

GENERAL COUNSELS COUNCIL

Uniting to drive reforms and solutions necessary to improve Florida's legal climate from bottom-five to top-quartile in the nation by 2030.

Despite its otherwise strong business climate, Florida's national and global competitiveness is held back by our current bottom-five legal climate ranking and continued spot on the national "Judicial Hellhole" watchlist. Lawsuit abuse has a real cost on employers' ability to grow their business, support their communities and invest in their workers. It also hits Florida families right in the pocketbook, with **frivolous litigation effectively taxing Florida households to the tune of \$4,442/year in increased costs**. Tort costs alone make up 3.6% of the State GDP- the worst ratio in the country.

There is hope though. Under Governor DeSantis' leadership, the Florida Supreme Court has been transformed, stopped legislating from the bench and moved quickly to improve Florida's legal climate with changes to civil procedure rules. Further, with new legislative leadership taking the reins in the Florida House and Senate, there is a renewed opportunity for overdue legislative reform.

How We Get There:

Whether before the legislature, the court of law or the court or public opinion, or at the ballot box, **the Florida Chamber of Commerce is leading the fight to improve Florida's bottom-five legal climate**. The General Counsels Council will focus on moving the needle across **four battlefields** and advise the Florida Chamber Litigation & Regulatory Reform Center's effort to enact meaningful change. With more trial lawyer billboards urging frivolous litigation in Florida than anywhere else in the world, the need for a united business community to advocate the reforms necessary for Florida to meet its competitiveness potential is paramount.



Legislative



Political



Courts of Law



Court of
Public Opinion

For more information contact:

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The Four Battlefields:

1. **Legislative**

- Draft, advocate and pass overdue and necessary reforms to bring sanity back to Florida's legal climate
- Stop advancement and passage of harmful new causes of action

2. **Political**

- Elect and re-elect pro-business lawmakers and cabinet officials
- Un-elect trial lawyer-backed policymakers and candidates
- Unite business around common principles

3. **Courts of Law**

- Engage in a proactive amicus program to support business positions in court and ensure legislative progress is not eroded
- Identify/support strict textualist judges' ascendancy to the bench
- Support rules and changes to civil procedure that streamline the legal process and root out abuse of it by opportunistic trial lawyers

4. **Court of Public Opinion**

- Use the business community's voice to bring awareness to the cost of lawsuit abuse and the legislative solutions to fix it
- Author/produce op-eds, letters to the editor, podcasts, public testimony, petitions, and more...

The Florida Chamber Litigation & Regulatory Reform Center's General Counsels Council

Join a group of your peer leaders from diverse industries committed to stomping out lawsuit abuse and driving the change necessary to meet Florida's competitive potential. Members of the Florida Chamber Litigation & Regulatory Reform Center's General Counsels Council will:

- Set the vision and focus for the Florida Chamber Litigation & Regulatory Reform Center's activity
- Review legislation, polling, court cases and rules to identify opportunities to turn the tide of Florida's legal climate.
- Participate in regularly scheduled calls featuring guest speakers from the legislature, judiciary and business community
- Receive bi-monthly newsletters on the shifting landscape, materializing threats, and progress made
- Help secure Florida's future!

Join us.

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