

Local Government Law

HOME > PRACTICE AREAS > LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW

Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. has been an integral part of the South Florida legal community since the 1970s. The professional nucleus of the firm has been together for over thirty years. In that time, the firm has developed a comprehensive local government practice which focuses on representing local government in all aspects of the law. As our Firm logo illustrates, over the years we have been a beacon to our local government clients who desire assurance and safety with respect to legal matters which they need to address on a daily basis. Our local government clients include:

- 📍 Counties
- 📍 Special Districts
- 📍 Public Housing Authorities
- 📍 Constitutional Officers
- 📍 Municipalities
- 📍 Hospital Districts
- 📍 Community Redevelopment Agencies
- 📍 Charter Review Boards

Since its founding, our Firm has provided high quality legal services to local governments throughout the State of Florida. Local governments require legal services that are responsive to their needs, and sensitive to their budgetary constraints. The residents and businesses within the respective jurisdictions expect nothing less than high quality legal services at a reasonable cost. Our firm provides both in a manner that allows local government officials to be able to confidently carry on their constituent’s work.

Due to the nature of our practice, the attorneys in our Firm are familiar with just about any issue which may arise which affects the operation of a local government. Ultimately, the historic knowledge and collegial nature of our Firm’s practice results in monetary savings to all of our clients, and their taxpayers, as the local government can benefit from the fact that the attorneys in our Firm have addressed the issue at one time or another.

We draft ordinances, resolutions, contracts, and legal documents on a daily basis which are legally defensible, and supportive of our client’s stated policies. We keep track of legislation, case law, and administrative law on a regular basis so that we can insure that our local government clients are up to date on laws and decisions which may impact the operation of their tax funded “corporations”.

The Firm provides legal services in all aspects of local government law, including, but not limited to the following areas:

- 📍 Ad Valorem Taxation
- 📍 Animal control;
- 📍 Bankruptcy;
- 📍 Charter Review and Amendment
- 📍 Community Redevelopment Agency law;
- 📍 Construction;
- 📍 Eminent domain;
- 📍 Ethics;
- 📍 Forfeiture
- 📍 Affordable housing;
- 📍 Bert J. Harris Act Claims;
- 📍 Chapter 164 Dispute Resolution and Mediation
- 📍 Code enforcement and lien law;
- 📍 Constitutional law;
- 📍 Elections;
- 📍 Environmental law;
- 📍 Foreclosure;
- 📍 General municipal representation and legal advice;
- 📍 Home Rule Law;
- 📍 Municipal land use and zoning;
- 📍 Public contracts;
- 📍 Public records;
- 📍 Governmental litigation and Appeals;
- 📍 Labor and employment;
- 📍 Procurement;
- 📍 Public-private partnerships Urban planning;



- Real estate transactions;
- Solid waste;
- Sunshine Law;
- Utilities law.
- Red light cameras;
- Special Assessments;
- Telecommunications;

The Firm provides legal services to all of its clients with the goal of addressing legal issues when they first arise. This proactive approach to problem solving ultimately saves our clients' money due to the fact that by addressing legal issues in their early stages allows the client to potentially avoid the additional expense incurred in correcting or rectifying the problem that results by not addressing the issue in the first place. At the same time, not all legal issues are easily resolved, and the firm prides itself on its ability to work with clients toward reasonable and fair solutions.

Fort Lauderdale Office

3099 East Commercial Boulevard, Suite 200, Phone : 954-771-4500
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308



Copyright © 2021 Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. , All rights reserved

Web design and developr



Samuel S. Goren

HOLD SAMUEL S. GOREN



Email:

