BERGER SINGERMAN
FLORIDA'S BUSINESS LAW FIRM



CHRISTOPHER L. BARNETT

Partner

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Christopher L. Barnett is a member of the firm's Dispute Resolution Team and serves as the Construction Team Lead. He focuses his practice on construction and real estate-related disputes, providing strategic counsel and litigation services to developers, contractors, owners, and other key players in Florida's construction and development sectors.

Christopher represents clients in complex business disputes in both state and federal courts across the country. His broad litigation experience includes construction defect and delay claims, contract and payment disputes, surety and bond claims, partnership and joint venture conflicts, securities and intellectual property litigation, unfair and deceptive trade practices, defamation, and appellate matters.

With a practical, results-driven approach, Christopher guides clients through every phase of litigation, from pre-suit strategy to trial and appeal, drawing on years of experience resolving high-stakes commercial disputes with efficiency and precision.

Education

J.D., Emory University School of Law
B.A. in Philosophy, Georgetown University

Bar Admissions

Florida
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
U.S. District Court, Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida

Practice Teams

Dispute Resolution

Practice Areas

Complex Commercial Litigation
Construction
Real Estate Litigation
Real Estate

Representative Matters

- Regularly represents developers in connection with neighbors' nuisance and trespass claims arising from development and construction of adjacent properties and projects.
- Represented condominium developer in construction defect claims against the general contractor and surety, resulting in a multimillion-dollar settlement.
- Represented owner of office tower in a construction defect claims against the general contractor and surety, resulting in a multimillion-dollar settlement
- Represented real estate developer in series of related cases seeking over $11 million in damages for construction delays.
- Represented municipality in several surety bond claims arising out of $100 million infrastructure project.
- Defended a leading global consumer products company in a lawsuit seeking lost profit damages in excess of $17 million. The case was won at trial and ultimately affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.
- Obtained complete reversal of multimillion-dollar jury verdict in appeals before Florida's Fourth District Court of Appeals and the Florida Supreme Court.
- Defended a Fortune Global 500 telecommunications company in fee and compensation disputes brought in federal courts in Massachusetts and New York.
- Obtained dismissal with prejudice of claims of trade name dilution and cyber stalking against Internet portal in suit brought in federal court in Massachusetts.
- Defended international digital content distributor against claims of defamation, commercial misappropriation, and invasion of privacy.
- Obtained dismissal with prejudice of administrative proceeding challenging real estate developer's ocean front development rights.

Community Activities / Associations

- Member, Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce

Awards & Honors

- Best Lawyers in America, Litigation - Construction, 2016-2027
- The Legal 500, United States
  - Real Estate - Construction (Including Construction Litigation), 2019 and 2022
    - "Other Key Lawyer," 2022
  - Real Estate and Construction - Construction, 2016

In the News

Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 33rd Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 20, 2026

Bisnow Quotes Christopher Barnett in “Liberation Day, One Year Later: Chronic Uncertainty And ‘More Confusion Going Forward’”
April 1, 2026

Law360 Quotes Christopher Barnett in, “Tariff Decision May Offer Fleeting Relief For Real Estate Sector”
February 23, 2026

South Florida Business Journal Quotes Christopher Barnett in, "Refunds could be elusive after Supreme Court strikes down Trump tariffs"
February 20, 2026

Law360 Features Christopher L. Barnett in, "Construction Attorneys Brace For Impact Of Tariff Uncertainty"
June 17, 2025

South Florida Business Journal Features Christopher Barnett in, "Tariff Turmoil: To build or not to build?"
May 22, 2025

Fifty-Six Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2025 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 15, 2024

Berger Singerman Expands Construction Law Practice with Addition of Christopher Barnett
August 21, 2023

Publications

Construction Executive, "Supreme Court Rules Tariffs Unconstitutional: Why the Construction Industry Shouldn't Expect Calm Just Yet"
March 4, 2026

Construction Executive "Navigating Tariffs in Today's Construction Landscape—But Stay Tuned for Tomorrow"
May 22, 2025

Creditors’ and Debtors’ Practice in Florida, “Unsecured Claims”
2019

Creditors’ and Debtors’ Practice in Florida, “Unsecured Claims"
2012

Prior Affiliations

- Greenberg Traurig, P.A.
- Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.