

Law Offices of  
**GILBERT A. SCHAFFNIT**  
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CRIMINAL DEFENSE  
PERSONAL INJURY  
TRIAL PRACTICE

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**RESUME AND CURRICULUM VITAE**

**EDUCATION**

New Smyrna Beach Senior High School, New Smyrna Beach, Florida (June, 1970).

Daytona Beach Community College, Daytona Beach, Florida – Associate of Arts Degree with High Honors (June, 1972).

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida – Bachelor of Arts Degree with Honors (June, 1974).

University of Florida College of Law, Gainesville, Florida – Juris Doctor (June, 1977).

**ACADEMIC HONORS**

Graduate, Stetson University Model Student Senate Program (1972).

Pi Sigma Alpha – Political Science Honor Society – Beta Gamma Chapter (University of Florida, 1974).

Phi Beta Kappa – Beta of Florida Chapter – (University of Florida, 1974).

Appellate Advocacy Board of Editors – University of Florida College of Law (1977).

Appellate Advocacy Board of Supervisors – University of Florida College of Law (1977).

Justice Campbell Thornal National Moot Court Board – University of Florida College of Law (1976-1977).

National Order of the Barristers – Appellate Advocacy Honor Society (1978).

College of Master Advocates and Barristers – Senior Counsel (2005 to present)

American College of Barristers – Senior Counsel (2005 to present)

## **COURTS OF ADMISSION**

The Florida Bar (1978).

The Montana Bar (2012) (Pro Hac Vice)

United States District Court – Northern District of Florida (1979).

Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals (1988).

United States District Court – Middle District of Florida (1989).

United States District Court – Middle District of Tennessee (Nashville) (1993) (Pro Hac Vice)

United States District Court – Southern District of Alabama (Mobile) (2014) (Pro Hac Vice)

United States District Court – Western District of Texas (El Paso) (2015) (Pro Hac Vice)

United States Supreme Court (1993).

Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals (1994).

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Elliott, Tindall, and Armstrong, Daytona Beach, Florida – Legal Assistant (1973-1975). Philip H. Elliott, Esquire.

Eighth Judicial Circuit Public Defender's Office, Gainesville, Florida – Assistant Public Defender – Juvenile, Mental Health and Felony Divisions (1976-1984). Alan R. Parlapiano, Esquire.

Law Offices of Gilbert A. Schaffnit, Gainesville, Florida (1984 – 1989); (1990 – 1992); (2004 to present)

Smith, Silverman, Schaffnit & Fletcher, Gainesville, Florida (1990)

Schaffnit and Fletcher, Gainesville, Florida (1992 – 2004)

## **PROFESSIONAL, FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES**

President, Alachua Child Advocacy Council, Gainesville, Florida (1977-1978)

Member, Gainesville Foster Parents Association (1978-1980)

Licensed Foster Parent, Department of Health & Rehabilitative Services, State of Florida (1978-1980)

Volunteer, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Gainesville, Florida (Big Brother 1976-1978)

Member, Board of Directors, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Gainesville, Florida (1978-1980)

Florida Public Defender's Association – Member (1989-2004)

Special Public Defender, Eighth Judicial Circuit (1984 - 2003)

Panel Member, Criminal Justice Act (CJA) (1984 to present)

Certificate of Appreciation – Outstanding Contribution to Law Week (1989)

Chairperson, Magistrate Selection Committee, Northern District of Florida, Gainesville Division (1990)

Chief Negotiator, Special Public Defender's Contract – Eighth Judicial Circuit (1986-1990)

Florida Bar Association – Member (1978 to present)

Florida Bar Association – Criminal Law Section – Member (1978 to present)

Florida Bar Association – Selection Committee; Individual Rights/Responsibilities (1985-1986)

Florida Bar Association – Mentoring Committee – Member (2004-2005)

American Trial Lawyers Association (1988-1990); (1995-2000)

Chairman, Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association, Criminal Law Committee (1992)

Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association – Annual James Tomlinson Professional Ethics Award – Committee Member (2004-2007) (2012)

Member, Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association (EJCBA) (1991 to present)

Chairman, EJCBA Recycling Committee (1995)

Co-Chairperson, Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association "Law Week (1992)

Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association – Judicial Poll Committee Chairperson (1998)

Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association – Circuit Conflicts Committee Member (1990-1991)

Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers – Charter Member (1986 to present)

Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers – Eighth Judicial Circuit Chapter President (1989-1990)

Central Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Member (2012)

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (2000, 2010)

Criminal Defense Representative – Indigent Services Committee of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida – appointed by former Chief Circuit Judge Stan R. Morris, retired (2004 to present)

Northern District of Florida Criminal Justice Act (CJA) District Panel Representative to the Administrative Office of United States Courts, Washington DC (1999 to present)

Eleventh Circuit CJA Panel Representative to the Defender Services Advisory Group (DSAG) of the Administrative Office of United States Courts, Washington DC (2010 – Present)

Federal Bar Association – North Central Florida Chapter – President (2004-2007); (2011-2012)

Federal Bar Association – North Central Florida Chapter – Board of Directors (2012 – present)

Member, Northern District of Florida Lawyers Advisory Committee (2012 – present)

Member, Northern District of Florida Local Criminal Rules Subcommittee (2012 - 2013)

Member, Association of Federal Defense Attorneys (AFDA) (2013 – present)

Member, American Society of Legal Advocates (2013 – present)

Member, The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Lawyers (2013 – present)

Member, Martindale – Hubbell A-V (Highest Rating) (1999 – present)

### **LECTURE AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Panel Member, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville, “Juvenile Justice” Gainesville, Florida (October 1979)

Guest Speaker, Alachua County Mental Health Association May Forum – “Legal and Treatment Alternatives for Sex Offenders – A Simulated Trial” (1987)

Guest Speaker, Alachua County United States Constitution Bicentennial Commission, Inc. (1990)

Guest Speaker, University of Florida Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Career Seminar (November, 1991)

Guest Speaker, Gainesville Legal Secretaries Association & EJCBA Special Legal Education Seminar “Rights of Criminal Defender” (July 24, 1992)

Guest Lecturer, 24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Adolescent Perpetration Network (NAPN) Conference  
Panel Member – “Moderating Risk in the Juvenile Justice System” (Tampa, FL May 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>,  
2009)

Guest Judge, University of Florida Levin College of Law Appellate Advocacy Oral Arguments –  
Professor Henry Winyhk (1986 to present)

Guest Judge, Trial Advocacy Workshop, University of Florida Levin College of Law –  
Professor, Honorable Stephan P. Mickle, Chief Judge, United States District Court, Northern  
District of Florida (1993 to present)

Guest Lecturer, Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality Assessment “Internet Child  
Pornography Offenses – Federal Sentencing Guidelines” (Chicago, March 18, 2012)

Guest Lecturer, 29<sup>th</sup> And 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Research and Treatment Conference; Association for  
the Treatment of Sexual Abusers – “Internet Child Pornography Offenders” (Phoenix, AZ Oct.  
20-23, 2010); (Toronto, CAN. Nov. 2, 2011)

Guest Speaker 16<sup>th</sup> Annual CJA District Panel Representatives Conference – “DSAG Reports”  
(San Antonio, TX Feb. 27-28, 2011)

Guest Expert, WRUF Radio Program “Jocks in Jail” Hosted by University of Florida Sports  
Reporter Larry Vettel (Gainesville, FL. 2011-2012)

Speaker, Federal Judicial Law Clerk Roundtable, Law Student Representatives of North  
Central Chapter Federal Bar Association - University of Florida Levin College of Law  
(Gainesville, FL March 29, 2012)

Guest Lecturer, Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality Assessment “Internet Child  
Pornography Offenses – Federal Sentencing Guidelines” (San Diego, CA March 22-24, 2013)

