



BIOGRAPHY

Ronald L. Book is a specialist in governmental affairs and administrative law, with a Juris Doctorate degree from Tulane University and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Florida International University. Ron also studied at the University of Florida where he lettered running track for the Fighting Gator Track Team.

Ron served as Director and Special Counsel for the office of Cabinet and Legislative Affairs under former Florida Governor Bob Graham and was the Director of the Administrative and Governmental Law Department for Miami-based Sparber, Shevin, Shapo, Heilbronner & Book, one of Florida's most influential law firms from 1977 to 1987, when it disbanded. During part of his tenure with former Governor Graham, Ron also served as Executive Director of the constitutional revision campaign, "Five for Florida's Future" raising close to \$1.0 million to support the effort. Over the past decade and a half, Ron has raised over \$30 million for various candidates and causes.

Ron's proficiency in legislative procedure and administrative law has translated into significant accomplishments for such clients as the South Broward Hospital District; VITAS Healthcare Corporation; the NASDAQ 100 International Players Championship; Miami Motorsports; the Cities of North Miami, Aventura, Sunny Isles, Miami, Cooper City, Palmetto Bay, and North Miami Beach, Doral, Sunrise, Bal Harbour Village, Tamarac, Miramar, Lauderdale Lakes, Tallahassee and Pinellas Park; and the Counties of Miami-Dade, Broward, Brevard and Pinellas; Blockbuster Entertainment Corporation; Huizenga Holdings; the Miami Dolphins; the Florida Marlins; Florida Panthers; Psychemedics; Los Angeles Dodgers; Florida Grapefruit League; Florida Regional Planning Council Association; Interior Design Association of Florida; the Greater Miami Opera; WQAM and WKIS Radio; Florida Power & Light; AT&T; North Broward Hospital District; The Autism Society of Florida; the Broward Partnership on the Homeless; the Dade County Homeless Trust; New Horizons Community Mental Health Center; the Biscayne Bay Pilots; Recording For the Blind and Dyslexic; Bail Florida; General Tobacco; Jackson Memorial; University of Miami Medical School; Neptune Fireworks; Best Buddies; Flagler Dog Track/Magic City Casino; Miami Project to Cure Paralysis; and numerous others.

Ron's expertise in the Legislative Appropriations arena has resulted in funding for many client proposed projects including: The Miami Grand Prix Downtown Street Race Course; The Tennis (NASDAQ 100) facility on Key Biscayne (\$30 million); Homestead Speedway – NASCAR (\$60 million); Pro Player – Zoning and IDB; Dodgertown – Spring Training (\$25 million); Florida Grapefruit League (\$75 million for 5 cities/counties); Miami Project to Cure Paralysis and the Buoniconti Fund (over \$25 million); Diabetes Research Institute (over \$8 million); Professional Sports Franchise Facility sales tax rebate: Dolphins,

REPLY TO:

- ☐ Harbour Centre - 18851 N.E. 29th Avenue, Suite 1010 - Aventura, Florida 33180 - Telephone (305) 935-1866 - Fax (305) 935-9737
- ☐ 106 East College Avenue, 14th Floor - Tallahassee, Florida 32301 - (850) 224-3427

Marlins, Lightening, and Panthers (\$60 million each; \$2 million per year for debt service for 30 years); BB&T Center Arena (\$260 million); Local Sports Franchise-Bed Tax (\$250 million), plus numerous others. Most recently (2007-2008) an \$80 million appropriation for the University of Miami Biotech Life Sciences program; and \$20 million for Jackson Health System.

An active participant in the South Florida community, Ron serves as a trustee of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Broward Sheriff's Advisory Council. He is a past Board member of the Epilepsy Foundation of South Florida, a former member of the Steering Committee for the Summit of the Americas, a member of the University Outreach Development Council at Florida International University and a Board Member emeritus of the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Foundation; Member and Chairman of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, having administered over \$600 million in funding; outside advisor to the Broward Partnership on the Homeless; Member and past Chair of Children's Home Society of Florida Foundation; Member of Miami-Dade County Mayor's Mental Health Task Force; Member and Chair of the *Miami-Dade Community Affordable Housing Strategies Alliance Task Force*; Board Member, Overtown Youth Center and Mourning Family Foundation Board; Chairman, Partnership For Recovery/No Blue Roofs, administering a \$15 million budget to replace roofs of those on fixed income after Hurricane Wilma. Ron is a founding member of Lauren's Kids, Inc., a 501(c)(3) created to fight childhood sexual abuse; Florida Senate's Appointee to the Board of Directors for the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys; Board member, Miami-Dade Domestic Violence Oversight Board; Member, Historic Capitol Foundation and the Florida Legislative Research Center and Museum. He was named Homeless Advocate of the Year in 1994; named National Advocate of the Year by Autism Society of America, and was the recipient of the following additional awards: the Public Advocate of the Year Award by the National Epilepsy Foundation, 2003 Bill Colson Community Service Award from the Greater Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, 2004 James J. Blosser Community Trusteeship Award from the Broward Partnership For the Homeless, Survivor Activist Award from the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence; In 2004, in one of Ron's proudest moments, he was awarded the Alvah Chapman Humanitarian of the Year Award for his 16 years of service to the homeless in Miami-Dade County; Finalist for the *South Florida Business Journal's* 2009 Key Partners Awards in the Government Contracts/Lobbying category;

Ron serves as Chairman of the Lauren's Kids Foundation, a charitable entity founded with his daughter, Lauren, to prevent childhood sexual abuse through education and awareness. Since its creation almost a decade ago, Lauren's Kids has become a nationally and internationally recognized authority on childhood sexual abuse and has successfully advocated for the passage of numerous state and federal laws to protect victims.

Last year, his firm, Ronald L. Book, P.A., celebrated its 25th anniversary. Further, it should be noted, that of all his accomplishments Ron is most proud of his children, Lauren (30), Samantha (28) and Chase (24) and his grandson Quentin (16 months old).

REPLY TO:

- Harbour Centre - 18851 N.E. 29th Avenue, Suite 1010 - Aventura, Florida 33180 - Telephone (305) 935-1866 - Fax (305) 935-9737
- 106 East College Avenue, 14th Floor - Tallahassee, Florida 32301 - (850) 224-3427