



NEWS RELEASE

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Blalock Walters Broadens Expertise with Announcement of Three New Principals

BRADENTON, Florida – Attorneys Melanie Luten, Fred E. Moore and William C. Robinson Jr. have been named principals of Blalock, Walters, Held & Johnson, P.A., one of Manatee County's oldest law firms.

"We are pleased that these three young and skilled attorneys are moving up to become principals of the firm," said Cliff Walters, Managing Partner of Blalock Walters. "The interaction of new talent with established veterans helps us to achieve a new pinnacle of success for our clients. Each new principal has a proven track record and excellent legal skills. All of us at Blalock Walters are extremely proud of their accomplishment."

Melanie Luten practices business and corporate law and real estate law. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of Connecticut School of Law in Hartford, Conn., graduating with honors. While in law school, she received several CALI Awards for Advanced Real Estate Practice and served as Notes and Comments Editor of the *Connecticut Law Review*. She completed her undergraduate work at Western Connecticut State University's Ansell School of Business in Danbury, Conn., earning a Bachelor in Business Administration. She is licensed to practice law in Florida and Georgia and is a member of the Manatee County Bar Association. Active in the community, she served on the 25th Anniversary Task Force of Southeastern Guard Dogs.

Fred E. Moore specializes in civil litigation and appellate practice, with a concentration in commercial, employment, real estate, and estates and trusts. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law, graduating cum laude, and received his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Florida at Gainesville. He is a member of the Florida, Georgia and Manatee County Bar Associations, as well as the Judge John M. Scheb American Inn of Court, which promotes excellence in legal advocacy. Moore is a board member of Legal Aid of Manasota Inc.

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William C. Robinson Jr. focuses primarily on real estate law and land use, zoning and development law. He also practices business and corporate law. Robinson graduated cum laude with a Juris Doctor from the Stetson University College of Law, where he was Executive Editor and a published author of the *Stetson Law Review*. He received a B.A. in Finance and Certificate in International Relations from the University of Notre Dame.

Robinson serves as a member of the board of the Manatee County Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the chamber's Young Professionals. He serves on the boards of Meals on Wheels and Leadership Manatee and is a member of the Bradenton Downtown Development Authority. He previously served as a law clerk to the Honorable Gary R. Jones, U.S. Magistrate Judge, Middle District of Florida, in 2000-2001. He is a member of the Florida and Manatee County Bar Associations, and is a member of the Young Lawyer's Division of the Manatee County Bar Association.

Blalock Walters is a full-service law firm built on a foundation of integrity and hard work. It serves a wide range of large and small clients from various industries. For more than 80 years, the firm has served as a trusted adviser in resolving the legal needs of individuals, leading businesses and other institutions throughout Southwest Florida and beyond.

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