SGoren@GorenCherof.com

Work

Phone: 954-771-4500

Fax: 954-771-4923

Office location: Fort Lauderdale

Samuel S. Goren

Shareholder

For more than forty (40) years, Mr. Goren has concentrated his practice in the areas of sophisticated local government, municipal and administrative matters including direct contact with City Commissioners, other public officials, City Managers, and strategic personnel affecting the work of his municipal and other public clients. Mr. Goren is experienced in the area of election law as long-term legal counsel for the then nationally recognized Supervisor of Elections, during Election 2000. Since 1997, Mr. Goren has been instrumental in the formation of city-owned and operated Charter Schools. Mr. Goren has also served as Special Magistrate in Code Enforcement and related matters for multiple municipalities throughout the State of Florida. Mr. Goren also serves as special counsel in matters affecting annexation, special assessments, intra-governmental conflicts, and regional planning activities, including assignments as a Special Magistrate in Bert J. Harris cases, and Florida Land Use and Environmental Dispute Resolution Act matters. Further, his expertise in statewide land use, zoning, and eminent domain matters, have qualified him as an expert witness throughout the State and a resource for government officials and the private sector.

Mr. Goren serves as the City Attorney for the Cities of North Lauderdale and Pembroke Pines. He serves as General Counsel for the South Florida Regional Planning Council, the North Lauderdale Water Control District, the Housing Authority of the City of North Lauderdale, and formerly the Brevard County Charter Review Commission and the Hillsboro Inlet District. He served as City Attorney for Coral Springs from 1993 to 2010; he served as the City Attorney for The City of Tamarac from 2005 – 2020; and served as General Counsel to the North Broward Hospital District (Broward Health) from 2009-2015. He has been designated as a preeminent (AV-rated) attorney by Martindale-Hubbell, a nationally recognized rating service for attorneys. He has been designated as a 2011 Top Lawyer in South Florida, and 2017 Top Governmental Attorney by South Florida Legal Guide. Further designations include: Best Lawyers in America 2006-2021 in the areas of Land Use and Zoning Law, Municipal Law and Real Estate Law; Super Lawyer in the areas of Government/Cities/Municipalities, Land Use/Zoning, and Administrative Law by Super Lawyers/Florida/2009-2015; and, Legal Elite/Legal Leader for 2014 in the areas of Government and Administrative law by Florida Trend Magazine.

Mr. Goren is a Certified Florida Supreme Court and Circuit Court Mediator and has served as Mediator at the request of both governmental and private parties. Mr. Goren is also a frequent lecturer for the Florida Bar, the Institute of Government at Florida Atlantic University, the Lorman Foundation, CLE International, and

Practice Areas

Government Law
Administrative Law
Corporate Law
Real Estate
Litigation
Florida Supreme Court
Certified Mediator

Education

University of Rhode Island, B.A.
North Carolina Central University, J.D., Cum Laude
Editor in Chief, North Carolina Central Law Journal, 1974 1975.

Admissions

Florida

Courts

U.S. District Court,
Southern District of
Florida
U.S. Supreme Court
District of Columbia,
Court of Appeals
U.S. Court of Appeals,
11th Circuit.



other local governmental agencies in the areas of municipal and governmental practice, Sunshine Law, Ethics, Public Records and Eminent Domain.

Available Publications:

Note, *"To Impute or Not to Impute: That is the Question"*, 5 N.C. Central L.J. 121 (Fall, 1973).

Note, *"Crews v. Taylor: A Testator's Intent Can Be No Less Than His Command?"*, 6 N.C. Central L.J. 121 (Fall, 1974).

Professional Activities:

Former Chairman, Civil Service Board, City of Lauderhill, Florida

Board of Directors and Former President Areawide Council on Aging of Broward County, Inc./General Counsel, Presently

Long Term Care Ombudsman Committee, Attorney Member, appointed by Governor Bob Graham

Past Chairman, Local Government Law Section, Florida Bar

Florida Bar, Local Government Law Section, Ralph A. Marsicano Award-

Excellence in Local Government Law Practice, 1986

Broward County Bar

Related News:

Samuel Goren and Donald J. Doody recognized as "Florida Super Lawyers"

2 months ago

Shareholders Samuel Goren and Donald J. Doody have been recognized as Florida Super Lawyers. Super Lawyers names Florida's top lawyers as chosen by their peers and through the independent research of Law & Politics. Only 2.5 percent of the lawyers in Florida are named Super Lawyers.

