

H. Scott Bates

Orlando, FL
(407) 420-1414
sbates@forthepeople.com

EDUCATION

University of Florida

B.A., 1978

J.D., 1981

Scott Bates was born January 19, 1956, in Frankfurt, West Germany. He received his B.A. in 1978 and his J.D. in 1981 from the University of Florida where he was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. He is admitted to practice in both the United States District Courts of the Southern and Middle Districts, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit, as well as being admitted to practice in Tennessee since 2000.

Mr. Bates began practice in 1981 with his father, Richard W. Bates, a well-known Central Florida trial lawyer. In 1987 the firm of Bates & Bates merged with Mateer and Harbert, becoming Mateer, Harbert & Bates. From 1987 through 1992, Mr. Bates was practicing almost exclusively medical malpractice defense for Orlando Regional Medical Center. In 1992 Mr. Bates left that firm and joined Morgan & Morgan as one of its four equity partners. Since 1992, Morgan & Morgan has grown from a seven- (7) lawyer plaintiffs' firm to its current size as the state's largest plaintiffs' personal injury firm. The firm has offices in Orlando, Tampa, Jacksonville, Fort Myers, Fort Lauderdale, Daytona Beach, Kissimmee, Winter Haven, St. Petersburg, Sarasota, Lakeland, Naples, Tallahassee, The Villages, Tavares, and West Palm Beach, as well as in Memphis and Nashville, Tennesse; Jackson, Mississippi; Atlanta and Columbus, Georgia; Lexington, Kentucky; and New York City; employs more than 700 attorneys, thousands employees, and is now recognized as the largest plaintiffs firm in the country. He is also Vice President and General Counsel of Legends Sports Management Group, and a certified Players Agent by Major League Baseball. Legends currently represents over 40 professional baseball players, including eight current major leaguers.

In 1989, at the age of 32, he was one of the youngest lawyers in Florida to become a Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer. He is also Board Certified as a Civil Trial Lawyer by the National Board of Trial Advocates. In 1989, he was the youngest of 35 trial lawyers selected to become Charter Members of the Central Florida Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, a select organization of Plaintiff and Defense Trial Lawyers whose selection process is by substantial trial qualification. Mr. Bates has been an AV rated lawyer by Martindale Hubbell for over 25 years.



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Mr. Bates is a recognized and frequent lecturer, both to physicians and attorneys, in the area of medical malpractice litigation, peer-review privileges, and medical records law. He has a well-recognized expertise in the evaluation, litigation, and trial of failure to diagnose cancer cases. He has tried to verdict in excess of 100 medical malpractice cases, and has participated as Appellate counsel in over 15 reported cases, including the often cited Florida Supreme Court decision in Amente v. Newman, M.D. In 1996, he received what was believed to be the largest Plaintiff's medical malpractice verdict in Seminole County's history in the Amente case.

Mr. Bates is also involved in civic activities. From 1995-1999, Mr. Bates was a member of the Board of Directors of the Metro Orlando Unit of the American Cancer Society. In 1996 and 1997, he additionally was the Chairman of the Cancer Society's Income Development Committee, its chief fundraising arm, and in 1997 was their Treasurer as well. In 1996 he founded the Orlando Invitational Team Golf Championship, a charity fundraiser for the Metro Orlando Unit, serving as Tournament Chairman. Mr. Bates currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Florida Sports Hall of Fame and was the Chairman of the 2019 Hall of Fame Induction Gala in Orlando. In 2011, he became a minority owner of Orlando City SC of Major League Soccer.

Mr. Bates was married July 10, 1982, to his wife, Terri. They reside in Orlando with their four children, Rick, Jaclyn, Will and Tori. His sons Rick and Will are also attorneys with Morgan & Morgan. Rick is a Medical Malpractice lawyer while Will works with our Personal Injury team. His daughter, Jaclyn, also works with the firm as a legal assistant.

BAR ADMISSION

- United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida
- The Florida Bar
- The Tennessee Bar

MEMBERSHIPS

- Tennessee Bar Association



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- Orange County Bar Association
- Florida Bar Association
- Florida Justice Association
- American Association for Justice
- American Board of Trial Advocates - Central Florida Chapter (Charter member)

PRACTICE AREAS

- Wrongful Death Attorneys
- Birth Injury Lawyers

RESULTS

- Behr v. Price, Medical Malpractice (2008), $150,000
- Truitt v. Gunshannon, Medical Malpractice (2011), $845,000
- Krause v. Adventist Health, Medical Malpractice (2016), $100,000

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- 2027 Best Lawyers in America for work in Insurance Law, Litigation - Insurance, Medical Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs, and Professional Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs
- Recognized in Best Lawyers in America since 2018
- Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer, Florida Bar, Board of Certification
- Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer, National Board of Trial Advocacy
- Named to Florida Super Lawyers List 2007 - 2014, 2017 - 2018
- Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell