



MITCHELL A.
BIERMAN

PARTNER

CHAIR OF AIRPORTS AND AVIATION SERVICES GROUP;
MIAMI OFFICE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Miami
(305) 854-0800
mbierman@wsh-law.com

Mitch Bierman is the Miami Office Managing Director. Mitch represents major international companies in the transportation, environmental, solid waste, engineering and construction industries in government affairs and administrative law matters. His work includes winning and negotiating large public contracts, public private partnerships, public infrastructure improvements, affordable housing developments and advocating for industry clients on legislative issues affecting their industries.

Mitch first developed his skills and relationships during his government career as Assistant Dade County Attorney in the 1990s. He continues to serve local governments today as the Town Attorney for the Town of Cutler Bay and the Village Attorney for the Village of Pinecrest in Miami-Dade County, and he advises many of the firm's other government clients on particular matters.

Mitch chairs the firm's Airports and Aviation Services Group which represents airports and airport-related businesses including airlines, cargo carriers, car rental companies, airport concessionaires, consultants and construction and engineering firms. As former

PRACTICE AREAS

- [Governmental Affairs and Procurement](#)
- [Municipal Counsel](#)
- [Public Sector Land Use and Zoning](#)
- [Special Counsel to Local Government](#)
- [Community Redevelopment Agency \(CRA\)](#)
- [Airports and Aviation](#)
- [Capital Improvement, Infrastructure Development & Project](#)

counsel to Miami International Airport, he has over 20 years of experience in airport finance, airline negotiations, airport concessions, and land leasing and development.

Mitch helps concessionaires win major airport concessions across the United States and negotiates airline-airport use agreements, rental car facility agreements, fuel system lease agreements, management agreements, and other ground transportation agreements including agreements for the development of multi-modal transportation facilities and on-airport hotels. He has also assisted airports in non-aviation development deals, expansions, construction projects, labor agreements and First Amendment issues.

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Immediate Past Chair, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, Transportation Committee
- Founding Member, Eugene P. Spellman Chapter of the American Inns of Court
- Chairman, Florida Bar Grievance Committee
- New Works Council, Miami Light Project
- Chair, Government Relations Committee
- Secretary of Board of Trustees, Perez Art Museum Miami
- Past Chairman, Attorneys' Division Greater Miami Jewish Federation
- Miami Foundation, Member, Board of Governors
- Member, Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Daily Business Review Florida Legal Awards, Innovators category - RTWC2026 Focus Group, 2024
- Florida *Super Lawyers*, 2017-present
- Daily Business Review Florida Legal Awards, Innovator, 2023
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Rating
- Daily Business Review, Most Effective Lawyers, 2008
- South Florida Legal Guide, Top Lawyer, 2004-2011, 2013-present
- Florida Trend's Legal Elite, 2005-2011
- South Florida Business Journal, Best of the Bar
- Best Lawyers in America®, Government Relations Practice, 2012-present; Administrative / Regulatory Law, 2024-present; Government Contracts, 2024-present
- South Florida Business Journal, Power Leaders in Law & Accounting, 2016-2017

Management

- Elections
- Mobility Solutions and Public Transportation
- Solid Waste Management
- Special Governmental Districts
- Utilities
- Affordable Housing
- Environmental
- Public/Private Partnership (P3) Transactions
- Wireless and Telecommunications
- Sports, Arts and Entertainment
- Private Sector Land Use and Zoning
- Disaster Recovery
- Road to The World Cup 2026 Focus Group
- Investigations & Audits of Governmental Agencies

ADMISSIONS

Florida, 1990

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, 1990

U.S. Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit, 1990

EDUCATION

New York University School of Law, J.D., 1989

- Law Review: New York University Review of Law and Social Change, Note and Comment Editor,

1988-1989

George Washington University,
B.A., Philosophy, 1986

- [Press Mentions](#)
- [Presentations](#)
- [Representative Experience](#)

