
CHAMBERS USA 2024

The Leading Lawyers and Law Firms in the USA

Florida





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Antitrust

Antitrust	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Bilzin Sumberg	
Boies Schiller Flexner LLP	
Kenny Nachwalter PA	
Band 2	
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz	
Carlton Fields	
Holland & Knight LLP	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Arnold Richard Kenny Nachwalter PA	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Blechman William J. Kenny Nachwalter PA	
Coutroulis Chris S Carlton Fields	
Litchford Hal K. Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell	
Perwin Scott Kenny Nachwalter PA	
Silverman Lawrence D Sidley Austin LLP (ORL) ◊ *	
Singer Stuart Boies Schiller Flexner LLP	
Turken Robert W Bilzin Sumberg	
Wagner Scott Bilzin Sumberg	
Band 2	
Conners Patricia Stearns Weaver Miller (ORL) ◊ *	
Hoffman Jerome Holland & Knight LLP	
Lustrin Lori Bilzin Sumberg	
Neill Anna Kenny Nachwalter PA *	
Patton Doug Kenny Nachwalter PA *	
Ponzoli Michael Kenny Nachwalter PA *	
Randall Samuel Kenny Nachwalter PA *	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Bilzin Sumberg

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg is a leading group possessing extensive experience dealing with opt-out price-fixing cases. Particularly known for its role in handling antitrust litigation for plaintiffs, including class actions. Also

represents clients in a range of internal and state investigations and acts for a mixture of national and regional corporations across a range of industries, including electronics, manufacturing and entertainment.

Strengths

"The lawyers are amazing. They provide deep thinking and analysis, as well as a nuanced appreciation for the issues."

"The team is organized, strategic and effective."

"The firm's depth of knowledge and experience makes them an invaluable partner in litigating an antitrust case."

Work highlights Bilzin Sumberg represented Shamrock Foods Company in an opt-out price-fixing case against producers of chickens in the USA.

Notable practitioners

Robert Turken enjoys an excellent reputation for his wide-ranging practice, which spans antitrust disputes and securities litigation. He offers notable expertise representing clients in multidistrict class actions. **Strengths:** *"Robert's instincts for case strategy are perfect." "Robert's knowledge of antitrust is at another level. He is strategic and thinks outside the box."*

Scott Wagner is well regarded for his expertise in a broad range of disputes. He is routinely engaged to represent clients in complex antitrust litigation relating to allegations of price fixing, monopolization and market allocation, among others. **Strengths:**

"Scott is a master at working with economic experts and he has a keen sense for how to effectively present complex material to a jury." "Scott is terrific to work with. He delivers timely, actionable advice and guidance." Lori Lustrin is adept at handling antitrust litigation for opt-out plaintiffs. **Strengths:**

"Lori is masterful and brilliant in front of a jury." "Lori is a stellar attorney and subject matter expert who is responsive, practical and easy to interact with." "Lori can collect, digest, retain and organize vast amounts of information quickly. Her recall is impressive. She uses these gifts to quickly provide relevant and insightful counsel."

Boies Schiller Flexner LLP

What the team is known for Boies Schiller Flexner LLP is a renowned practice, recognized across the market as one of the leading antitrust practices in Florida. Well versed in acting for both plaintiffs and defendants in significant antitrust litigation at both a national and state level. Also engaged in merger clearance and compliance matters as well as handling operational counseling and providing representation in arbitrations. Clients range from Fortune 500 companies to private individuals.

Strengths

"The team is excellent."

Work highlights Boies Schiller Flexner LLP represented Burger King in a proposed class action alleging violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act.

Notable practitioners

Stuart Singer has a broad litigation practice. He frequently represents clients in trials, arbitrations and appellate matters relating to antitrust violations. **Strengths:** *"Stuart is a superb lawyer in every respect. He is extremely knowledgeable and an absolute pleasure to work with." "Stuart Singer is very bright."*

Kenny Nachwalter PA

What the team is known for Kenny Nachwalter PA is a market-leading practice, predominantly representing plaintiffs in nationwide antitrust cases. Frequently engaged to act on behalf of companies having issues with suppliers or competitors across a wide range of industries, with recent cases centering on the food, electronics and pharmaceutical sectors. Particularly noted for its depth of experience in opt-out matters and also handles international cartel cases.

Strengths

"The team have a strong commercial presence and an understanding of current developments."

"The lawyers are very creative, hard-working and diligent."

"The attorneys are excellent advocates, both verbally and in writing. They are highly capable and effective trial lawyers."

Work highlights Kenny Nachwalter PA represented Walgreen and The Kroger Co. against Johnson & Johnson, alleging an illegal monopoly for a biologic drug, Remicade.

Notable practitioners

Richard Arnold remains a popular choice for plaintiffs and defendants seeking representation in sophisticated antitrust disputes. He is a highly experienced trial lawyer with notable expertise in acting for individual plaintiffs. **Strengths:** "Richard is an incredibly talented trial lawyer and strategist." "He is excellent on his feet and very creative." **William Blechman** focuses his practice on the representation of individual plaintiffs and regularly handles cases relating to allegations of price fixing and monopolization. **Strengths:** "William is a first-rate trial lawyer, brief writer and strategist with an incessant drive to win." "He is very creative in thinking of ways to advance client interests." "William is a force of nature and an exceptionally talented lawyer. He is very sophisticated in dealing with the subtleties of antitrust law and economics." **Scott Perwin** wins market-wide recognition for his skills as a litigator. He is considered a go-to for complex antitrust disputes and offers particular expertise in matters concerning the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** "Scott is brought in as an intellectual antitrust voice. He is very smart and extremely knowledgeable." "Scott is very creative." **Anna Neill** (see p.1485) has considerable experience as a litigator. She is particularly noted for her representation of pharmaceutical clients in antitrust matters. **Strengths:** "Anna is a real problem solver." "Anna is extremely intelligent and has fantastic instincts." **Doug Patton** (see p.1487) is recommended for his experience as a trial lawyer. He regularly handles a wide range of antitrust matters. **Strengths:** "Doug has years of experience and a wonderful ability to look at things from the perspective of the jury." "Doug is very knowledgeable and full of insights." **Michael Ponzoli** (see p.1488) focuses his practice on cartels. He represents companies across a number of industries including pharmaceuticals and

railroads. Noted for his plaintiff expertise, representing clients seeking individualized relief.

Strengths: "Michael is a highly capable strategist and brief writer." "Michael has incredible attention to detail and deep-dives into the complex issues of the case." **Samuel Randall** (see p.1489) is recognized for his abilities as a litigator. Clients benefit from his prior role as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Southern District of Florida.

Strengths: "Samuel is very smart and to the point." "He is strategic and a good advocate for clients."

range of industries in complex litigation. He offers notable expertise in antitrust disputes and is an experienced trial lawyer.

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight LLP's Florida team handles antitrust disputes and Hart-Scott-Rodino filings for clients across a number of different industries. It is particularly well regarded for its expertise in the healthcare industry.

Strengths

"The team's level of detail and preparation as well as forethought in litigation and representation are really exemplary."

Work highlights Holland & Knight LLP represented American Proteins, Crossroads Properties, AMPRO Products and Georgia Feed Products Company in an alleged boycott matter against defendants in the poultry industry.

Notable practitioners

Jerome Hoffman is recognized for his knowledge of healthcare-related work in the antitrust space.

Band 2

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz

What the team is known for Baker Donelson is an Orlando-based team offering extensive trial experience in the full spectrum of antitrust and trade secrets matters, including noncompete issues, price-fixing allegations and class actions.

