DAVID P. VITALE JR.

2139 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd **∙** West Palm Beach, FL 33409 **∙** dvitale@searcylaw.com

# LEGAL EXPERIENCE

**SEARCY DENNEY SCAROLA BARNHART & SHIPLEY**, West Palm Beach, FL **January 2017 – Present** *Shareholder* – Experienced trial lawyer who has tried cases to verdict in both state and federal court, including as first chair trial counsel. Most recent jury verdict was in excess of $1.5 million, more than 25 times the last pre-trial offer. Wide-ranging practice includes complex commercial, personal injury, and medical malpractice litigation. Commercial practice experience includes breach of contract, defamation actions, usurious loan transaction claims, breach of fiduciary duty claims and fraud claims, among other matters. Extensive experience in all stages of the litigation process, from depositions through voir dire and closing argument.

**KAYE SCHOLER LLP**, West Palm Beach, FL **October 2015 – December 2016** *Litigation Attorney –* Practice focused on high-end trust, estate, and probate litigation, including the defense of fiduciaries against claims of undue influence and lack of testamentary capacity. Worked with lead partner to develop and implement strategy on complex matters. Second-chaired two bench trials while at the firm. This firm merged with Arnold & Porter and ultimately closed the West Palm Beach office.

**SWEETAPPLE, BROEKER & VARKAS, P.L.**, Boca Raton, FL **August 2014 – October 2015**

*Litigation Attorney –* Law clerk and then associate at boutique litigation firm specializing in complex commercial and business litigation. Diverse practice included both prosecuting and defending civil actions on a wide spectrum of matters, from breach of contract claims to public records litigation. Assisted in overall management of firm and key staff members.

**THE HONORABLE GEORGE A. O’TOOLE, JR. January 2014 – April 2014**

## United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

*Judicial Intern* – Interned approximately 30 hours per week as part of Boston College Law’s Semester-in- Practice program. Drafted seven substantive orders, including grants or denials of motions to dismiss, motions to suppress, and a habeas corpus decision. Observed two jury trials and numerous motion hearings.

**WILMERHALE**, Boston, MA **May 2013 – July 2013**

*Summer Associate (offer extended)* – Researched and drafted memoranda regarding securities and intellectual property litigation. Drafted letter to opposing counsel that resulted in the successful resolution of a housing dispute matter for a *pro bono* client.

# BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida

United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida

United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida

# EDUCATION

**BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL,** Newton, MA **May 2014**

Juris Doctor, *summa cum laude*, Order of the Coif

## GPA: 3.863/4.0; Class Salutatorian

Honors: Dean Dennis A. Dooley Award – 1L Year & Graduating Class of 2014. Activities: National Moot Court Team (National Quarterfinalist, 2nd Place – Region One,

Best Brief – Region One); Research Assistant to Professor Laura Murray-Tjan, Spring 2013;

*Co Vice-President*, Business and Law Society.

**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY,** Washington, DC **May 2008**

Bachelor of Accountancy, *summa cum laude*

## GPA: 3.839/4.0

Honors: Dean’s List; Golden Key International Honour Society.

# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

***The National Trial Lawyers***: Top 40 Under 40 Civil Plaintiff Attorney (Florida) **2019 – Present**

***Best Lawyers® Ones to Watch***: (1) Commercial Litigation **2020 – Present**

1. Personal Injury Litigation
2. Medical Malpractice Law

***Palm Beach Illustrated:*** Top Lawyers in Palm Beach County **2021 – Present**

***Jupiter Magazine:*** Top Lawyer – Commercial Litigation **2022 – Present**

***SuperLawyers:*** Rising Star**2023 – Present**

# BAR ORGANIZATIONS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

15th Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee ‘A’ **2025 – Present**

Palm Beach County Bar Association

* Professionalism Committee **2019 – Present**
  + *Current Committee Co-Chair*
    - *Past Chair,* Bar Buddies Subcommittee
    - *Past Co-Chair*, Professionalism Enhancement Subcommittee
* Membership Committee **2022 – Present**
* Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Committee **2022 – Present**

The Boys & Girls Club of Delray Beach **2019 – Present**

* *Member*, Advisory Board
* *Club Representative*, County-Wide Safety Committee

# BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

**GOLDMAN SACHS May 2012 – August 2012**

## Investment Management Division – Private Wealth Management, Boston, MA

*Summer Associate (offer extended)* – Completed an intensive three-week training program covering various asset classes and investment strategies, trust and estate planning, and client relationship skills. Assisted Private Wealth teams by back-testing client portfolios, building asset allocation models, and conducting research targeting prospective clients with a minimum of ten million dollars in investable assets.

**PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS, LLP September 2008 – August 2011**

**Financial Instruments, Structured Products and Real Estate Group**, New York, NY/Boston, MA

*Senior Associate –* Provided independent advisory services in a highly regulated field regarding the valuation of CDOs, CLOs, MBS, and RMBS. Managed multiple client relationships from engagement inception to release of final deliverable. Supervised teams responsible for client engagements valued at over one million dollars with respect to the auditing of cash flows and preparation of quarterly procedural letters for CDOs. Led trainings on the audit of cash flows and transaction health for structured products.

# PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT:** New York; License #105415 (*Inactive Status*)

* + Passed all four parts on the first sitting.