Press Mentions

- [5G nodes grow to exponentially increase wireless capacity](#), Miami Today, January 23, 2024
- [New Sports Facilities Host Players Who Pay](#), South Florida Business Journal, November 9, 2023
- [Mitch Bierman, Justin Luger and Roger Pou Say Best Ideas Can Come From Anywhere](#), Daily Business Review, May 15, 2023
- [New Winter Park venture fund to boost government and regulatory startups](#), Orlando Inno, January 26, 2023
- [Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + Bierman Secures \\$1.5 Million Arbitration Ruling Against FEMA](#), Attorney at Law Magazine, October 24, 2022.
- [Office Snapshot: Weiss Serota's New Miami, Boca Spaces](#), Law360, September 19, 2022
- [Midsize Firms Haven't Raised Rates as Much as Big Law, But That Could Help in a Downturn](#), Law.com, June 27, 2022
- [5G availability spurs growth as county targets tech](#), Miami Today, February 1, 2022
- [A perspective on mobility law](#), Florida Trend, April 28, 2021
- [South Florida Attorneys Eyeing NFT Litigation as New Source of Revenue](#), Daily Business Review, April 15, 2021
- [Honolulu withdraws from \\$9B rail P3 procurement](#), Construction Dive, October 6, 2020
- [From 'Brandannas' to Dinosaurs, What Florida Law Firms Are Thinking About Office Work in Pandemic](#), Daily Business Review, June 18, 2020
- [Where the Revenue Meets the Road](#), Florida Trend, May 28, 2020
- [City swap, three-tower development on Miami River cast adrift](#), Miami Today, May 15, 2018
- [Budget Gaps, Backlogs Spur States To Tap More P3 Opps](#), Law360, May 15, 2018
- [Naked Performer on the Roof? No Problem. But Disabled Man's Graffiti Work Gets Fined](#), Miami Herald, March 8, 2018
- [About Trump's New Thinking on Infrastructure Investment](#), GlobeSt.com, October 17, 2017
- [Leaders in Multiple Fields Drive Miami Transportation Ahead](#), Miami Today, June 2, 2017
- [Crain's Miami: Mitchell Bierman](#), Crains Miami, May 26, 2017
- [On The Brink of Change](#), Miami Herald, May 16, 2017
- [Chamber, Asking Members if They Ride Transit, Cites Progress](#), Miami Today, May 4, 2017
- [Brightline, S. Fla. Poised to Benefit from Trump's \\$1 Trillion Infrastructure Plan](#), South Florida Business Journal, March 20, 2017
- [Much is Riding on Brightline's Debut](#), South Florida Business Journal, February 6, 2017
- [Congestion Likely to Dominate '17](#), Miami Today, January 26, 2017
- [Public Transit Day Magnifies South Florida's mass transit woes](#), South Florida Business Journal, December 12, 2016
- [Brickell is Growing Quickly-But Into What?](#) The Miami Herald, December 12, 2016
- [Smart Transportation: The Era of Smart Transportation Services Has Arrived As Technology Is Changing The Way Mass Transit Works](#), Transportation & Logistics International, October 17, 2016
- [Quality-Of-Life Investments Yield Economic Development Gains](#), Daily Business Review, May 16, 2016

- *South Florida's Gridlock Impacts Workers, Businesses and Tourism*, South Florida Business Journal, April 20, 2016
- *How Latin America kicks our ass on transit*, The New Tropic, February 3, 2016
- *Quick Transportation Fixes Blended With Long-Term Upgrades*, Miami Today, January 28, 2016
- *Traffic Glut Shifts Transit-Oriented Projects Into High Gear*, Miami Today, December 16, 2015
- *Single-Source Financing for Transportation Called Outmoded*, Miami Today, October 30, 2015
- *Intelligent technology will change how we use mass transit*, Miami Herald, September 9, 2015
- *No Way Out: For Drivers Caught in Gridlock, Little Relief Down The Road*, Miami Herald, May 18, 2015
- *Grow America Act Could Fuel Highways*, Miami Today, May 7, 2015
- *The Edge*, South Florida Executive Magazine, July 1, 2014
- *Pinecrest Hires New Village Attorney*, Miami Herald, September 5, 2013
- *Nationally-Recognized Charter School Hopes to Open in Cutler Bay*, Miami Herald, December 15, 2011
- *Cutler Bay On Track for New High School*, Miami Herald, September 23, 2011

Presentations

- *Smart Cities: Urban Air Mobility Program*, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting of Members, June 2023
- *WSHC+B's Representation of Government Entities in Florida*, Miami Dade County League of Cities, March 2023
- *Spotlight: Rising to the Challenge in Miami*, 6th Annual CoMotion LA, November 17, 2022
- *Build Back Better Act*, 11th Annual Construction Law in Florida Conference, October 20, 2022
- *Policy, Programs, and Funding, Part 2: Local Discussion*, 2022 SMART Trends Transportation Summit, June 3, 2022
- *Reinventing Miami: From Magic City to Future City*, CoMotion Miami, April 21, 2022
- *How to Increase Your U.S. Business by Contracting With Local Government Agencies*, Brazilian-American Chamber of Commerce of Florida, Inc., March 3, 2022
- *Magic City: The Silicon Valley of the South-East*, CoMotion MIAMI, June 2021
- *Smart Cities Mini-Series Part 1: Investment in Tech*, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, April 2021
- *Smart Cities Mini-Series Part 2: Miami Tech Education and Talent Development*, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, April 2021
- *Annexation/Incorporation*, [Miami-Dade County League of Cities](#) March Meeting in Cutler Bay
- *Transportation Issues in South Florida*, WIOD Radio – The Brian Mudd Show, November 2017
- *Our region's mobility challenges and opportunities*, HNTB THINK Infrastructure Forum, July 2017
- *Easy 93's Community Connection*, Radio show, July 2017

Representative Experience

Aviation

- Representation of a regional airport in Colorado in connection with the redevelopment of a general aviation field for commercial passenger services.
- Representation of American Airlines and Miami-Dade County for the \$1.5 billion construction, renovation and financing of the air carrier's terminal at Miami International Airport.
- Representation of a long-term ground lease and operating agreement for development of an on-airport hotel and mixed-use business facility at Pensacola Airport.
- Representation of the Miami Dade Expressway Authority in the development of the Miami Intermodal Center, which links the TriRail, Metrorail, Car Rental Center and all ground transportation to Miami International Airport.
- The redevelopment of a terminal at Hewanorra International Airport for St. Lucia Air and Sea Port Authority through finance, design, build, operate and maintain (FDBOM) contract.
- Defended award of \$60 million airport construction contract to Skanska Construction against bid protest

challenge by disappointed bidder.