Strengths

"The team is knowledgeable, responsible and cooperative."

Notable practitioners

Hal Litchford continues to be a highly regarded figure in the Florida market for his extensive experience in a broad range of antitrust matters. He is particularly adept in handling sophisticated multi-district litigation.

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields is recognized for its longstanding reputation on the Florida antitrust scene. Represents clients across a wide range of areas including manufacturing, pharmaceutical and telecommunications, in a mixture of criminal and civil antitrust matters. Other areas of experience include handling antitrust issues related to M&A, advertising and franchising agreements.

Notable practitioners

Chris Coutroulis acts for clients across a wide

Other Ranked Lawyers

Patricia Conners (see p.1463) of Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. is adept in handling a broad range of antitrust matters. Clients benefit from her extensive experience in this space, including her prior role as Chief Deputy at the Florida Attorney General's Office. **Strengths:** "Patricia is very insightful." "She is really exceptional."

Lawrence Silverman (see p.1495) of Sidley Austin LLP maintains a stellar reputation in the market for his antitrust practice. He focuses his practice on cartel investigations, unilateral pricing policies and government premerger approvals. He is also adept at handling commercial disputes.

Banking & Finance

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman operates a well-established practice representing borrowers, lenders, issuers and underwriters in a range of public finance, regulatory and transactional issues. The team possesses extensive experience in securitization, lease finance and derivatives transactions. The department also demonstrates significant cross-border expertise in a range of financing and investment matters,

including for financial institutions based in Latin America.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Akerman are very focused on finding solutions and have a broad knowledge."

Work highlights Akerman represented HEICO Corporation in its acquisition of Wencor Group from affiliates of Warburg Pincus LLC and Wencor's management for \$2.05 billion in the aggregate.

Notable practitioners

William Arnholz regularly advises both international and US-based borrowers on instruments

such as revolving credit facilities. His practice also includes advising issuers.

Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Garro LLP

What the team is known for Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Garro is a distinguished practice with a wide range of banking and finance capabilities, particularly in regulatory and transactional matters. The team is notably well versed in complex cross-border M&A and lending transactions in Latin American markets. The department acts for many leading financial institutions, including

Banking & Finance
Leading Firms
Band 1
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Shutts & Bowen LLP
White & Case LLP
Band 2
Akerman LLP
Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Garro LLP
Bilzin Sumberg
Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP
Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP
Band 3
Foley & Lardner LLP
Gunster
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Squire Patton Boggs
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff
Band 4
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP
Winston & Strawn LLP

* Indicates individual with profile.
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

both foreign and domestic institutions.

Notable practitioners

Alcides Avila attracts significant acclaim for his handling of regulatory and transactional banking matters. His notable proficiency in cross-border matters sees him regularly advising on matters with Latin American elements. **Strengths:** "Alcides is very well respected in the community." **Patricia Hernandez** is highly respected by market sources. She regularly represents domestic and international financial institutions on wide-ranging regulatory matters, as well as handling complex transactions. **Strengths:** "She's a really fantastic advocate for her clients." "Patricia is a wonderful lawyer."

Bilzin Sumberg

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg is well known for its representation of both borrowers and lenders in commercial and business financing transactions, including asset-based financing, restructurings and workouts. The team is experienced in handling mezzanine lending and real estate finance. The firm also possesses an expanding international finance practice and is active for clients across a variety of industries ranging from infrastructure to technology.

Strengths

"Bilzin Sumberg is incredibly well resourced and there are substantial subject matter experts within the firm."

"The firm's bench is deep and they have a lot of experience in really complex fields."

"The team are responsive and regularly provide updates."

Work highlights Bilzin Sumberg advised K. Hovanian American Mortgage on the negotiation and documentation of major amendments to its warehouse repo and loan facilities with Comerica Bank and Customer's Bank.

Notable practitioners

Robert Siegel is held in high esteem for his extensive finance practice, which sees him reg-

Banking & Finance: Regulatory
Leading Individuals
Star individuals
Brown Bowman <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *
Band 1
Avila Alcides <i>Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Garro</i>
Fornaris Carl A <i>Winston & Strawn LLP</i> *
Wells Bryan <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *
Band 2
Fernandez Andres A <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i> *
Greeley Jack <i>Smith MacKinnon PA (ORL)</i> ◊
Hernandez Patricia M <i>Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena</i>
Prior Kimberly <i>Winston & Strawn LLP</i> *
Band 3
Jones Rod <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *
Randall Geoffrey <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *
Stutts Charles <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Trotman Greta E. M. <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *

ularly handle big-ticket commercial and real estate finance transactions. **Strengths:** "Robert's technical skills are fantastic." "He is strong in all areas." **Alexandra Lehson** is an experienced lawyer who demonstrates considerable strength in handling complex financings and loan transactions. Her clients include borrowers and senior lenders. **Strengths:** "Ali is fantastic to work with. She is extremely knowledgeable, hard-working and responsive." "She is a strong advocate for our firm."

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

What the team is known for Bradley Arant Boult Cummings is increasingly recognized for its broad banking and financial services practice. The team acts on behalf of both lenders and borrowers across a range of issues. The practitioners advise clients on asset-based loans, construction loans and debt financings.

Strengths

"The firm is a really solid resource for knowledge of Florida law."

"The lawyers are very attentive and respond very quickly."

Work highlights Bradley Arant Boult Cummings represented Western-Southern Life Assurance Company, as lender, in relation to a loan facility to Sonoran Tampa.

Notable practitioners

Stephanie Kane is noted for her ability to handle matters on behalf of both borrower and lender clients. Her experience includes advising on complex acquisition financing and issues related to commercial loans. **Strengths:** "Stephanie is a great attorney." "She stands out in terms of her knowledge of Florida law."

Foley & Lardner LLP

What the team is known for Foley & Lardner is distinguished for its significant strength in public finance and transactional matters, acting for a range of organizations as issuer's, borrower's and lender's counsel. The firm's expertise is bolstered by complementary strength in tax-exempt financing. The team regularly handles high-value finance transactions for household-name clients.

Strengths

"Foley & Lardner's team is able to handle the most complex and sophisticated transaction structures

Banking & Finance: Transactional
Eminent Practitioners
Eminent Practitioners
Sirven José E <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i> *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Alonso Fernando C <i>Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP</i> *
Alvarez-Farré Emilio J <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>
Ames Stuart <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff</i>
Avila Alcides <i>Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Garro</i>
Klar Eric <i>White & Case LLP</i>
Viana Carlos <i>White & Case LLP</i>
Band 2
Fornaris Carl A <i>Winston & Strawn LLP</i> *
Siegel Robert M <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>
Yadley Barbara <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Band 3
Alvarez Javier <i>TA PLLC (ORL)</i> ◊
Arnhols William C <i>Akerman LLP</i>
Bader Gregory K <i>Gunster</i>
Bennett Susan <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff</i> *
Denham Mark <i>Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP</i>
Jaffe Arvin J. <i>Arvin J. Jaffe, P.A. (ORL)</i> ◊
Mitrione Michael V <i>Gunster</i>
Saiz Emilio <i>Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP</i> *
Watt Zachary W <i>Hill Ward Henderson (ORL)</i> *
Up-and-coming individuals
Kane Stephanie <i>Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP</i>
Kraziem Faisal <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i> *
Lehson Alexandra <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>
Mendez Rebecca <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler</i> *
Rahaghi Peter <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *

and they provide strategic advice."

"The team at Foley & Lardner is attentive to client needs. Their responses are rapid and prompt at all times."

Work highlights Foley & Lardner represented the Republic of Paraguay in its sovereign bond issuance and concurrent tender offer, raising \$500 million.