Goren Cherof Doody & Ezrol attorneys provide ethics training to members of the Broward League of Cities

2 months ago

In June of this year, Goren Cherof attorneys provided required ethics training to the members of the Broward League of Cities. Sam Goren served as moderator in addition to advising on the Broward County Office of Inspector General; Jacob Horowitz discussed the County Code of Ethics; Julie Klahr discussed Chapter 112 of the Florida Statutes...

Goren Cherof Doody & Ezrol train elected officials at Boot Camp

3 years ago

Shareholders Samuel Goren and Michael Cirullo along with Partner Jacob Horowitz provided training to elected officials at the Broward League of Cities Elected Official Boot Camp. Sam Goren welcomed attendees and gave an overview of the topics to be discussed. Michael Cirullo gave a presentation on Sunshine Law and Public Records. Jacob Horowitz presented on...

Broward League of Cities Announces Samuel S. Goren Presidential Award

4 years ago

The Broward League of Cities has renamed its highest ranked leadership award as the Broward League of Cities Samuel S. Goren Presidential Award. The new name was announced at the League of Cities' 60th Annual Gala and Installation Dinner. "It is with great pride and enthusiasm that tonight, we rename the League's President's Award and introduce the Broward League...

Samuel S. Goren Speaker at 10th Annual Ethics Seminar

5 years ago



Samuel S. Goren, Shareholder was a panel speaker at the Tenth Annual Ethics Seminar held on Friday November 4, 2016 at Palm Beach State College, Boca Raton Campus. Mr. Goren participated as a panel speaker on the topic "Public Ethics in Florida: What's Behind Us and What May Lie Ahead?".

Samuel S. Goren speaks at Ethics Seminar

6 years ago

Shareholder Samuel S. Goren, Esq. was a panel speaker at the Ninth Annual Ethics Seminar "Moral Courage In Action" that took place on November 6, 2015 in Boca Raton, Florida.

Samuel Goren awarded Commitment to Justice Award

6 years ago

At a ceremony on October 1, 2015, Samuel S. Goren was awarded the Commitment to Justice Award by the Legal Aid Service of Broward County and Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida. The Commitment to Justice Award was established in 2011 to honor members of the community whose work improves the lives of...

Samuel Goren Speaks at Ethics Conference

7 years ago

Shareholder, Samuel S. Goren, was a speaker at the Eighth Annual Ethics Seminar in Boca Raton on Friday, November 7th. Mr. Goren presented on the role of the Inspector General in promoting ethics in government.

Samuel S. Goren Recognized as Florida Legal Elite

7 years ago

Samuel S. Goren Recognized as Florida Legal Elite Samuel S. Goren - Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A., Fort Lauderdale, was recently recognized in the 2014 edition of Florida Trend's Florida Legal Elite™. The list of 1,165 honorees, published in the July issue of Florida Trend magazine, includes attorneys in private practice as well as top government and...

Samuel S. Goren, Top Lawyer 2014

8 years ago

Samuel S. Goren was named "Top Lawyer" by the South Florida Legal Guide for 2014 in the area of Governmental Practice.

Goren Cherof shareholders James A. Cherof and Donald J. Doody represented the City of Boynton Beach in a \$78 Million Dollar transaction.

3 years ago

Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol shareholders James A. Cherof and Donald J. Doody represented the City of Boynton Beach, Florida in a \$78 Million Dollar transaction. The complex transaction is an integral part of the City's \$118 Million Dollar Town Square Redevelopment Project. The transaction closed on August 9th, 2018 and will serve as the...

GCDE partners make presentation on ethics, sunshine law and public records

4 years ago

Partners Sam Goren, Julie Klahr and Jacob Horowitz made a presentation on ethics, sunshine law, and public records to the Broward County City Managers Association on November 9th. The purpose of the Broward County City Managers Association is to regularly bring together local government professional administrators to stimulate the highest standards of public service and...

