



## **Ronald L. Book, Esq.**

Chairman, Miami-Dade Homeless Trust; Founder, President & CEO, Ronald L. Book, PA

Ron Book is the Chief Executive Officer of Ronald L. Book, P.A. Since founding the firm in 1987, Ron has developed a client list that is a “who’s who” of business and industry, local governments, health care and not-for-profit associations. His reputation as a hard worker, dedicated to his client’s causes, has earned him a place in the upper echelon of Tallahassee power. Associates, clients, and lawmakers describe Ron Book and his firm as committed, tenacious, knowledgeable, and credible.

For more than 35 years, his firm has led the government affairs industry in Florida, specializing in the appropriations process, responsible for literally, billions in grants, programs and earmarks to various projects and causes. An innovator in local government representations, the firm counts dozens of cities, counties, and government entities as clients. Ron’s history in the Florida political process began in the 1970’s, when he began working for the Florida Legislature. He later served as Special Counsel and head of Legislative Affairs for Florida Governor Bob Graham and later, as 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. His knowledge of Florida politics and its players is rooted in his work in several statewide gubernatorial, cabinet level and referendum campaigns.

Dedicated to community causes, Ron has served on dozens of charitable boards, including the Mourning Family Foundation, Best Buddies, and Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital, to name a few. He also serves as Chairman of the Miami-Dade Homeless Trust, where he has been a member for more than 28 years, first appointed by Mayor Alex Penelas and subsequently reappointed numerous times. The Trust administers a budget of more than \$96 million in funds and oversees Miami-Dade County’s effort to end homelessness in the community. Under his leadership, the Trust has been recognized numerous times as a national best practice model, and was proud to host HUD Secretary Ben Carson, last year, when the Trust was among the first in the country to announce and end to Veteran’s homelessness in our community.

In addition to his work at the Trust, Ron serves as Chairman of the Board for the Lauren’s Kids Foundation, a not-for-profit entity he founded with his daughter, Florida State Senator Lauren Book. The Lauren’s Kids Foundation is dedicated to ending childhood sexual abuse through education and awareness and helping survivors heal with guidance and support.

Ron holds a Juris Doctorate degree from Tulane University and a B.A. in Political Science from Florida International University. He is a member in good standing of the Florida Bar. He is a registered lobbyist and a member of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL). Ron also spent three years at the University of Florida where he was also a member of the Fighting Gator Track Team.