Guest Lecturer, National Organization for the Reform of Sex Offender Laws “Federal  
Sentencing Guidelines in Child Pornography and Enticement Cases” (Los Angeles, CA August  
29 – September 2, 2013)

Guest Lecturer, Annual meeting of the Society for Personality Assessment “Internet Child  
Pornography Offenses – Federal Sentencing Guidelines” (Arlington, VA March 23, 2014)

Interview – Documentary Film “Collateral Damages” regarding representation of Dr. Ona  
Colasante in Federal Healthcare Fraud Case (ND FL) Citygate Films, Arlington VA (Carolyn  
McCulley Producer/Director (April 9, 2014)

Guest Lecturer, Annual Combined Seminar of the Federal Defenders of Montana and the  
Montana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers - “Ill Will Hunting: The Unlawful Taking of  
Game from the Land of the Little Big Horn and Federal Sentencing Guidelines in Internet Child  
pornography Cases (Chico-Hot Springs, Pray, MT March 12-13 2015)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Schaffnit, Gilbert A. , Imhof, Eric A. , Shaw, Ted (2015) Assessing Internet child Pornography Offenders, *The Sex Offender: Insights on Treatment and Policy Developments – Volume VIII*; Barbara K. Schwartz (Chapter 22) ; Civic Research Institute

## **NON-LEGAL CIVIC CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

University of Florida Alumni Association Member (2007 to present)

National Trust for Historic Preservation Member (2004 to present)

Gainesville Quarterback Club Member (2002 to present)

University of Florida Fightin' Gator Touchdown Club Member (2002 to present)

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum Member (2000 to present)

Florida Theatre Member (2004 to 2007)

Duckpond Neighborhood Association (2006 to present)

Raintree Property Owners Association (1991 to present); Chair, Crime Watch Committee (2012)

Thomas Center Associates (Hotel Thomas) Gainesville FL (2015 – present)

## **CRIMINAL TRIAL EXPERIENCE**

### **PREVIOUSLY DEFENDED:**

#### **FEDERAL:**

**Possession/ Receipt and Distribution of Child Pornography**

**Traveling to Meet a Minor**

**Medicare/ Medicaid Fraud**

Conspiracy (to commit offenses listed below)

Armed robbery

Bribery

Possession/Importation of controlled substances

Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon

Obstruction of Justice

Money laundering

Forfeiture of real/personal property

Currency transaction reporting violations

Election fraud, mail fraud, bank fraud, wire fraud

Use of communication facility to commit felony

Mail fraud  
Perjury  
Wire fraud  
Witness Tampering  
Ryan Haight Act – Online Pharmacy Fraud

**STATE:**

**Possession of Child pornography**

**Traveling to Meet a Minor**

First degree murder (including phase II trial experience)

Armed robbery

Burglary of a dwelling/structure/conveyance

Grand theft/petit theft

Forgery and uttering a forgery

Sexual battery (including capital)

Arson

Trafficking in controlled substances

Conspiracy, Attempt and Solicitation

DUI and other criminal traffic offenses

Juvenile delinquency proceedings

Sale of unregistered securities

Securities fraud

Administrative proceedings before the Departments of Professional Regulation, Banking and Finance, Revenue, Insurance (Division of Administrative Hearings)

**CIVIL TRIAL EXPERIENCE**

**STATE:**

Intentional infliction of emotional distress

Toxic tort litigation

Commercial litigation

Forfeiture proceedings

Habeas corpus proceedings

Dependency proceedings

Dalkon Shield litigation

Dissolution of marriage proceedings

Restitution proceedings

Personal injury cases

**FEDERAL**

Forfeiture proceedings

ADA discrimination claims

## ARBITRATION

### **STATE:**

In re: Arbitration of Christ v. Safeco, Alachua County, decided May 9, 1988 (Neutral panel member)

Revised: December 29, 2015