Notable practitioners

Todd Miller is a key contact.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP is a first-class offering for public and private entities across an extensive range of regulatory, transactional and public finance matters. The firm is bolstered by the breadth of its expertise in structured finance and derivatives matters, with additional capabilities in tax-related issues. Regularly handles transactions with a cross-border Latin American component.

Strengths

"The team at Greenberg Traurig are great. The practitioners are very practical, they take a pragmatic approach and they are business-oriented, responsive and very reliable."

"The group has a deep expertise."

Notable practitioners

Emilio Alvarez-Farré's transactional practice is highly respected by peers. He frequently acts on cross-border transactions involving Latin American parties, including leveraged buyouts and restructurings. **Strengths:** "Emilio is super professional. He is one of the most knowledgeable lawyers for Latin America."

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster offers broad transactional and regulatory experience in the banking and finance arena, with significant activity on large-scale M&A. The firm acts for a range of institutional clients including broker-dealers, investment advisers and consumer finance companies, advising on complex commercial lending transactions. The team also offers significant expertise in real estate finance and acts on both the borrowing and the lending sides.

Strengths

"The team has a great reputation in the space."

Notable practitioners

Gregory Bader advises on M&A in the financial services space, as well as regulatory compliance and securities offerings. He is sought out by private and public sector clients. **Michael Mitrione** regularly acts on transactions such as financings and restructurings. He offers notable experience in advising Italian entities on cross-border work as a fluent Italian speaker.

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight houses a highly proficient banking and finance group, with an impressively deep bench of transactional and regulatory attorneys. It is highly sought after by domestic and international financial institutions to advise on a range of complex issues, and the team possesses particularly notable expertise in the Latin American market. The firm also has a well-known real estate finance group, with a proven track record in many high-value deals in Florida. Additionally, Holland & Knight draws on its formidable litigation practice to advise on investigations and enforcement by an array of regulatory agencies and in commercial disputes.

Strengths

"The team at Holland & Knight are very knowledgeable."

"It's a great firm."

Work highlights Holland & Knight advised Leyline Renewable Capital on a project development loan for RAI Energy.

Notable practitioners

José Sirven (see p.1496) has an outstanding reputation for his work in M&A and corporate finance. He regularly advises banks on cross-border matters involving Latin American parties, attracting clients with his fluency in Spanish and financing expertise. **Strengths:** *"He is very intelligent and held in very high regard."* **Andres Fernandez** (see p.1467) attracts particular praise for his expert handling of AML concerns, which form part of his broader financial services regulatory capabilities. He acts for both domestic and international banks, including those in Central and South America. **Strengths:** *"Andres is a fantastic lawyer."*

Barbara Yadley attracts a broad borrower and lender-side client base with her handling of commercial lending transactions. **Strengths:** *"Barbara's a great lawyer."* **Charles Stutts** represents wide-ranging financial services entities, including building societies and trust companies. He draws on former experience in government to advise on compliance concerns and enforcement actions. **Faisal Kraziem** (see p.1478) joins the rankings this

year with a growing reputation in the market for his work representing clients including financial institutions and borrowers in both domestic and cross-border lending transactions. **Strengths:** *"Faisal is an excellent lawyer."*

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP

What the team is known for Hughes Hubbard & Reed houses a well-regarded banking and finance practice with notable expertise in transactions involving Latin America. The team acts for lenders and borrowers on significant debt offerings, regularly representing financial institutions in derivatives transactions.

Strengths

"Hughes Hubbard's team do a great job. They are efficient and make sure we are informed."

Work highlights Hughes Hubbard & Reed provided counsel to a club of banks led by the Bank of Nova Scotia, that provided a \$1.25 billion sustainability-linked term loan credit facility for Petrobras.

Notable practitioners

Mark Denham has a breadth of experience as an adviser to financial institutions and corporate clients. He is notably adept at providing counsel on acquisition financings and leasing transactions. **Emilio Saiz** (see p.1492) is recognized for his experience representing major institutions in a range of corporate and structured finance matters. He is particularly noted for his expertise in aviation finance. **Strengths:** *"Emilio is a great lawyer. He knows the market very well and he is very practical."*

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

What the team is known for Hunton Andrews Kurth is widely recognized for the strength of its expertise in domestic and cross-border transactions and investments, particularly those with Latin American elements. The firm frequently represents institutional lenders and development financiers across a range of project financing matters. The team's experience also includes transactions arising from the hospitality and real estate development sectors.

Strengths

"The quality of the firm is great and the team works seamlessly."

Strengths Hunton Andrews Kurth advised Promerica Financial Corporation on the \$225 million sale of aggregate principal amount of its 10.750% senior secured notes due 2028.

Notable practitioners

Fernando Alonso (see p.1456) regularly advises financial institutions and companies on cross-border transactions, offering particular experience in representing global entities.

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

What the team is known for Nelson Mullins houses an experienced group of dedicated banking and finance practitioners, advising clients on a range of institutional lending, public finance and debt restructuring matters. The team is highly proficient in structuring finance for complex commercial and industrial projects. Acting for a broad variety of clients, including local gov-

ernments, mortgage lenders, underwriters and state agencies, the department also possesses notable expertise in real estate and construction finance.

Work highlights Nelson Mullins provided counsel to Pinnacle Bank on a senior secured construction loan facility in the amount of \$22.1 million, to finance a portion of the borrower's speculative industrial project.

Notable practitioners

Carl Romano is a key contact at the firm.

Shutts & Bowen LLP

What the team is known for Shutts & Bowen remains a leader in the market and maintains an exemplary reputation for regulatory, international advisory and large-scale transactional issues as part of a broad skill set in complex banking and finance matters. Renowned for its representation of a wide range of financial service providers, credit unions and broker-dealers, the team often acts in complex M&A and FINRA enforcement actions.

Strengths

"Shutts & Bowen provide great service. The lawyers there are really knowledgeable."

"We are very happy with the timing of their answers, and the quality and depth of their work."

Work highlights Shutts & Bowen worked on proposed revisions to the Florida Banking Codes at the request of the Florida Office of Financial Regulation and the Financial & International Business Association.

Notable practitioners

Bowman Brown (see p.1460) is widely recognized as one of the best regulatory banking lawyers in Florida. He maintains a broad practice, advising on a gamut of complex domestic and cross-border regulatory concerns. **Strengths:** *"Bowman is a fantastic lawyer."* **Bryan Wells** (see p.1500) advises a range of banks, broker-dealers and investment advisers on both regulatory and transactional mandates. **Strengths:** *"Bryan is extremely knowledgeable. His industry experience brings depth, consistency and thoroughness to his advice. He is a pleasure to work with."* **Rod Jones** (see p.1476) is a fine choice of counsel for US and international banks seeking both regulatory and transactional expertise. He brings to bear former experience as a state banking regulator. **Strengths:** *"He is a great resource and a very good technical lawyer."*

Geoffrey Randall (see p.1489)'s well-regarded practice ranges across both transactional and regulatory compliance matters. His experience includes commercial lending deals for a local and international client base. **Strengths:** *"Geoffrey is an extremely good technical lawyer who has a great reputation."* **Peter Rahaghi** (see p.1489) is routinely called upon to provide counsel on complex financings and acquisitions. His client base includes banks and investment advisory firms, among others. **Greta Trotman** (see p.1498)'s broad practice involves advising clients on complex transactions, as well as regulatory and corporate governance matters. **Strengths:** *"Greta is very client-oriented, professional and extremely knowledgeable."* *"She's a great lawyer."*

Squire Patton Boggs

What the team is known for Squire Patton Boggs possesses a highly regarded group of banking and finance experts, noted in particular for considerable expertise in public finance issues. The team represents a range of clients in the education, healthcare and real estate sectors on complex project and development financings. The group benefits from its ability to draw on the firm's national public finance team.

