous education program designed to cultivate future leaders in trust and estate law. She is actively involved in several bar and industry organizations, including The Florida Bar's Real Property, Probate & Trust Law (RPPTL) Section. She has been recognized by peer-reviewed publications, including on *The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch* list for Litigation – Trusts and Estates, and on *Palm Beach Illustrated's* "Top Lawyers" list for Trusts and Estates.

Mel graduated *cum laude* with a Juris Doctor from the University of Florida Levin College of Law. She received a CALI Book Award for Federal Income Taxation and was awarded the Fredric G. Levin Ethos of Excellence Scholarship. During her studies, she served as a research assistant and was an active member and coach of the Florida Moot Court Team. Mel gained valuable experience as an intern for Judge Michael G. Williamson of the United States Middle District Bankruptcy Court.

Honors & Distinctions

The Best Lawyers in America
Ones to Watch, Litigation - Trusts and Estates, 2026

Palm Beach Illustrated
Top Lawyers, Trusts and Estates, 2024

Affiliations

The Florida Bar
Real Property, Probate & Trust Law (RPPTL) Section, 2022-Present

EST.
1924

-Probate Law & Procedure Committee, 2026-Present

Palm Beach County Bar Association
Young Lawyers Section, 2022-Present

Florida Fellows Institute of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel
Class VII Graduate, 2026

Florida Association for Women Lawyers Palm Beach County Chapter (PBC FAWL)
Member, 2023-2025

Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce
Palm Beach Young Professionals, 2023-2024