

## < BIZWOMEN

Residential Real Estate

## In Her Words: Donna DiMaggio Berger's law practice, podcast focus on condos



Donna DiMaggio Berger, Shareholder, Becker's Condo, Co-Op & HOA practice, Ft. Lauderdale FL  
SUBMITTED PHOTO



By [Ellen Sherberg](#) – Bizwomen Contributor, The Business Journals  
Apr 6, 2026

*Expertise in one area can offer opportunities across industries. That might sound counterintuitive, but [Donna DiMaggio Berger](#)'s wide-ranging career suggests otherwise.*

When I look back on my career, one word stands out: resilience. Early on, I faced moments where I felt like speaking out or innovating too much would make me an outlier. It would have been easy to shrink, to blend in, to be less vocal or ambitious. But I learned that resilience isn't just about enduring challenges — it's about using them to shape your path, sharpen your vision, and create opportunities where none seem to exist.

That lesson guided me when I founded CALL — the Community Association Leadership Lobby. I remember late nights drafting alerts and queuing them up myself on a mass email platform. What began as a small effort around a single legislative issue grew into a

grassroots movement that educated policymakers about the genuine challenges faced by volunteer board members. Resilience allowed me to persist when progress was slow and to see setbacks as opportunities to adjust and improve.

Almost a decade after CALL's creation, I once again found myself craving a new challenge. I launched Board Member Boot Camp, a military-themed boot camp including a series of classes for continuing education credit and certificates of completion to fulfill board members' statutory board certification requirements. The immersive course, featuring quizzes, live Q&A sessions, and prizes, was offered at no cost to all registrants. Like CALL, its success relied on thinking outside-of-the-box and the desire to keep pushing forward despite initial doubts from others. I've learned that leadership is about showing up, taking initiative, and helping others rise with you.

When the pandemic hit, the shift to remote work reignited my desire for a creative outlet to educate clients and the community. It was during that time I launched the podcast Take It to the Board, exploring the reality of life in a condominium. Over the past four seasons, the podcast has reached thousands, offering practical guidance and inspiration for board members, managers, and community professionals statewide.

Throughout my career, resilience has been a constant. It's allowed me to speak up when it's easier to stay quiet, to pursue ideas when they aren't widely embraced, and to mentor others while juggling competing demands. I've learned setbacks aren't failures — they are invitations to innovate and push boundaries. Today, I look for opportunities to empower other women, through programs like the Florida Bar's Counsel to Counsel mentor program.

To women entering law — or any field where your ideas may seem unconventional — embrace resilience and keep being true to yourself. There are people who see your vision and share your values; you just need to keep pushing until you find them. In time, I found others who not only respected my ideas but championed them. I found clients who valued my forward-thinking. I no longer needed to ask for permission to shine — I just did. In doing so, I realized when you refuse to hide your light, you shine a path for others to follow.

*In Her Own Words is a daily Bizwomen feature edited and curated by Ellen Sherberg and written by individual contributors. If you would like to contribute to this ongoing narrative, please send an email to [ESherberg@bizjournals.com](mailto:ESherberg@bizjournals.com). Sherberg is a longtime reporter, editor and publisher at American City Business Journals, Bizwomen's parent company.*