

Ronald L. Weaver Honored with Junior League of Tampa Luminary Award

TAMPA, FL – July 6, 2020 - Stearns Weaver Miller announced that Ronald “Ron” L. Weaver is being honored as a 2020 Luminary by The Junior League of Tampa and WEDU PBS. This prestigious recognition is given annually to three individuals in the Tampa Bay area who exemplify leadership, commitment to the community through advocacy, and achievement of distinction in a particular sphere and have made a lasting impact in Hillsborough County. The Luminaries will be featured in a primetime WEDU PBS broadcast documentary and their digital biographies will be permanently displayed at the Tampa Bay History Center.

As a Land Development & Zoning attorney at Stearns Weaver Miller, Ron helped transform and develop the landscape of Tampa over the past 40 years. He worked on countless city landmarks that spurred growth and drew people to the area, including the 1905 federal courthouse conversion into a four-star hotel, five regional malls, a dozen industrial parks, four downtown high-rises, four Westshore and Rocky Point mid-rises, numerous condominiums, apartments, mixed-use buildings and hotels, and affordable housing projects throughout Tampa Bay.

In conjunction with these physically and culturally transformative projects, Ron impacted Tampa Bay through leadership; facilitating the exchange of industry best practices; influencing infrastructure and policy; and educating and providing resources for children and young adults.

As Chairman of six Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce committees, Ron focused on economic development, broad-based education reform, cultural affairs, and transportation funding. In 2008, Ron founded Real Estate Lives to support those affected by the Great Recession. Now with over 100 volunteers, the non-profit has helped over 4,300 unemployed in real estate and related industries in Tampa Bay. Since 2017, his advocacy of transportation funding has been instrumental in the adoption of a 30-year, one-cent sales tax for much needed roads, buses, rail, trails and sidewalks, congestion relief and school access safety.

To promote and exchange the industry’s best practices, Ron has presented at and helped coordinate over 200 growth management and constitutional property rights seminars to the legal and real estate communities. He has also written over 250 local and state articles.

To date, Ron participated in over 700 local government hearings on behalf of clients and civic groups across Florida in order to influence infrastructure and policies throughout the state. He has also testified in front of the Florida House and Florida Senate Committees on property rights and growth management.

Ron was a member of the USF Business School Board of Advisors, Program Chair of the University of Tampa Board of Fellows, and served on the Boards of the Children Cancer Center and Junior Achievement. He also co-founded a local parents' support group to support public schools. For over 35 years, Ron taught Sunday School at First Baptist Church.

“I am grateful to the Junior League and WEDU PBS for providing a platform for current and future leaders to learn about and advocate for important community issues,” said Weaver. “I never set out to receive recognition for doing the right thing and helping the city that has blessed my family and our firm for 40 years. I hope to inspire young leaders to accept and embrace a fulfilling career choice of selfless service, of servant leadership, and of always giving others credit, until they too inspire other leaders in the community and set paths for generations to come.”

Ron, along with fellow honorees Fran Davin and Doretha Edgecomb, will be celebrated at a luncheon later in 2020.

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About Stearns Weaver Miller

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson is a full service law firm with offices in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa, Tallahassee, and Coral Gables, Florida. We offer multidisciplinary solutions with a focus on Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Business Restructuring, Corporate & Securities, Government & Administrative, Labor & Employment, Real Estate, Land Development, Zoning & Environmental and Tax. For more information, please visit stearnsweaver.com.

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