Notable practitioners

Pedro Hernández is a key contact.

diligent and responsive." "She is knowledgeable, personable and works hard."

understanding of the industry."

"The group is organized and resolves issues quickly."

"The firm is very strong – my experience with them is excellent."

Work highlights Winston & Strawn represented Citigroup Management and Citi Argentina in a cross-border dispute.

Notable practitioners

Carl Fornaris (see p.1468) has substantial experience in advising a broad selection of financial services entities on matters ranging from sanctions compliance to cryptocurrency regulation. He also regularly represents lenders in financing deals.

Strengths: "Carl is spectacular. He is exceedingly practical and is a very strong advocate." **Kim Prior** (see p.1489) acts on compliance and enforcement mandates for a broad financial services client base, while also fielding particular strength in the fintech space. **Strengths:** "Kim is extremely knowledgeable and very professional."

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler**Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.**

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson utilizes considerable strength in commercial and asset-based financing transactions to advise a broad client base which ranges from retail outlets to major global investment banks. The department is noted for its experience in representing borrower and lender clients in acquisition financings and secured and unsecured credit transactions.

Strengths

"Everyone I have worked with at Stearns Weaver has been excellent in their field."

"The team provides very strong market insight and is very well connected."

"The practitioners always demonstrate the utmost professionalism."

Work highlights Stearns Weaver advised First Horizon Bank on a construction and term loan for Publix shopping center.

Notable practitioners

Stuart Ames acts for a range of financial institutions on transactions such as M&A and asset-based lending. **Strengths:** "Stuart is incredibly thorough and extremely knowledgeable." **Susan**

Bennett (see p.1458) has experience advising clients on complex syndicated loan transactions. Her client list consists of highly distinguished banks.

Strengths: "Susan is one of the most responsive, well-organized and experienced attorneys I have worked with." "Susan is very thorough, diligent and fast." "Her expertise and understanding gives us confidence." **Rebecca Mendez** (see p.1484) is highlighted for her ability to provide counsel to lenders on acquisitions, financings and commercial real estate loans, among other issues.

Strengths: "Rebecca is extremely knowledgeable,

with particular expertise in Latin American markets. The department draws on the firm's global resources to add significant value for clients in large-scale transactions, and demonstrates impressive expertise in the retail, energy and power sectors, among others.

Strengths

"White & Case has an outstanding team, capable of the highest level of talent and service. They are technically very strong yet commercially astute." "The practitioners are extremely knowledgeable." "The team's attention to detail and in-depth knowledge of global financial markets have been invaluable."

Work highlights White & Case represented Citizens Bank N.A. as Administrative Agent, Collateral Agent, Swing Line Lender and an L/C Issuer, in connection with \$350.7 million facilities comprising term loans and a revolving facility.

Notable practitioners

Eric Klar is well regarded for his expert representation of financial institutions in lending transactions. **Carlos Viana** regularly works on cross-border transactions, with a particular focus on matters involving project and acquisition finance. **Strengths:** "Carlos is a powerhouse. He is a force of nature and very good at what he does." "He is extremely responsive, proactive and a team leader." "The experience that he has negotiating and in deals is very good."

Winston & Strawn LLP

What the team is known for Winston & Strawn is highlighted for its strength in the banking and finance sphere. The team boasts a distinguished client list that is comprised of renowned financial institutions. The practitioners provide counsel on a range of transactional and compliance projects. The group has further strength in advising on SEC, FINRA and OCC issues.

Strengths

"The team at Winston & Strawn have an exceptional

Other Ranked Lawyers

Javier Alvarez of TA PLLC has built a strong reputation in the Florida banking space. He handles a range of transactional and regulatory matters for a cross-border client base.

Jack Greeley of Smith Mackinnon PA is a well-regarded banking lawyer. He is particularly noted for his regulatory expertise, advising a range of state financial institutions on compliance mandates. **Strengths:** "Jack has a fantastic reputation in the community."

Arvin Jaffe's highly regarded financing practice includes significant real estate elements.

Zachary Watt (see p.1499) of Hill Ward Henderson acts on behalf of both lenders and borrowers across a range of matters. He demonstrates notable strength in advising clients on acquisition financing, loan facilities and commercial lending transactions. **Strengths:** "Zach is a great partner. He is incredibly responsive, knowledgeable and a pleasure to work with." "He is very responsive and always provides a high-quality product."