- Co-counsel for American Airlines in the development of the \$3 billion North Terminal in Miami International Airport.
- Representation of the build-out of the consolidated rental car facility at Miami International Airport on behalf of the largest car rental firm in the world.
- Assisted private passenger rail operator in negotiation of proposed lease and development agreement for mixed-use rail station project at Orlando Airport.
- Provided legal and government affairs support in acquisition of duty free concession at one of country's fastest growing airports for Nuance Global Traders, the world's largest airport duty free concessionaire.
- Successfully represented Faber Coe & Greg in obtaining news and gift and specialty retail concession with projected sales in excess of \$80 million at major international airport and defended award in challenge by disappointed bidder.
- Represented Areas Comidas, a major international airport food and beverage concessionaire in award of numerous airport concession worth in excess of \$500 million.
- Represented Allied Waste Systems in obtaining and negotiating \$25 million contract for disposal of USDA regulated international airport waste and successfully defended bid protest challenge by disappointed bidder.
- Favorably settled environmental cost recovery claim against Fortune 100 company as part of a multi-defendant, \$700 million cost recovery lawsuit brought by owner of major public airport against all historical airport users and tenants.

Governmental Affairs & Procurement

- Successfully represented the Miami Heat in connection with the American Airlines Arena for over 15 years and played an integral role in the success of the Arena and the community.
- Handling of legal and government affairs matters related to the public/private/philanthropic funding, development, construction and operation of the Perez Art Museum Miami.
- Representation of the City of Miramar in connection with the long-term lease and development agreement for the headquarters for the American Tennis Association and tennis court complex at Miramar Regional Park.
- Handled the negotiation of the original lease with the Miami Dolphins for the existing land for the Dolphins Stadium, now known as Hard Rock Stadium.
- Representation of major Internet of Things (IOT) innovator in smart city improvement offer to major city.
- Represents Informa, international exhibition company in connection with relocation of Miami International Yacht Show to downtown Miami along with other new major shows.
- Representation of Miami Dade County School Board on numerous procurement matters.
- Representation of Miami Lighthouse for the Blind on issues relating to its educational contract with Miami Dade Public Schools.
- Representation of Vizcaya Museum and Gardens and Trust as General Counsel.
- Representation of Miami Museum of Contemporary Art.
- Representation of Cubic Transportation Systems in connection with regional transportation authority request for proposals to provide smart cart program for region and constituent local transit authorities.
- Representation of an international surface transportation vendor in connection with its contract to design and oversee the overhaul of Miami-Dade County's Metro-rail and Metro-mover system.

Solid Waste Management

- Representation of Miami-Dade County in connection with a third-party agreement to construct and operate a waste to energy plant.
- Representation of Allied Bank of Texas in a workout scenario involving the transfer of a recycling plant in South Miami-Dade County.

- Representation of Chambers Development Corp. of Pennsylvania in a transaction involving the Okeechobee Florida County landfill.

Environmental

- Counseled the world's largest infrastructure development and engineering firm to negotiate environmental remediation agreement with Miami-Dade County for \$150 million.
- Assisted national environmental engineer in renewal of bond engineering consulting agreement for large government solid waste department.
- Represented one of the nation's largest debris removal and environmental remediation firms on major FEMA funded canal dredging program

P3

- Representation of the City of Miami in connection with the negotiation of a long-term ground lease of the existing Miami River Center building, as well as a long-term ground lease of the City's new facility to be developed in connection with private P3 developer partners.
- Representation of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in connection with a 99-year lease between the FDOT and a limited partnership, managed by the Swerdlow Group, for development of the Cypress Creek Park and Ride facility in Broward County.
- Representation of the City of Miramar with respect to the proposed Blockbuster Park involving hotel, office and amusement area space and provided all legal services on behalf of the City.
- Representation of the City of Miramar in the transformative Miramar Town Center Project where a P3 consortium developed government facilities, cultural facilities, public space, and commercial mixed-use providing all public benefits in exchange for development rights on public land.
- Representation of the long-term lease and development agreement for the headquarters for the American Tennis Association and tennis court complex at Miramar Regional Park.
- Representation of the City of Homestead in the development and ongoing operation and maintenance of the Homestead Motorsports Complex in connection with P3 partners.
- Representation of the City of Homestead in the development of a professional baseball complex for minor league and spring training games in connection with the Major League Baseball's Cleveland Indians.
- Representation of Cunard Ocean Lines in connection with a public-private partnership with the cruise line to make Miami the home port for the Queen Elizabeth II.
- A contract between Miami-Dade County and Montenay Power Corp. for construction of one of the world's largest resource recovery plants.