

LANCE J. BLOCK
CURRICULUM VITAE

Born in Live Oak, Florida, March 8, 1955

Children: Andrew Block, born December 26, 1984

Sarah Block, born February 17, 1987

Anna Block, born July 11, 1988

Perry Block, born February 3, 1991

Emily Block, born March 17, 1993

Professional Experience

Currently practicing civil trial law and claims bill lobbying in Tallahassee, Florida with the Lance Block Law Firm, P.A.

Practiced civil trial law in Tallahassee and West Palm Beach, Florida from 1989 until April, 2008 as a Shareholder in the firm of Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, P.A.

Practiced civil trial law in West Palm Beach, Florida, 1985 to January, 1989 as an Associate at Montgomery, Lytal, Reiter, Denney & Searcy, P.A. and Montgomery Searcy & Denney, P.A.

Deputy Campaign Manager, Floridians Against Constitutional Tampering, 1984

Practiced criminal law in Miami, Florida as an Assistant Public Defender, 1984

Law Clerk, Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Tallahassee, Florida, 1982-83

Legislative Staff, Judiciary Committee, Florida House of Representatives, Tallahassee, Florida, 1981-82

Legislative Aide, State Representative George H. Sheldon (D-Tampa), Florida House of Representatives, 1979-80

Education

The Florida State University
College of Law (1980-1983)

Juris Doctorate degree, December, 1983

Oxford University, St. Edmund Hall,
Oxford, England, 1981

Public Defenders Office, 11th Judicial
Circuit, Certified Legal Intern, 1983

Public Defenders Office, 2nd Judicial
Circuit, Appellate Division, Certified Legal
Intern, 1983

FSU American Civil Liberties Union,
Charter President, 1981-83

FSU Young Democrats, 1977-83

Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity, 1980-83

The Florida State University
(1977-1979)

Bachelor of Arts degree, March, 1979
Graduated Cum Laude
Political Science (Major)
English (Minor)
FSU Young Democrats, 1978-79

Santa Fe Community College
(1974-1977)

Associate of Arts degree, June, 1977
Graduated Cum Laude
Assistant Intramural Director, 1976-77
Women's Basketball Team Coach, 1976-77

Professional Activities

Member, The Florida Bar, since 1984

Past President, The Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, 2000-2001 Past

Chair, Florida Lawyers Action Group, 2000-2001

Past EAGLE Founder, the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers

Fellow, Florida Justice Association

Sustaining Member, American Association for Justice, formerly The Association of Trial
Lawyers of America

Member, Federal District Court, Northern District of Florida, Middle District of Florida, and Southern District of Florida

Sustaining Member, American Bar Association

Sustaining Member, Tallahassee Bar Association

Sustaining Member, National Association of Counsel for Children

Sustaining Member, American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children

Sustaining Member, Public Justice (formerly Trial Lawyers for Public Justice)

Florida Democratic Lawyers Council

Civic Activities

Chairman, Governor's Commission on Disabilities, 2007-2010

Member, Governor's Task Force on Autism, 2008-2010

Past President, The ARC of Palm Beach County (formerly the Association of Retarded Citizens), 1997-1999

Founding School Board Chairman, The Potentials Charter School for Developmentally Disabled Children, 1998-1999

Presidential Elector and Delegate to the Democratic National Convention, 2000 and 2004

Trustee, Florida Silver Haired Legislature

Lifetime Member, Leon County Committee of Ninety-Nine

Past Member of Board of Directors, Florida Association for Rehabilitative Facilities

Past Member of Board of Directors, Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities Foundation, Inc.

Past Member of Advisory Board of Directors, Hearts and Hope, Inc.

Past Member of the Palm Beach County Democratic Executive Committee

Past Board of Directors, Florida Consumer Action Network

Past Board of Directors, Palm Beach County Chapter Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Past Member, Congressional Award Council, 12th Congressional District

Past Board of Directors, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Palm Beach County

Professional Achievements

Lance Block's statewide civil trial practice is based in Tallahassee, Florida, and consists of catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death cases, including automobile collisions and crashworthiness safety, governmental torts, abuse or neglect of care, product liability, and medical negligence cases. He has obtained numerous multi-million dollar verdicts, settlements and claims bill recoveries for clients across the state of Florida for almost thirty years.