Bankruptcy/Restructuring

Bankruptcy Litigation	Bankruptcy Litigation	Bankruptcy/Restructuring
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners	Leading Firms
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	Band 1
Berger Singerman	Genovese John H <i>Venable LLP</i> *	Berger Singerman
Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton	Eminent Practitioners	White & Case LLP
Meland Budwick, P.A.	Busey Stephen D <i>Smith Hulsey & Busey (ORL)</i> ◊	
Venable LLP	Leading Individuals	Band 2
Band 2	Star individuals	Akerman LLP
Bast Amron LLP	Battista Paul J <i>Venable LLP</i> *	Baker McKenzie
Cimo Mazer Mark PLLC	Singerman Paul Steven <i>Berger Singerman</i> *	Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Continental PLLC	Band 1	Meland Budwick, P.A.
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough	Amron Brett <i>Bast Amron LLP</i>	Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff
Sequoia Law	Bast Jeffrey P <i>Bast Amron LLP</i>	Band 3
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff	Blanco Leyza <i>Sequoia Law</i>	Bast Amron LLP
* Indicates individual with profile.	Bloom Mark D <i>Baker McKenzie</i>	Bilzin Sumberg
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Budwick Michael <i>Meland Budwick, P.A.</i> *	GrayRobinson, PA
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Grossman Gregory <i>Sequoia Law</i>	Markowitz Ringel Trusty + Hartog P.A.
<i>The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.</i>	Guso Jordi <i>Berger Singerman</i>	Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Agentis PLLC	Samole David <i>Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton</i> *	Shraiberg Page P.A.
What the team is known for Agentis is a boutique firm that offers bankruptcy and restructuring services to a broad array of debtor, trustee and creditor clients. The team offers strong capabilities in connection with both Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 proceedings. Its group has a broad range of sector experience, including in healthcare, retail, franchise and telecommunications.	Band 2	Venable LLP
Notable practitioners	Cimo David C. <i>Cimo Mazer Mark PLLC</i>	Band 4
Robert Charbonneau has experience representing creditors and debtors in Chapter 11 proceedings. Managing partner of the firm Jacqueline Calderin is particularly known for her role as a panel trustee. She also has experience acting as debtors' and creditors' counsel.	Gassenheimer James D <i>Berger Singerman</i> *	Agentis PLLC
Akerman LLP	Goldberg Michael I <i>Akerman LLP</i>	Leiderman Shelomith + Somodevilla, PLLC
What the team is known for Akerman LLP's bankruptcy team is highly regarded for its experience in foreclosures, workouts and receiverships. It focuses primarily on the representation of creditors and trustees, including major national and international financial clients, alongside work for commercial landlords, suppliers, vendors and purchasers of distressed companies and assets. The team has a strong base across Florida and is also able to draw on wider nationwide bankruptcy capabilities in key hubs such as New York and Dallas.	Moses Glenn D <i>Venable LLP</i> *	Lorium Law
Strengths	Rosendorf David L <i>Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton</i> *	asset recovery and fraud matters. Strengths: "Michael is an extraordinary lawyer and problem solver. He has truly extraordinary judgment, and his demeanor is always professional and calm." Head of department Andrea Hartley is known for her participation in Chapter 11 and Chapter 15 bankruptcies. She represents a wide range of clients including trustees and corporations. Strengths: "Andrea is a pleasure to work with. She is professional, courteous and responsive." Eyal Berger is a talented bankruptcy practitioner with a growing creditor-side practice. He offers notable expertise in Chapter 11 proceedings and in particular Chapter 5 cases. Brett Marks has built a diverse practice in the bankruptcy sector and is noted for his debtor, creditor and trustee representation. He is adept at counseling officers and directors of insolvent companies and defending them against fiduciary duty and other litigation claims. Esther McKean is noted for her work in Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 cases. Clients such as trustees and corporations benefit from her knowledge of bankruptcy proceedings. Strengths: "Esther is well respected by the judges and her colleagues." "Esther McKean is a driven lawyer who has good organizational skills and exhibits good legal talent. She is detail-oriented and brings together cases effectively on all fronts." Steven Wirth enjoys market recognition for his burgeoning practice. He regularly counsels distressed companies on their finances. Strengths: "He thinks outside the box and comes up with real-world solutions."
"Akerman are well experienced and their experience enables them to handle complex matters efficiently. The firm has experts in a variety of legal issues including real estate, appellate issues and general bankruptcy matters."	Underwood Scott <i>Underwood Murray PA</i>	
"The firm has a large pool of attorneys in every specialty needed for complex litigation in both state and federal courts. Every aspect of the case is well organized and calendared."	Band 3	
"Akerman are a joy to work with. They listened to us, and were collaborative and very respectful."	Arrastia John <i>Continental PLLC</i> *	
Work highlights Akerman acted as a receiver for the Champlain Tower South Condominium Association. It oversees all legal and financial matters	Davis Jr Edward H <i>Sequoia Law</i>	
	Day Allison R <i>Venable LLP</i> *	
	Dillworth Drew M <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler</i> *	
	Freedman Gary M. <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough</i>	
	Genet Solomon <i>Meland Budwick, P.A.</i> *	
	Gonzalez Daniel <i>Meland Budwick, P.A.</i> *	
	Homer Illyse <i>Berger Singerman</i> *	
	Menendez Fernando <i>Sequoia Law</i>	
	Salazar Luis <i>Salazar Law (ORL)</i> ◊	
	Band 4	
	Brown Scott <i>Bast Amron LLP</i>	
	Fernandez Lara <i>Trenam</i>	
	Gayo-Guitian Mariaelena <i>Venable LLP</i> *	
	Koroglu Harris <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *	
	Kucera Jeffrey <i>K&L Gates (ORL)</i> ◊ *	
	Lee Bernice <i>Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton</i> *	
	Lieberman Brett <i>Edelboim Lieberman LLC (ORL)</i> ◊	
	Mark Marilee <i>Cimo Mazer Mark PLLC</i>	
	Post James <i>Smith Hulsey & Busey (ORL)</i> ◊	
	Silver Jim <i>Kelley Kronenberg (ORL)</i> ◊	
	Suarez Jesus <i>Continental PLLC</i> *	
	Terzo Frank P. <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough</i>	
	Vilmos Nicolette <i>Berger Singerman</i>	
	Up-and-coming individuals	
	Harrison Hayley <i>Wernick Law, PLLC (ORL)</i> ◊	
	Leonard Rhys <i>Trenam</i>	
	Quick Dana <i>Bast Amron LLP</i>	
	for the association.	
	Notable practitioners	
	Jules Cohen is a popular choice for clients seeking advice on Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 cases. He offers notable experience handling matters in the retail and real estate sectors. Strengths "Jules has an incredible wealth of knowledge from his many years of experience." Michael Goldberg is considered to be an expert in bankruptcy-related	

Bankruptcy/Restructuring		Bankruptcy/Restructuring	
Senior Statespeople		Leading Firms	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners		Band 1	
Markowitz Jerry M <i>Markowitz Ringel Trusty + Hartog P.A.</i>		BakerHostetler LLP	
Leading Individuals		Band 2	
Star individuals		Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA	
Singerman Paul Steven <i>Berger Singerman</i> *		Band 3	
Band 1		Berger Singerman	
Bloom Mark D <i>Baker McKenzie</i>		Burr & Forman LLP	
Goldberg Michael I <i>Akerman LLP</i>		GrayRobinson, PA	
Guso Jordi <i>Berger Singerman</i>		Underwood Murray PA	
Lauria Thomas <i>White & Case LLP</i>		Band 4	
Redmond Patricia <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler</i> *		Bush Ross, PA	
Band 2		Carlton Fields	
Bast Jeffrey P <i>Bast Amron LLP</i>		Holland & Knight LLP	
Battista Paul J <i>Venable LLP</i> *		Latham, Luna, Eden & Beaudine, LLP	
Blanco Leyza <i>Sequoia Law</i>		Shutts & Bowen LLP	
Cunningham John K <i>White & Case LLP</i>		BakerHostetler LLP	
Dillworth Drew M <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler</i> *		What the team is known for	
Homer Ilyse <i>Berger Singerman</i> *		BakerHostetler possesses sophisticated bankruptcy and restructuring experience across a range of industry sectors, with particular expertise in the energy, hospitality and timeshare fields. The group maintains a solid reputation for its handling of large and complex debtor mandates and is recognized for its national and international bankruptcy practice. The team works closely with the firm's bankruptcy groups in New York, Los Angeles and Cleveland to provide comprehensive coverage across the USA.	
Hutton III John B <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>		Strengths	
Jarvinen Christopher A. <i>Berger Singerman</i> *		"The firm has a very wide and deep bench of smart and creative, responsive and cost-effective, top-notch individuals who work together seamlessly."	
Keenan Jr Paul J <i>Baker McKenzie</i>		"The team provided a steady hand for their client and developed creative, practical solutions in some very difficult circumstances. BakerHostetler is truly a full-service law firm."	
Lehman Thomas <i>Levine Kellogg Lehman (ORL)</i> ◊		"It has a bench of practical bankruptcy specialists who are able to provide the full service of work. It has a significant national practice and footprint and is cost-effective."	
Messana Thomas M <i>Underwood Murray PA</i>		Work highlights	
Rosendorf David L <i>Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton</i> *		BakerHostetler represented the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Advantage Rent-A-Car Chapter 11 cases filed in Delaware.	
Shraiberg Bradley <i>Shraiberg Page P.A.</i>		Notable practitioners	
Solomon Steven J <i>GrayRobinson, PA</i> *		Elizabeth Green	
Terzo Frank P. <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough</i>		Elizabeth Green is a leading practitioner with experience across a number of different sectors, from energy to healthcare. She is well versed in representing both debtors and creditors as well as trustees in bankruptcy cases. Strengths: "She is a powerhouse attorney with great experience and breadth of knowledge." "Not only is she very smart, but she has this way of handling discord in a manner which creates a breakthrough." Jimmy Parrish (see p.1487) handles complex bankruptcy cases, including advising on Chapter 11 matters and the sale of assets under Section 363. He advises on matters covering a range of sectors, including energy and healthcare. Strengths: "Jimmy is a highly effective advocate who maintains a wonderful demeanor. He knows when to focus on practical, consensual resolutions that benefit his client and he is an honorable man of integrity."	
Band 3		Up-and-coming individuals	
Charbonneau Robert <i>Agentis PLLC</i>		Capuano Sam <i>Berger Singerman</i> *	
Hartley Andrea <i>Akerman LLP</i>		Grimal Helmstetter Nicole <i>Buchanan (ORL)</i> ◊ *	
Kaplan Gary L <i>Jones Day (ORL)</i> ◊		Associates to watch	
Landau Philip. <i>Landau Law PLLC (ORL)</i> ◊		Sainvil Reginald <i>Baker McKenzie</i>	
Pugatch Craig <i>Lorium Law</i>			
Rasile Craig <i>Winston & Strawn LLP (ORL)</i> ◊			
Salazar Luis <i>Salazar Law (ORL)</i> ◊			
Shelomith Zach B <i>Leiderman Shelomith + Somodevilla</i>			
Silver Eric J <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff</i> *			
Snyder Jeffrey <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>			

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

"Baker McKenzie's responsiveness has been very good, and the advice they provide is excellent. The team collaborates well and its senior partners are very hands-on."

