



Join A Network of Specialists: Become Board Certified In **Criminal Trial Law**

The Florida Bar's certification program is consistently recognized as a national leader among other state programs.

*Board certified lawyers are:
"Evaluated for professionalism and tested for expertise."*

Florida Bar board certification can benefit you in the following ways:

- ★ *Certification provides an objective measure that a potential client can rely upon when selecting a lawyer.*
- ★ *By becoming board certified, you join an existing network – and a directory of lawyers at FloridaBar.org/certification – of specialists who frequently refer others to specialists in their fields of practice.*
- ★ *Certification may enhance the stature of your law firm and can result in lower malpractice insurance rates. Florida Lawyers Mutual Insurance Co. offers a 10 percent discount to board certified lawyers.*

Minimum standards for criminal trial law certification, provided in Rule 6-8.3, include:

- Practice of law for at least 5 years;
- Substantial involvement in the specialty of criminal trial law- 30% or more- during the 3 years immediately preceding application;
- Handling of at least 25 contested criminal cases, with 20 jury trials, tried to a verdict, 15 which involved a felony, and 10 as lead counsel;
- 45 hours of approved criminal trial law certification continuing legal education in the 3 years immediately preceding application;
- Peer review; and,
- A written examination.

If you're considering board certification in criminal trial law, applications must be postmarked by October 31 for the following year's exam. Standards, policies, applications and staff contacts are available online at

FloridaBar.org/certification.