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**MARKS GRAY, P.A. LAUNCHES NEW SUNSHINE LAW TRAINING PRACTICE AREA**

(JACKSONVILLE, Fla: Wednesday, May 20, 2015) Marks Gray, P.A. the Jacksonville, FL- based full service law firm today announced the firm’s newly created Sunshine Law Training Practice Area. Marks Gray Shareholder Edward L. Birk will head the new area of practice. Mr. Birk practices in the areas of Media Law, First Amendment, Municipal Liability, Employment and Labor Law, Civil Rights, and E.R.I.S.A.

Marks Gray is launching the new Sunshine Law Training Practice Area in response to Section 112.3142, Florida Statutes, which requires constitutional offices to complete four (4) hours of ethics training each year covering state ethics code, and Florida public record and meeting laws. Florida has one of the broadest public records law in the country. Floridians amended the state constitution to provide access to public records. In recent years, there has been a sharp increase in lawsuits regarding open meetings and public records. The Legislature enacted Section 112.3142 to help reduce litigation and increase compliance by mandating state and local government employees, elected officials, state officers, and those who sit on governmental boards and councils must receive annual training in public records, open meetings and ethics. Attorney Birk has advised both records custodians seeking to comply with the law and news media seeking access to records. He has been in court many times regarding public records. He brings deep experience of dos and don’ts for records requestors and custodians charged with compliance.

Marks Gray also has a long history of representing municipalities and counties particularly in regard to open meetings. According to Gerald “Jerry” Weedon, President of the firm, “The addition of Marks Gray’s Sunshine Law Training practice continues the firm’s focus on listening to our clients and providing them with an efficient, effective plan for their specific needs in each situation.”

Marks Gray, P.A. is an AV-rated, multi-faceted law firm with offices in Jacksonville and Jacksonville Beach. The firm's attorneys provide highly personal service while offering clients an experienced legal team whom specialize in a broad spectrum of practice areas. The lawyers at Marks Gray represent national, regional and local clients in a variety of matters in civil litigation, commercial and transactional practices, as well as banking, real estate, business law, probate, tax law, estate planning, immigration and workers' compensation.

For more information, please visit [www.marksgray.com](http://www.marksgray.com)

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