

Greenberg Traurig Palm Beach Co-Lead Mark Fredrick Bideau Dies at 68

By Vivienne Serret

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What You Need to Know

- Mark Fredrick Bideau passed suddenly on March 31 at the age of 68.
- He joined Greenberg Traurig's West Palm Beach office in 1991.
- Bideau was a highly sought-after litigator who has successfully tried complex commercial, products liability and real estate cases.

Greenberg Traurig West Palm Beach co-managing shareholder Mark Fredrick Bideau died on March 31 at the age of 68.

As a long-time Palm Beach County resident who raised his family in Palm Beach Gardens, Bideau was dedicated to the economic growth of the area and active with the Palm Beach County Business Development Board. His support of various nonprofits, such as Boy Scouts of America and the Palm Beach County Bar Association, were extensions of this commitment.

Bideau, a 1983 graduate of Temple University's School of Law, joined Greenberg Traurig's West Palm Beach office in 1991. He had led the office of more than 85 attorneys and



Courtesy photo

Greenberg Traurig's West Palm Beach Co-Managing Shareholder Mark Fredrick Bideau.

business staff alongside co-managing shareholder Tracy Gerber since 2012.

"Mark was so much more than a brilliant lawyer and leader—he was an inspiring person who made everyone around him feel valued, seen, and cared for," Gerber said in a statement. "He devoted his life not only to the practice of law but to the people around him. Colleagues, clients and community members alike sought his wisdom, knowing they would always receive honest counsel delivered with patience and genuine care. He led not by title, but by exam-

ple—with integrity, humility and an unwavering commitment to doing what was right.”

Bideau was active in the firm’s decades-long pro bono work and sponsorship of the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County. The firm was recognized with the organization’s “And Justice for All Award” for going above and beyond to ensure justice for underserved members of the community, including developing the Greenberg Traurig Independent Living Review Project with the Palm Beach Legal Aid Society, which aids children aging out of foster care with legal, financial and other issues they confront as they try to make their way as adults, according to a news release.

A highly sought-after litigator who has successfully tried complex commercial, products liability and real estate cases in state and federal courts for decades, Bideau was admired by many for his legal excellence and vigorous advocacy for clients.

“Mark was a lawyer’s lawyer, one of the best I ever worked with, and an even better person and partner,” said Brian Duffy, chief executive officer of Greenberg Traurig, in a statement.

“This hurts and will for a long time.”

David Ashburn, managing shareholder of Greenberg Traurig’s Tallahassee office, who has known Bideau for 40 years, shared that sentiment.

“Mark could have won most of his cases relying only on his intellect, but he was

always the hardest-working lawyer on every case,” Ashburn said. “Still, as hard as he worked, he never failed to make time for a friend. He was always there to listen and offer wise guidance or just be a sounding board—and he had the discernment to know which would be most appropriate in the moment. It was truly an honor and privilege to have Mark as a friend.”

Bideau was a long-serving board member and, holding the role of board chair from 2009 to 2011, at Take Stock in Children. He supported the organization’s mission, which aids in breaking the cycle of poverty for low-income, academically qualified students by providing opportunities for a post-secondary education and driving community efforts to provide scholarships, mentors and hope to at-risk youth.

He was also part of the 2019 team the Palm Beach Post retained to seek through a Freedom of Information Act request to see if they could assist in obtaining the files from the Palm Beach County State Attorney’s Office dealing with the 2005-2006 prosecution of Jeffrey Epstein, Law.com previously reported.

And in a team of Greenberg Traurig litigators that secured a defense victory on behalf of GlobeNet Cabos Submarinos America Inc., Caribbean Crossing Ltd. and several major technology companies in a Palm Beach County Circuit Court case. The ruling in *South Spanish Trail v. GlobeNet Cabos Submarinos America* set “a precedent for future disputes involving sovereign submerged lands in Florida.”

Greenberg Traurig senior chairman Brad Kaufman, who worked side-by-side with Bideau for many years, notes that “throughout his career, Mark took great pride in mentoring countless attorneys both within Greenberg Traurig and across the broader legal community, generously investing his time and knowledge to shape the next generation of lawyers who carry his lessons forward. His absence leaves a void that cannot be filled, but the guidance he offered and the lives he touched will serve as his enduring legacy. He was, in every sense of the word, a man others were fortunate to know.”

Shareholder Robert “Bobby” Kane, who worked closely with Bideau on various litigation cases over the years, credits Bideau with being one of his key mentors on all things life and career.

“Mark took me under his wing and helped shape me into the litigator I am today. His guidance, wisdom and unwavering belief in my abilities gave me the confidence to tackle the most challenging cases and grow both professionally and personally. I would not be where I am today without him. He leaves behind a legacy not just in the cases we won together, but in the careers and lives he touched along the way. I am forever grateful to have called him my mentor, my colleague and my friend.”

Bideau provided pro bono assistance to HomeSafe in Palm Beach County, supplying comprehensive programs protecting victims of child abuse and domestic violence, and

preparing children, young adults, and families for safer, more productive lives. He, alongside other Greenberg Traurig attorneys, worked for years to help the organization expand and open a new facility.

For that work and the firm’s 30-year partnership, the organization recognized Greenberg Traurig in 2020 with the HomeSafe Hero Award.

“Mark was a cornerstone of Greenberg Traurig for 35 years and became a defining force in the growth and character of our firm,” said Richard A. Rosenbaum, executive chairman of Greenberg Traurig, in a statement.

“A premier trial lawyer, including his induction into the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers and membership in the American Board of Trial Advocates, Mark had the respect of the entire legal community and was considered a dean of the local bar. Yet his influence stretched far beyond the courtroom. He was a warm, collaborative, and deeply kind mentor who treated everyone with genuine care. Mark didn’t just practice law; he built lasting relationships and fostered a culture of camaraderie that will be his greatest legacy.”

Bideau is survived by his wife Lynda, their children Jacki Bostel (Kevin) and Matt (Sarah), along with grandchildren Tyler, Madison and Connor Bostel; and Avery and Brooks Bideau.

The family will have a celebration of life service on Monday, April 6, at 11 am at the North Palm Beach Country Club, 951 US Highway 1, North Palm Beach, Florida, 33408.