



# BRET HAMLIN

Shareholder

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## PRACTICE FOCUS

Qualified Retirement Plans  
Executive Compensation  
Fiduciary & Prohibited Transactions  
Cybersecurity, Data Breach & Protection  
ADA Accessibility  
COVID-19 Response Team  
Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation  
Representation Before Federal Agencies

## EDUCATION

University of Akron, B.S., 1985  
University of Akron School of Law, J.D., 1991

## BAR ADMISSIONS

American Bar Association  
The Florida Bar  
Hillsborough County Bar Association

Bret Hamlin practices primarily in the areas of employee benefits, deferred compensation and trusts. Prior to entering the private practice of law, he provided plan design and consulting, third-party administration and investment, as well as retirement plan education services for clients.

Bret represents large, medium and small employers with respect to many employee benefit matters, including both single employer and multiple employer qualified retirement plans, deferred compensation and welfare benefit plan matters. A significant portion of his practice involves plan compliance, ERISA fiduciary best practices and plan corrections under IRS and Department of Labor compliance resolution programs. He also represents clients with respect to IRS plan examinations and Department of Labor plan investigations.

Bret is an active member of the Employee Benefits Committee of the Tax Section of Taxation of the American Bar Association, the Tampa Bay Pension Council, the Florida West Coast Employee Benefits Council, and the National Association of Professional Employer Organizations (NAPEO). He is also a past president of the Florida West Coast Employee Benefits Council.

Bret frequently speaks to both professional groups and plan sponsor groups regarding a variety of employee benefit topics.

He is active in a number of community and civic organizations. Bret devotes a great deal of time to United States Masters Swimming and its local and regional affiliates.

## BRET HAMLIN

### COURT ADMISSIONS

All Florida State Courts

### HONORS

- AV Preeminent® Rating, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review
- *The Best Lawyers in America*© (2008-2023)
  - Employee Benefits Law
  - 2021 Tampa Employee Benefits (ERISA) Lawyer of the Year
  - 2017 Tampa Employee Benefits (ERISA) Lawyer of the Year
  - 2014 Tampa Employee Benefits (ERISA) Lawyer of the Year

### COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

- Florida West Coast Employee Benefits Council
- Tampa Bay Pension Council, Co-Chair
- American Bar Association: Section of Taxation, Employment Benefits Committee, Vice Chair
- American Bar Association Tax Section: Incoming Chair of the Employee Benefits Committee
- Employee Benefits Committee of the ABA Tax Section
- *The Best Lawyers in America*© (2008-2023)

### NEWS & INSIGHTS

Eighty-One Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2023 Publication  
Firm News, 8.18.22

Seventy Six Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2022 Publication  
Firm News, 8.19.21

67 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2021 Publication  
Firm News, 8.20.20

2019 Best Lawyers Cites 46 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names Six "Lawyer of the Year"  
Firm News, 8.16.18

Bret Hamlin Appointed Incoming Chair of the Employee Benefits Committee of the ABA Taxation Section  
Firm News, 7.17.18

**BRET  
HAMLIN**

2018 Best Lawyers Cites 44 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Five "Lawyer Of The Year"  
Firm News, 8.15.17

2017 Best Lawyers Cites 44 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Two "Lawyers Of The Year"  
Firm News, 8.15.16

2016 Best Lawyers Cites 40 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Five "Lawyer of the Year"  
Firm News, 8.17.15

2014 Best Lawyers Cites 42 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names  
Three "Lawyer Of The Year"  
Firm News, 8.30.13

Best Lawyers In America  
Firm News, 7.31.12

**CLIENT ADVISORIES**

DOL Releases Cybersecurity Guidance For Retirement Plans  
Advisory, 5.24.21

Update On the ARPA Cobra Subsidy: DOL Releases Additional  
Guidance and Model Notices  
Advisory, 4.15.21