Mr. Block is rated as an *AV Preeminent Attorney* by *Martindale-Hubbell*, and has been honored as an outstanding trial lawyer in numerous publications, including *The Best Lawyers in America*, the *National Law Journal*, *U.S. News and World Report's Best Lawyers and Best Law Firms in America*, *Florida Trends' Legal Elite*, *Super Lawyers*, the *Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America*, and *Florida Verdict Search*.

Lance Block's successes in the courtroom include one of the nation's largest jury verdicts in 2005 (\$30.6 million), the largest jury verdict ever under Florida's Bill of Rights for the Developmentally Disabled \$8 million, and two cases which resulted in the largest jury verdicts in Florida at the time for a single personal injury (\$25.6 million) and the wrongful death of a child (\$9.25 million). Over his career as a trial attorney, Lance Block has multi-million dollar verdicts and settlements amounting to more than \$400 million.

In addition to his trial practice, Lance Block represents clients and attorneys seeking claims bill relief from the Florida Legislature. Mr. Block has achieved the passage of numerous multi-million dollar claims bill awards, including the largest ever against the state of Florida (\$18.2 million).

Lance Block has been a member of the Florida Bar since 1984. He is a past President of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers (2000-2001), and past Chair of the Florida Lawyers Action Group (2000). In 2003 he received the Academy's *Jon Krupnick Award for Perseverance* for his ten year successful fight for justice on behalf of a developmentally disabled woman who was sexually abused while living in a group home. In 2000, Mr. Block was the recipient of the AFIL's Crystal Eagle Award; the Golden Eagle Award in 1997 and 1998; the Silver Eagle Award in 1996; and the Legislative "Most Valuable Player" and "Shoe Leather" awards in 1994.

A staunch advocate for children and persons with disabilities, Lance Block frequently represents developmentally disabled adults, children, and rape trauma survivors who were harmed as a result of abuse, neglect, or unreasonable care. From 2007

to 2010, Mr. Block served as Chairman of the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities and was a Member of the Governor’s Task Force on Autism. From 1997 to 1999, Lance Block served as the President of the Arc of Palm Beach County (formerly Association of Retarded Citizens) and was the founding Board Chairman of the Potentials School, a charter school for children with severe developmental disabilities located in Riviera Beach, Florida. In 1995-96, Mr. Block served as a Trustee for the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities Foundation.

In addition to representing more than one hundred clients who have been abused and neglected, as Chairman of the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities from 2007 to 2010, Lance Block spearheaded legislation to strengthen legal protections against abuse and neglect of the developmentally disabled. Block authored changes to Florida Statute 393.13 which broadened protections under the Florida Bill of Rights for the Developmentally Disabled. On July 28, 2008, Mr. Block received the Governor’s Point of Light Award for more than twenty years of service to persons with disabilities.

In the 2009 Florida Legislative session, Lance Block volunteered his services to the parents of Rachel Hoffman and successfully lobbied for Florida Statute 914.28, known as “Rachel’s Law.” A year earlier, twenty-three year old Rachel Hoffman was slain during a police sting operation while serving the Tallahassee Police Department as a confidential informant. “Rachel’s Law” is landmark legislation, and Florida is the first state in the nation to establish statewide standards designed to protect civilians who assist law enforcement as confidential informants or perform undercover tasks.

During the 2000 Presidential election Lance Block was appointed lead attorney by the Chairman of the Florida Democratic Party for the recount of ballots in Palm Beach County on behalf of the Gore-Lieberman campaign. During the 2004 and 2008 Presidential elections, Mr. Block represented the Kerry-Edwards and Obama-Biden campaigns in Gadsden County, Florida.

Verdicts, Settlements, and Claims Bill Awards

Lance Block has achieved jury trial verdicts, settlements and claims bill awards exceeding \$400 Million, including the following cases:

1. Brody v. Broward Sheriff’s Office (Broward County)
\$30.6 Million verdict, December, 2005
\$10.950 million claims bill, March, 2012
2. Carmona v. General Motors (Duval County)
\$25.4 Million verdict, December, 1996