GCDE appointed as Interim City Attorney

4 years ago

Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. is pleased to announce that the City of Margate has appointed the firm Interim City Attorney.



Samuel S. Goren & Jacob G. Horowitz Present at League of Cities Event

5 years ago

Samuel S. Goren, Shareholder and Jacob G. Horowitz, Partner, were presenters at the Broward League of Cities Elected Officials Boot Camp held on February 24, 2017. Mr. Goren presented on Public Records and Mr. Horowitz on the Broward County Ethics Ordinance.

Michael D. Cirullo, Jr.,

VIEW MY PROFILE | IP: 73.22.106



Michael D. Cirullo, Jr., *Shareholder*

Mr. Cirullo concentrates his practice in the representation of local governments, including municipalities and special districts, as well as appellate practices for both public and private clients. Mr. Cirullo also represents clients in general civil litigation practices including contracts, land use and zoning matters.

Mr. Cirullo currently serves as the City Attorney for the City of Lighthouse Point, Florida. Through the firm, Mr. Cirullo also serves as counsel to several other public clients.

Mr. Cirullo has extensive appellate experience, having begun his legal career as a Law Clerk for the Honorable Hugh S. Glickstein at the State of Florida, Fourth District Court of Appeal. Since completing his clerkship in 1996 and joining the firm, Mr. Cirullo has represented both public and private clients in appeals resulting in approximately fifty (50) reported decision in state and federal courts, as well as many appeals in circuit courts.

Mr. Cirullo is a native Floridian, having been born and raised in the West Palm Beach area. He is an Eagle Scout, and an avid Gator fan.

Email:

MCirullo@GorenCherof.com

V-Card

Phone: 954-771-4500

Fax: 954-771-4923

Office location:
Fort Lauderdale

Practice Areas

- Government Law
- Civil Litigation and Appellate Law
- Land Use Law

Education

- University of Florida, College of Law, J.D. with Honors
- University of Florida, College of Business Administration, B.S.

Admissions

- Florida

Courts

- Florida State Courts
- United States Federal District Court, Southern District of Florida
- United States Federal District Court, Northern District of Florida
- United States Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit

Related News:

Goren Cherof Doody and Ezrol attorneys present ethics training to Broward County City Managers

2 years ago

On Monday, October 28th, Mike Cirullo, Julie Klahr and Jacob Horowitz presented a 4 hour ethics training seminar to the members of the Broward County City Managers Association. Mike Cirullo discussed the Office of the Inspector General, its history and jurisdiction in Broward County. He also explained how a complaint is initiated and outlined the...



Court Grants Motion for Summary Judgement in favor of City of Oakland Park

6 years ago

Jacob G. Horowitz

VIEW ALL ATTORNEYS



Email:

JHorowitz@GorenCherof.com

or call

Phone: 954-771-4500

Fax: 954-771-4923

Office location: Fort Lauderdale



Jacob G. Horowitz

Shareholder

Jacob G. Horowitz is a Shareholder at Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. Mr. Horowitz concentrates primarily on local government matters, serving as the City Attorney for Cooper City. He also serves as the Assistant City Attorney for the City of Pembroke Pines, the City of Tamarac, and the City of North Lauderdale, among other municipalities in Broward County and Palm Beach County. He represents many of the firm's governmental clients, assisting on a daily basis with matters relating to the Sunshine Law, ethics, public records, elections law, zoning and other general governance matters.

Mr. Horowitz serves as the Assistant General Counsel for the Broward League of Cities, and was the former Assistant General Counsel for the Broward County Charter Review Commission and the Brevard County Charter Review Commission. He served as Assistant General Counsel for the North Broward Hospital District (Broward Health) 2009-2015. He has served as legal counsel to a number of municipal charter review boards. He also serves as the Special Magistrate for the City of West Park.

Mr. Horowitz has represented clients before the Florida Commissions on Ethics, served as legal advisor to the Broward League of Cities Ethics Task Force, the Broward County Charter Review Commission Ethics Subcommittee, and regularly lectures on ethics matters and provides ethics training to elected officials in accordance with the Broward County Code of Ethics and Ch. 112, F.S..