"The firm has a compact yet extremely solid restructuring team in the US, which works seamlessly and effectively with local teams across different jurisdictions. They are great at handling client relations and specifically through rough moments."

Work highlights Baker McKenzie represented Clovis Oncology, a Boulder, Colorado-based biopharmaceutical company, in its multibillion-dollar Chapter 11 case.

Notable practitioners

Mark Bloom garners high praise for his insolvency practice, which sees him advise on contentious and noncontentious Chapter 7, Chapter 11 and Chapter 15 cases. **Strengths:** "Super knowledgeable, experienced and knows cross-border insolvency like the back of his hand." "He is a strategic thinker and understands the big picture." "Mark is one of the most responsive lawyers I have had the pleasure of working with." **Paul Keenan** has substantial experience in cross-border restructurings

and bankruptcies. He is adept at providing insolvency-related structuring advice and legal opinions in complex financial transactions. **Strengths:** "Paul is responsive and client-centric. He is able to take complex technical bankruptcy matters and translate them into practical advice and deliver it in a way that is clear. He had the ability to think two steps ahead and could anticipate what would happen a couple of steps down the road." **John Dodd** is noted for handling a range of bankruptcy matters. He advises both debtors and creditors on reorganizations and distressed transactions. **Strengths:** "He is a journeymen lawyer who is on top of everything and is very practical in his approach." "He is mild-mannered, good natured and diligent. John takes a practical approach and can work through difficult situations." **Reginald Sainvil** has broad advisory and litigation experience with issues arising in reorganizations, restructurings, receiverships, liquidations, and distressed acquisitions and sales.

Work highlights BakerHostetler represented the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Advantage Rent-A-Car Chapter 11 cases filed in Delaware.

Notable practitioners

Elizabeth Green is a leading practitioner with experience across a number of different sectors, from energy to healthcare. She is well versed in representing both debtors and creditors as well as trustees in bankruptcy cases. **Strengths:** "She is a powerhouse attorney with great experience and breadth of knowledge." "Not only is she very smart, but she has this way of handling discord in a manner which creates a breakthrough." **Jimmy Parrish** (see p.1487) handles complex bankruptcy cases, including advising on Chapter 11 matters and the sale of assets under Section 363. He advises on matters covering a range of sectors, including energy and healthcare. **Strengths:** "Jimmy is a highly effective advocate who maintains a wonderful demeanor. He knows when to focus on practical, consensual resolutions that benefit his client and he is an honorable man of integrity."

Bankruptcy/Restructuring

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
 Blain Russell *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Cohen Jules *Akerman LLP*

Warren Jeffrey W *Bush Ross, PA*

Leading Individuals

Star individuals

Green Elizabeth A *BakerHostetler LLP*

Riedel Harley E *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Band 1

Shuker R Scott *Shuker & Dorris, P.A. (ORL)* ◊

Band 2

Dell-Powell Denise *Denise Dell-Powell PLLC (ORL)* ◊

Emmanuel John D *Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney (ORL)* ◊

Fernandez Lara *Trenam*

Ketchum Elena *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Kirk Donald *Carlton Fields*

Parrish Jimmy D *BakerHostetler LLP* *

Peterson, III Edward J. *Johnson Pope Bakor (ORL)* ◊

Rich Brian G *Berger Singerman*

Sherman Lynn *Welter Trenam*

Stichter Scott *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Wolfson Mark J *Foley & Lardner LLP (ORL)* ◊

Band 3

Bates Douglas *Clark Partington (ORL)* ◊

Boeke Noel *Holland & Knight LLP*

Denton Mayer Amy *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Lieb Stephanie *Trenam*

Postler Charles *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Soriano Robert A *Soriano Law, P.A. (ORL)* ◊

Band 4

Alpert Adam *Bush Ross, PA*

Fogarty Daniel *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Golden Eric *Burr & Forman LLP*

Kobert Roy *GrayRobinson, PA* *

Layden Andrew *BakerHostetler LLP* *

Leslie Stephen R *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Luna Justin M *Latham, Luna, Eden & Beaudine, LLP*

Murray Megan *Underwood Murray PA*

Nardella Michael A *Nardella & Nardella, PLLC (ORL)* ◊

Reinert Ryan *Shutts & Bowen LLP* *

Rice Edwin G *Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP (ORL)* ◊

Summers J Ellsworth *Burr & Forman LLP*

Band 5

Burnett Jason *GrayRobinson, PA* *

Davis Ryan E *Winderweeble Haines Ward (ORL)* ◊

Fendrick Keith *Holland & Knight LLP*

Hale Matthew *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Hart Barbara A. *Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA*

Jennis David *Jennis Law Firm (ORL)* ◊

McKean Esther *Akerman LLP*

Vilmos Nicolette *Berger Singerman*

Wirth Steven *Akerman LLP*

Up-and-coming individuals

Niles Michael *Berger Singerman* *

Associates to watch

Merola Danielle L *BakerHostetler LLP* *

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Andrew Layden (see p.1480) regularly assists on high-profile Chapter 11 cases for a range of parties. His experience includes representing companies in the healthcare and energy markets.

Strengths: "Andrew is responsive to my requests and has a firm understanding of the interplay and

dynamics between bankruptcy counsel. He can navigate the complexity in a social way and has an ability to get along with everyone." "He is professional and smart." "He does a lot of cross-border work and is respected by judges and counsel. He has a good business sense." **Danielle Merola** (see p.1484) is highlighted for her bankruptcy and restructuring expertise. She is an Orlando-based associate who often assists with Chapter 11 cases.

Strengths: "She is very attentive to deadlines and doesn't let things fall between the cracks." "She is a real up-and-coming star. She's responsive and does great work."

Bast Amron LLP

What the team is known for Bast Amron is a litigation boutique with an impressive bankruptcy and restructuring practice. The team punches above its weight in its representation of debtors, creditors, creditors' committees and fiduciaries. Its practitioners advise on a strong mix of Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 proceedings, as well as directors' and officers' liability matters. The team has sector-specific experience in the technology, energy and entertainment industries. The firm is frequently engaged by non-US clients for cross-border mandates.

Strengths

"Bast Amron are very responsive, very trustworthy and very good."

"They are always on point and efficient with their time. They provide a steady and transparent flow of information."

Work highlights The firm represented Cinemex in its Chapter 11 reorganization following COV-ID-19-related issues.