3. Glendale Montessori School cases (Martin County)
10 cases involving abuse of pre-school children, \$19.35 Million confidential settlement, October, 1991
4. Amora v. Florida Department of Children and Families
\$18.2 Million claims bill, May, 2008
5. Jane Doe v. Automobile Manufacturer (Hillsborough County)
42 year old woman rendered quadriplegic in crashworthiness case against major automobile manufacturer
\$12 Million confidential settlement, June, 2006
6. D.G. and J.G. v. Florida Dept. of Children and Families (Palm Beach County)
\$10 Million settlement and claims bill, October, 2007
7. Smith v. Florida Department of Transportation (Palm Beach County)
\$9.25 Million verdict and claims bill, February, 1990
8. Godwin v. Department of Health & Rehabilitative Services (St. Lucie County)
\$8 Million verdict and claims bill, March, 2000
9. Abughalia v. JFK Hospital and Dr. Chaparro (Palm Beach County)
\$7.5 Million settlement during trial, May, 2006
10. Witty v. Matos (Broward County)
\$6.9 Million settlement, November, 1993
11. Boza v. Carter (Alachua County)
\$5.17 Million verdict, May, 2007
12. Carter v. Lakeland Regional Medical Center (Polk County)
\$4.05 Million settlement, March, 1997
13. Long v. American Bug Control (Polk County)
\$3.975 Million settlement, July, 1992
14. Merriweather v. Palm Beach County School Board (Palm Beach County)
\$3.9 million claims bill, May, 2009
15. Stephenson v. Florida. Dept. of Transportation (Duval County)
\$3 Million verdict, April, 2005
16. Estate of Rachel Hoffman vs. City of Tallahassee (Leon County)
\$2.6 million settlement and claims bill, March, 2012

17. Hageman v. Treasure Coast Obstetrics (Martin County)
\$2.6 Million settlement, October, 1999
18. Theogene v. Dade County (Dade County)
\$2.4 Million claims bill, May, 2008
19. Walthour v. Miller Pipeline Corp. (Collier County)
\$2.2 Million settlement, March, 2006
20. Otero v. Broward Hospital District (Broward County)
\$2 Million claims bill, May, 2009
21. Scheer v. Entel Radiological Associates, P.A. (Pinellas County)
\$1.85 Million verdict, November, 1989
22. Lacayo v. Benson (St. Lucie County)
\$1.8 Million settlement, October, 2005
23. Rahenkamp v. Jupiter Medical Center (Palm Beach County)
\$1,775,000 Million settlement, May, 2004
24. Smith v. Intercoastal Medical Group (Sarasota County)
\$1.750 Million settlement, November, 2002
25. Defeo v. Good Samaritan Hospital (Palm Beach County)
\$1.4 Million settlement, December, 2003
26. Cox v. Bartow Memorial Hospital (Polk County)
\$1.4 Million settlement, November, 1992
27. Olivas v. Wellington Regional Medical Center (Palm Beach County)
\$1.3 Million settlement during trial, May, 1996
28. Pellegrini v. Van de Water, M.D. (Palm Beach County)
\$1.175 Million settlement, February, 1990
29. Rackmill v. Rickey's Restaurant (Broward County)
\$1.25 Million settlement, February, 1990
30. Westmark v Humana (Pinellas County)
\$1.1 Million settlement, April, 1994
31. Jessen v. Jameco Enterprises, Inc. (Palm Beach County)
\$1.1 Million verdict, May, 1987

32. Clark v. Bleakmann, et al. (Palm Beach County)
\$1.05 Million settlement, October, 2001
33. Estate of Jamie Gough v. Dade County School District (Dade County)
\$1 Million claims bill, May, 2008
34. First American Bank v. Baskin & Sears (Palm Beach County)
\$1 Million settlement, April, 1989
35. Fish v. James D. Melton, Jr., M.D., et. al., (Polk County)
\$925,000 settlement during trial, November 1997
36. Magee v. Hudanich, M.D. (Broward County)
\$900,000 settlement, May, 1988
37. Cote' v. Ingram (Palm Beach County)
\$825,000 settlement, March, 1997
38. Sheffield v. South Florida Baptist Hospital (Hillsborough County)
\$800,000, March, 1988
39. Tucky v. Broward County School Board (Broward County)
\$700,000 settlement during trial and claims bill, June, 1995
40. Jane Doe v. Apartment Complex/Confidential Settlement (Leon County)
\$650,000 settlement, March 2010 (co-counsel)
41. Knighton v. Lakeland Regional Medical Center (Polk County)
\$635,000, October, 2001
42. McGhee v. Lake Wales Hospital (Polk County)
\$600,000, November, 1995
43. Pasantes v. National Car Rental (Palm Beach County)
\$500,000, May, 1998
44. Johnston v. Ryder Truck Rentals (Palm Beach County)
\$500,000 settlement, November, 1992