In addition to his work representing local government, Mr. Horowitz serves as corporate counsel to private clients, practicing in the area of commercial transactions, real estate, commercial litigation and general corporate matters.

Lectures/Presentations:

Broward County Code of Ethics – Multiple Training Sessions

The Florida Sunshine Law – Multiple Training Sessions

The Florida Public Records Act – Multiple Training Sessions

“The Ethical Organizational Culture” FAU (November 3, 2017)

“Legal Issues – Ethics & Roadway Solicitation” Florida City County Managers Association (November 8, 2012)

“Key Employment Agreements” – Florida Municipal Attorney Association (July 21, 2011)

“Ethics & the Statewide Grand Jury Report” – CLE/ Florida Water Law (May 20, 2011)

Practice Areas

Governmental Law

Ethics

Real Estate Law

Corporate

Litigation

Education

Northeastern University,
magna cum laude

New England School of
Law, J.D

Admissions

Florida

Courts

Florida State Courts

United States Federal
District Court, Southern
District of Florida



"Social Media and the Law: Public Entities" – Miami-Dade
Commission on Ethics and Public Trust (May 13, 2011)

"Social Media and the Law: Public Entities" – Florida Recreation and
Park Association, Inc. (March 31, 2011)

Related News:

Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. hired to serve as City Attorney for Cooper City

3 years ago

Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. is proud to announce that the City of Cooper City has engaged the law firm to serve as its City Attorney's Office. Jacob G. Horowitz, a Partner with the firm, has been designated to serve as City Attorney. The Members of the Firm will provide the City with legal...

Partner Jacob Horowitz invited to speak at Eleventh Annual Ethics Seminar

4 years ago

Mr. Horowitz will be participating in a panel discussion titled "My Lobbyist is a God, Yours is a Monster." The discussion will help attendees identify ethical issues when lobbying, and assist public officials working with lobbyists who may be seeking to influence public policy. The event is part of the 11th Annual Ethics Seminar presented...

Samuel S. Goren & Jacob G. Horowitz Present at League of Cities Event

5 years ago

Samuel S. Goren, Shareholder and Jacob G. Horowitz, Partner, were presenters at the Broward League of Cities Elected Officials Boot Camp held on February 24, 2017. Mr. Goren presented on Public Records and Mr. Horowitz on the Broward County Ethics Ordinance.

Jacob Horowitz presented at Elected Officials Boot Camp

6 years ago

Jacob Horowitz was a presenter at the Elected Officials Boot Camp held on Friday, May 13th in Fort Lauderdale.

Jacob Horowitz Presents at FCCMA Conference

6 years ago

Jacob Horowitz was a presenter at the Annual Conference for the Florida City and County Management Association (FCCMA) held in Orlando, Florida May 27-30, 2015. Mr. Horowitz's presentation was entitled "Learning From Other's Mistakes".

Jacob G. Horowitz Presents at Lorman Seminar

7 years ago

Jacob G. Horowitz was a presenter at the Lorman "What You Need to Know About Public Records and Open Meetings in Florida" Seminar held in West Palm Beach on 6/13/14. Mr. Horowitz spoke on the topic of Social Media and the Law: Public Entities.

Jacob Horowitz Presents Ethics Presentation to Village of Sea Ranch Lakes

8 years ago

On July 30, 2013, Jacob G. Horowitz updated the Sea Ranch Lakes Village Council on matters related to Florida's Sunshine Law, Public Records Law, and Ethics Law, including the Broward County Code of Ethics. Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. continually strives to provide updates on these and other important issues to our governmental clients. ...

GCDE partners make presentation on ethics, sunshine law and public records

4 years ago

Partners Sam Goren, Julie Klahr and Jacob Horowitz made a presentation on ethics, sunshine law, and public records to the Broward County City Managers Association on November 9th. The purpose of the Broward County City Managers Association is to regularly bring together local government professional administrators to stimulate the highest standards of public service and...

