## Defense Attorney Award

## **Dawn Traverso**

Dawn Traverso, dubbed by her colleagues as the "Queen of Comp," is appreciated for her exemplary performance in workers compensation defense.

In addition to fulfilling her responsibilities as a managing partner, she is active in the Florida Bar. She is past chair of its Workers Compensation Section, and a member of the bar's executive council and continuing legal education section. She is also a fellow in the National College of workers Compensation Lawyers and certified by the Florida Department of Financial Services as a workers compensation instructor. Dawn is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center. She is also a member of the Broward County, Dade County and Monroe County Bar Associations. Notably, she is the first woman to receive the prestigious Frierson-Colling Professionalism Award from the Florida Bar in recognition of best practices in workers compensation law.

"I want to set a good example for my 14-year-old son," she said after receiving the Comp Laude award for her defense work. "This award it not just for me, but for the entire legal community."

In addition to her demanding professional life, Dawn proudly supports the Florida version of Kids' Chance of America – the Friends of 440 Scholarship Fund, Inc. The name refers to the Florida statute that addresses workers compensation benefits. Dawn is a fund trustee and chair of the South Florida Chapter. Since its inception in 1991, Dawn said the 440 fund has awarded approximately 800 scholarships worth nearly \$1.6 million to qualified college students with a parent who was seriously injured or killed on the job.

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