

**William M. Pearson**

Florida Bar Board Certified in Wills, Trusts & Estates

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Professional Experience

Bill Pearson is a founding member of the firm and has practiced law in South Florida since 1988. Bill has an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*© and *The Best Attorneys in Florida* by Showmark, *Florida Super Lawyers* by Thomson Reuters, *Best Attorneys in America* and *Florida's Top Lawyers* by the American Registry, and *Five Star Attorneys* and *Top Southwest Florida Lawyers* by Gulfshore Life.

Education

South Texas College of Law, Houston, J.D., 1984

University of Colorado, B.S., Accounting and Finance, 1981

Bar Admissions

Florida  
Texas

Court Admissions

United States Tax Court

Professional Involvement

American Bar Association: Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section (member)

Florida Bar: Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section (member Probate Law, Trust Law, Trusts & Estates Litigation Committees; past Circuit Representative; past Executive Council member); Tax Section (member)

The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education (past Chair, Wills, Trusts & Estates Certification Committee)

Probate Rules Committee of Florida Supreme Court (past member)

Collier County Bar Association Trusts & Estates Section, Member (past Chair)

Estate Planning Council of Naples (member)

Planned Giving Council of Naples (member)

Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, Southwest Florida, Member

Texas Bar Association, Member

South Texas Law Journal (past technical editor)

Community Involvement

American Cancer Society:

- Director, Chair, Volunteer Engagement Committee

- Estate Planning Committee; (past Chair)
- Nationwide Gift Planning Advisor Council (past Chair)
- Volunteer Leadership Institute (graduate)

Eckerd College Parent Council:

- National Advisory Council (member)
- Parent Council (past Chair)

Youth Haven Foundation (past Chair)

Collier County Education Foundation (past Director)

**Practice Area: Trusts & Estates**

**Areas of Concentration:**

Representing individuals in their estate planning

Representing fiduciaries in the administration of estates, trusts and guardianships

Representing fiduciaries and beneficiaries in disputed matters involving estates, trusts and guardianships

Advising clients in the avoidance and minimization of estate, gift and generation-skipping transfer taxes

Advising clients in charitable planning