

Andrea Reid:

Any given case could end any given way, even if the law is completely in the favor of the client, or even if that client is entitled to very specific things under statute.

Shannon Carlyle:

Whether they are personal injury appeals, commercial litigation appeals, family law appeals, the issues are life-changing issues. A lot of the cases we work on are very high-stakes, where it's all or nothing. That's when they should be thinking about bringing an appellate lawyer on board, early in the case, so they can have that appellate assistance along the way. We don't go to hearings and have those types of time commitments throughout the day, so we can be that client's ear and sometimes counselor.

Andrea Reid:

The client knows that she or he has two levels of attorney. She's got the top trial attorney there, and then she's got the appellate attorney, making sure that every word spoken, every action taken, is a positive one for the outcome of the case.

Alexander Clem:

It's like Nick Saban says, "You don't win football games in October and November. You win the football games in June, July, August, before you even step foot on the field."

Shannon Carlyle:

In a personal injury case, defense firms have a huge number of attorneys, so there can be multiple associates all against this one trial lawyer. One of the ways that that trial lawyer can even the playing field is to bring in appellate counsel to help concentrate on specific areas that they're getting ambushed with.

Andrea Reid:

Appeals really could take a very long time, but if you bring in the litigation support from the beginning, the appeal could move a lot faster and you can identify those issues.

Mark Rabinowitz:

Appellate procedure requires specific knowledge.

Shannon Carlyle:

It's not only just the law, but the inner workings of the court and the procedures of the court and the clerk's office. I probably handled between 200 and 300 appeals as a law clerk at the Fifth District, in all different areas. I've been board-certified since 2004. All of the lawyers at Florida Appeals have a specific focus in appellate law. We have two retired appellate judges, and we're able to utilize people, based on their expertise or their experience, regardless of where that lawyer is located. I think getting an appellate lawyer on board for a trial lawyer is a really, really great investment in that case, because it gives the client expertise in two areas, rather than just one.

Andrea Reid:

There's a high level of confidence that goes along with having Shannon at your side.

J.J. Dahl:

As a trial lawyer, you're not always thinking ahead to appellate. She is there making sure to preserve my appellate record.

Alexander Clem:

Your reputation matters, so if you have somebody who has vast appellate experience, when they stand up before the Fifth District Court of Appeals on your case, the gravitas that somebody like Shannon brings to the podium, that matters.

Shannon Carlyle:

Whether they're high net-worth, high-dollar, children's issues, getting a really great result for that client, it's really, really rewarding.