



Simeon D. Brier

Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives
Chair, DEI Strategies & Solutions

Boca Raton, Miami

sbrier@cozen.com | (305) 704-5942

Simeon is a respected commercial litigator with more than two decades of experience handling complex business disputes in state and federal courts. He has led litigation in a wide range of legal areas, including contract and commercial law, construction, real estate, labor & employment, intellectual property, and insurance defense.

In 2023, Simeon was appointed inaugural chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Initiatives at Cozen O'Connor and tasked with leading firmwide efforts to promote greater diversity within the firm and beyond. As a proud member of the Latino community, Simeon has long been involved in diversity education and advocacy. He is an alumnus and fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, member of the firmwide DEI Committee, and member of the Hispanic Attorney Resource Group.

In his role as chair of DEI Initiatives, Simeon is focused on spearheading innovative collaborations between the firm and its ancillary businesses, as well as on DEI training within the firm and recruitment and retention of diverse attorneys. He is currently leading the development of the firm's DEI Strategies and Solutions Group, a partnership among Cozen O'Connor, The Healy+ Group, and Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies, to advise a wide range of institutional clients on how best to achieve diversity goals and comply with rapidly changing laws and regulations.

Simeon also works closely with the firm's Legal Profession Services group, counselling clients on risk management, legal ethics, and professional responsibility issues associated with the practice of law. He is focusing on assisting law firm clients with appropriate integration of DEI-focused initiatives.

In addition to his service to the legal profession, Simeon is deeply engaged in his local community. A lifelong South Floridian, Simeon is the District 1 city commissioner and vice mayor of Parkland, Florida. Moved to run for public office in the aftermath of the 2018 school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Simeon's alma mater, he has since led major redistricting efforts, community investment, and redevelopment initiatives in his community and accrued valuable municipal government experience.

Simeon is a long-time member and trustee of the Parkland Chamber of Commerce; board member and former president/chair of SOS Children's Villages of Florida; past president and former board member of the Coral Springs Museum of Art; longstanding supporter of the Maya Macey Foundation; volunteer with Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child; and supporter of numerous organizations created after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

Simeon earned his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Nova Southeastern University in 2001, where he served as an articles editor and senior staff member of the Nova Law Review as well as captain of Nova's Moot Court Sports Law Travel Team. He graduated from Florida State University with a B.S. in 1997.

Experience

Represented home care agency franchisee Interim Healthcare of the Treasure Coast, Inc. in its sale to Interim HealthCare Inc., a division of Caring Brands International and franchisor of the "Interim

Practice Areas

- Business
- Commercial Litigation
- DEI Strategies & Solutions
- Legal Profession Services

Education

- Nova Southeastern University, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2001
- Florida State University, B.S., 1997

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Florida

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court -- Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court -- Northern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of Florida
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court -- Southern District of Florida

Affiliations

- Palm Beach County Bar Association
- Broward County Bar Association
- Florida Bar Association, Business Law Section
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America
- City Commissioner and Vice Mayor, City of Parkland, Florida
- Board Member and Past President/Chair, SOS Children's Villages of Florida
- Trustee, Parkland Chamber of Commerce
- Past President, Coral Springs Museum of Art

Awards & Honors

- Top Latino Lawyer, *Latino Leaders Magazine*, 2023
- Rising Star, Florida Super Lawyers, 2011-2015
- Fellow, Leadership Council on Legal Diversity 2013
- Goodwin Fellow, Scholarship to Nova Southeastern University
-

Simeon D. Brier

sbrier@cozen.com

P: (305) 704-5942 | F: (305) 403-9989

P: (305) 704-5942 | F: (305) 403-9989

Healthcare" brand of home care agencies. This transaction drew on the experience of the firm's corporate, health care transactions, health care regulatory, tax, business litigation, and employee benefits and executive compensation attorneys. Our particular knowledge of reimbursement under Medicare, Medicaid, and other federal and state programs provided valuable guidance in connection with this closing.

Successfully defended investors in a cannabis company in connection with a federal court action, thwarting an attempted Injunction/Temporary Restraining Order related to a dispute over stock rights.

Represented Apotex Inc. and Apotex Corp. in a patent infringement action regarding Apotex's biosimilar applications to make biosimilar versions of Amgen's NEULASTA® and NEUPOGEN® products. We navigated Apotex through the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act's "patent dance," and in the first BPCIA case to go to trial, we obtained a verdict of noninfringement. This result was affirmed on appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Successfully defended a defamation claim made by a former employee/employment applicant in the State Court in Florida that went to trial.

Simeon has successfully represented various municipalities and private entities working with municipalities and semi-governmental entities on litigation matters, utility contract disputes, real property matters, bond financing issues, bankruptcy matters, title issues, landlord/tenant issues, charitable organizations, Florida's Sunshine laws, and related matters.

Successfully defended a global mail order pharmacy company in a variety of employment matters, including at the trial level in a Title VII race discrimination, defamation, invasion of privacy, and tortious interference action. After succeeding in the dismissal of certain claims before they proceeded to the jury, a defense verdict was returned after a week-long jury trial in favor of the employer/client.

Defended and prosecuted matters, on behalf of employers and high level executives, involving claims of discrimination, sexual harassment, defamation, breach of restrictive covenants, theft of trade secrets, unpaid wages, violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, and employee benefits at both the Federal and State Court level.

Extensive litigation experience in real estate matters, including commercial/residential foreclosures, title disputes, property damage, and broker related actions.

Tried and won a state court action on behalf of a National Lending Institution against a borrower's complex allegations of violation of the Truth In Lending Act and Regulation Z.

Successfully defended a global manufacturing company in product liability matters and intentional torts, involving claims for wrongful death and significant bodily injury stemming from industrial accidents. Simeon was able to successfully navigate the settlement of those matters after significant favorable discovery.

Achieved significant victories for manufacturing and distribution clients pursuing parties in breach of contract, fraud, and related actions, at the federal and state court level.

Litigated and tried a variety of matters involving landlord tenant disputes, including winning at trial on behalf of a National Landlord against a defaulting tenant in a commercial lease action.

Successfully handled a number of complex commercial foreclosure actions against borrowers on behalf of national lending institutions and auto finance companies, including successfully defending claims against said entities for fraud, breach of contract, deceptive lending practices, and related claims.

Simeon D. Brier

sbrier@cozen.com

P: (305) 704-5942 | F: (305) 403-9989

P: (305) 704-5942 | F: (305) 403-9989

©2024 Cozen O'Connor. All rights reserved.



Successfully defended Federal RICO claims on behalf of a national client.

Successfully litigated conflict of interest disputes and other ethics related issues on behalf of clients and law firms.

Simeon D. Brier

sbrier@cozen.com

P: (305) 704-5942 | F: (305) 403-9989

P: (305) 704-5942 | F: (305) 403-9989

©2024 Cozen O'Connor. All rights reserved.

