



Kelley Kronenberg Welcomes Janice M. Rickert and Blane R. Wheeley to its Tampa Office

TAMPA, Fla. – Kelley Kronenberg, a diverse business law firm, announced that **Janice M. Rickert** and **Blane R. Wheeley** have joined the firm's Tampa office.

Ms. Rickert, who joins as a Partner, focuses her practice on Workers' Compensation defense and has experience advising clients in Premises Liability, Employment Practices and Safety/OSHA compliance. Her clients cover a wide range of industries including insurance, restaurants, hospitality, and nursing and residential care facilities.

Prior to joining Kelley Kronenberg, Ms. Rickert served as an attorney in the legal department of a large insurance company, where she represented insureds in the defense of Workers' Compensation claims through all stages of litigation, mediation and appeal. Additionally, she owned and operated her own boutique insurance defense law firm.

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, Ms. Rickert is a Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil Mediator and a Florida Bar Certified Speaker. She has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America® and is a member of the Workers' Compensation Section of The Florida Bar as well as the Hillsborough County Bar Association.

Ms. Rickert earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and her Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Florida. She is admitted to practice law in Florida; the United States Middle District of Florida; and the United States Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit.

Mr. Wheeley, who joins as an Attorney, assists in handling matters related to Workers' Compensation.

Prior to joining Kelley Kronenberg, Mr. Wheeley worked as an Assistant Public Defender at the Office of the Public Defender, 13th Judicial Circuit in Tampa. He gained valuable experience handling a multitude of cases including DUI, battery, trespassing, and petit theft. He also worked as a Social Security Attorney for a national personal injury law firm in Orlando.

Mr. Wheeley earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree, *cum laude*, in Criminology from the University of Florida. He received his Juris Doctor Degree from Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center. While attending law school, Mr. Wheeley earned a spot on the Dean's List and was a member of the school's Negotiation Team and Trial Association. He is admitted to practice law in Florida.