Notable practitioners

Joint head of department **Brett Amron** is an experienced litigator who is recognized for his skill in contentious bankruptcy claims and investigations. He focuses his practice on matters involving director and officer liability, breach of fiduciary duty, partnership and shareholder disputes, and recovery of preferential and fraudulent transfers. **Strengths:** "Brett is innovative. He is a smart lawyer who is intellectually curious and finds the smartest way to approach a situation." "Brett is very responsive and detail-oriented when dealing with issues." **Jeffrey Bast** co-heads the department and is noted for his ability to represent debtors and creditors' committees in contentious and non-contentious bankruptcy cases. **Strengths:** "Jeff has been great to collaborate with." "Jeffrey Bast is unique and takes innovative approaches. He has a lot of big case experience, which gives him the ability to take on large bankruptcy matters." **Scott**

Brown garners recognition for his work as a Panel Chapter 7 trustee and in other fiduciary positions including receiver and examiner. He also represents both state and Federal Court fiduciaries in complex insolvency proceedings, and has served as a mediator in insolvency matters. **Dana Quick** has a burgeoning practice in the space. She is noted for her ability to represent trustees, creditors and debtors in complex proceedings.

Berger Singerman

What the team is known for Berger Singerman remains a market-leading practice across a wide

range of large and complex bankruptcy and restructuring issues. The group offers expertise across areas such as company and fiduciary assignments, debtor Chapter 11 cases, restructurings and distressed M&A. The team also possesses a strong offering in bankruptcy litigation and related appellate work. Its practitioners continue to be active in the aviation and healthcare sectors as well as in retail and hospitality. The firm is active on cross-jurisdictional matters, such as Chapter 15 filings and issues arising from cross-border Ponzi schemes.

Strengths

"Berger Singerman's attorneys bring a high level of sophistication to all issues. They are incredibly responsive to both clients' and partners' needs."

"The firm is adept at complex matters and is devoted to maximizing the rights of the debtors or maximizing the rights of the creditors."

"Berger Singerman is a local powerhouse in Florida. It covers a wide breadth of practice areas and has a deep bench of people."

Work highlights Berger Singerman represented Mark Healy as assignee for the benefit of creditors of Crystal Cruises, LLC, Crystal Holdings US LLC and Crystal Air Cruises LLC in Miami-Dade County Florida.

Notable practitioners

Paul Singerman (see p.1495) is co-chair to Berger Singerman. His practice area includes complex bankruptcy, commercial litigation, representation of fiduciaries in fraud cases, corporate governance, and distressed business mergers and acquisitions. He enjoys a stellar reputation in the market for his advice on Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 filings. **Strengths:** "Working with Paul is an absolute pleasure. He's a straight shooter who knows the law and the bankruptcy judges exceptionally well." "Paul is an excellent lawyer. He is business-minded, cares about the substance and achieves good results." "Paul has mastered the heart of legal thinking and analysis and synthesis of case facts. He leaves you feeling confident that he has his eye and fingerprints on your case from its inception to its final closing." **Jordi Guso** is an experienced bankruptcy litigator and negotiator. He is highly sought after by companies for his ability to advise on domestic and international matters.

Strengths: "He is the consummate man that you want in court for advocacy." "Jordi is really articulate and thinks on his feet. His strategy is excellent and he can handle difficult cases really well." "Jordi is a very practical, structured guy who knows how to take all of the blocking and tackling. He is practical and well regarded in my view and in the local community." **James Gassenheimer** (see p.1470) focuses his practice on matters relating to litigation, including commercial, bankruptcy, insurance and product liability litigation. **Strengths:** "He is honest, responsive and always prepared." **Christopher Jarvinen** (see p.1475) has extensive experience in bankruptcy and restructuring matters. He is particularly skilled in handling Chapter 11 cases.

Strengths: "Christopher has an international practice and is a man for all seasons. He has been all over the world studying, and this has made him a smart man and a great lawyer. He is reliable, honest and professional." **Brian Rich** is a well-regarded bankruptcy practitioner. He regularly represents

trustees and fiduciaries in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 negotiations and out-of-court reorganizations. **Strengths:** “Brian is a trusted adviser with practical but creative advice on all matters.” “Brian is a seasoned professional and is well respected. He is diligent and a good communicator with the client.” “He can solve problems and get resolutions. Part of his strength is his ability to keep at it and get over the finish line.” **Ilyse Homer** (see p.1475) focuses her practice on bankruptcy, creditors’ rights, insolvency, and assignments for the benefit of creditors. She often represents clients in matters involving healthcare and financial services. **Strengths:** “Her written product is second to none.” “She is a great appellate lawyer.” **Nicolette Vilmos** is noted for her skilled handling of a range of restructuring matters. She regularly acts for clients including debtors and trustees. **Sam Capuano** (see p.1461) focuses his practice on matters involving assignment for the benefit of creditors and out-of-court workouts. **Strengths:** “He is young but driven and knowledgeable.” “He offers a good range of service and capability.” **Michael Niles** (see p.1486) focuses his practice on commercial bankruptcy, creditors’ rights, bankruptcy litigation and commercial real estate transactions. **Strengths:** “He is extremely knowledgeable, has a calm demeanor and is very studious.”

Bilzin Sumberg

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg is well known for its representation of all parties in bankruptcy and restructuring proceedings, including creditors’ committees, debtors and trustees. The group is experienced across the full range of related work, including Chapter 11 cases, distressed asset purchases and out-of-court workouts. The team offers particular experience acting for clients in the real estate, healthcare, technology and leisure sectors. The practitioners are frequently retained on major out-of-state mandates.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Snyder’s debtor and creditor representation makes him highly sought after in bankruptcy proceedings. He is well versed in handling Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 cases. **Strengths:** “He is adept at funneling down complex issues into a digestible set of recommendations or advice.” “He is very results-driven and sharp.” “Tremendous lawyer with a good overall skill set.”

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for Burr & Forman’s practice is highly regarded for its representation of debtors, special equity and creditors’ committees in Chapter 11 proceedings. The team offers expertise across a wide range of bankruptcy and restructuring work, including stressed asset purchases. Its impressive client base comprises a number of well-known banks and investment companies.

Strengths

“Burr & Forman are very responsive and reasonably priced for what they do.”

“Burr & Forman has a good team with solid lawyers.”

Work highlights Burr & Forman represented Truist Bank and its affiliate Truist Equipment Finance Company in the Chapter 7 of a construc-

tion company.

Notable practitioners

Eric Golden is regularly called upon for his creditor-side practice, with experience including advising on out-of-court workouts and Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** “He is a practical lawyer who understands the law and knows how to get things done from a business perspective.” **Ellsworth Summers** has developed a broad bankruptcy practice which includes reorganizations, real estate and distressed M&A.

Bush Ross, PA

What the team is known for Bush Ross, PA has strength in handling a wide range of bankruptcy matters for lenders, creditors and trustees. The firm’s lawyers are skilled at guiding clients through Chapter 7 and 11 proceedings. The Tampa-based team also acts on company reorganizations and distressed asset transactions.

Strengths

“Bush Ross has a high level of complexity in the cases it handles and it operates at very high levels.”

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Warren is a well-regarded practitioner with experience of Chapter 11 matters. He is also able to mediate bankruptcy cases. **Strengths:** “He is unbelievably talented.” **Adam Alpert** focuses his practice on out-of-court transactional matters, as well as matters involving insolvency litigation and transactions. He is well regarded for his ability to advise on corporate reorganizations. **Strengths:** “His cases have a high level of complexity, and he has a strong courtroom demeanor.”

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields’ practitioners are experienced across creditor and debtor work, with a long history in the field. The team acts for both secured and unsecured parties as well as advising directors and officers on claims for breach of fiduciary duty. The group enjoys a growing reputation for its expertise in liquidation matters.

Strengths

“Carlton Fields has quality educated lawyers working there.”

Work highlights

Donald Kirk has a broad bankruptcy practice, with capabilities ranging from advising on director and officer liability to acting on cases of distressed M&A. **Strengths:** “He is a top-notch lawyer who does a lot of work representing directors of troubled companies, and he makes good decisions.”

Cimo Mazer Mark PLLC

What the team is known for Cimo Mazer Mark is an impressive litigation boutique based in Miami. The firm’s lawyers regularly represent trustees, debtors and creditors in bankruptcy-related litigation. The group handles breach of fiduciary duty claims and cases concerning allegations of fraud, as well as Chapter 7 and 11 proceedings.

Notable practitioners

David Cimo focuses his bankruptcy practice on litigating cases. His experience includes advising on contentious Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** “David Cimo is very smart and very effective.” **Marilee Mark** assists with bankruptcy

matters including litigation proceedings. She has experience representing clients on both the debtor and creditor sides.

Continental PLLC

What the team is known for Continental PLLC boasts a strong reputation in the bankruptcy market. The team is renowned for its ability to handle litigation containing cross-border elements. The group has notable experience of advising on matters arising from allegations of avoidance, breach of contract and fraud. The practitioners have further experience handling high-profile debt restructurings.

Strengths

“The firm has excellent lawyers and knows how to staff a complex matter.”

“Continental PLLC dealt with a variety of complex issues and they consistently provide sound advice and representation.”

“Continental has a very motivated and talented team that regularly handles complex and sophisticated matters and provides excellent service and responsiveness.”

Work highlights Continental PLLC served as special litigation counsel representing the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in 26 separate litigations.

Notable practitioners

John Arrastia (see p.1457) is renowned for his ability to handle complex litigation involving allegations of fraud and professional malpractice. He also has substantial experience advising creditors in insolvency proceedings. **Strengths:**

“He is a strong business attorney who is practical in his approach.” “He is a confident litigator who can be very persuasive when appearing before the judge. He is someone who commands respect.”

“John is an experienced, savvy lawyer who always remains focused on the end result. He is attuned to the client’s goals and the best path to achieve them.” **Jesus Suarez** (see p.1497) wins praise for his growing bankruptcy litigation practice. He represents clients in disputes relating to Ponzi schemes, and is adept at acting for creditors and trustees. **Strengths:**

“He is a talented litigator who is particularly strong in insolvency-related litigation, directors’ liability and avoidance actions.”

“Besides his good legal abilities, he is someone who has the ability to see around the corner and anticipate what is to come.” “He is creative, an effective problem solver and effective in a courtroom.”

GrayRobinson, PA

What the team is known for GrayRobinson has a versatile practice, with an especially high profile in creditor representation. The team acts for a range of banking clients and distressed companies, who call upon the firm’s highly respected Chapter 11 expertise and impressive bench strength. The group maintains an expansive state-wide presence, with 15 offices from Tallahassee to Key West.

Strengths

“GrayRobinson is an excellent firm and its attorneys are extremely capable. Regardless of the nature of the issues, they can manage them in an efficient and cost-effective manner.”

"There is a lot of knowledge and experience in its team."

"GrayRobinson's wisdom and legal skills have helped carry the case. The firm adds tremendous value to the case and they have the ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters."

Work highlights GrayRobinson represented DT Sports Holding in the Chapter 11 filing of its wholly-owned subsidiary.

Notable practitioners

Steven Solomon (see p.1496) is adept at representing both debtors and creditors in in-court and out-of-court bankruptcy cases. He focuses his practice on creditors' rights, receiverships, assignments for the benefit of creditors and corporate governance. **Strengths:** "Steven does a really great job at laying out the foundations and teaching the client about bankruptcy law as it relates to them. He is great to work with and he has favorable outcomes." "He is an excellent lawyer who is very observational and good at juggling things."

Roy Kober (see p.1477) regularly advises officers and directors on Chapter 11 cases. He splits his time between the firm's Orlando and Tampa offices. **Strengths:** "He is a great mediator."

Jason Burnett (see p.1461) has diverse market experience and is an accomplished creditor and trustee counsel in bankruptcy proceedings. His expertise includes advising on Chapter 11 cases.

Strengths: "He manages difficult cases effectively and with a calm demeanor." "Jason is incredible in court. He is a great lawyer, a great strategist and very personable." **Luis Rivera** (see p.1491) is noted in the market for his broad bankruptcy practice, which includes a wide array of Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** "Luis has a command of legal knowledge that far surpasses most people." "He is a great listener and uses legal skills from other areas to inform his bankruptcy practice." "Luis has a deep understanding of bankruptcy law and its complexities. He has an ability to analyze complex financial situations, dissect legal intricacies and develop tailored strategies."

Robert Schatzma (see p.1493) is a long-standing bankruptcy practitioner who is sought after to advise debtors and creditors. He is well placed to handle Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** "Robert is practical and can look into the future to determine whether or not to fight for a case. He is good at helping the client understand the legal matters." "He is a smart and experienced pillar of Florida bankruptcy." **Patrick Scott** (see p.1494) is proficient in handling bankruptcy matters and he is adept at advising on Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** "Patrick has a wealth of knowledge."

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP attracts a broad client base, handling a range of secured creditor, creditors' committee and debtor work as well as distressed asset purchases. The firm draws upon its strong national and international presence to offer clients comprehensive coverage in bankruptcy matters, including substantial expertise in proceedings involving Latin America. The team's experience includes mandates arising from the banking, energy and manufacturing sectors.

Strengths

"The firm has deep property/casualty insurance expertise complemented by expertise in financial and operational restructuring. Its team has very strong project management abilities."

"Greenberg Traurig has the full package and is always very responsive."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP represented VFS Leasing Co. as the largest lessor to Comcar Industries and its affiliates. Comcar filed Chapter 11 in Delaware.

Notable practitioners

John Hutton is held in high esteem by creditors, debtors and trustees for his international bankruptcy practice. He handles matters across a range of sectors including healthcare and energy.

Strengths: "John has very strong financial and technical abilities and is responsive and insightful." "John is practical, thoughtful and good at managing." "He is well prepared in court and is a calm and good advocate." **Ari Newman** has a growing presence in the bankruptcy space. He routinely acts on behalf of clients in complex Chapter 11 cases and financial restructurings. **Strengths:** "Ari has been an incredible asset to our team. He is knowledgeable, reliable and trustworthy. We could not ask for anything more." "He is very professional and was extremely detail-oriented."

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight has a comprehensive practice with a substantial focus on the representation of major secured creditors, including a number of leading banks and financial institutions. The team offers additional experience representing Chapter 11 debtors, creditors' committees and trustees. The group is able to draw on resources and expertise from offices throughout the state. Its practitioners represent clients across a range of sectors in addition to banking and finance, including healthcare, real estate and retail.

Notable practitioners

Noel Boeke's knowledge spans a range of commercial matters and he regularly applies his broader corporate knowledge to Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** "He is an encouraging and smart lawyer." **Keith Fendrick** is noted for his Chapter 11 practice and is often sought after to act as a receiver in bankruptcy cases. He often represents financial institutions, corporations, insurance companies and creditor groups. **Strengths:** "He handles highly sophisticated matters."

Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton

What the team is known for Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton boasts a leading bankruptcy team highly regarded for its focus on representing secured and unsecured creditors in contentious matters. The group is noted for its litigation expertise in Chapter 11 cases, alongside experience in fraud-related claims, including cases involving Ponzi schemes. The team's experience includes notable strength in multiparty and international bankruptcy proceedings.

Strengths

"The firm and its lawyers are experienced experts in the field who excel at handling complex and sophisticated matters."

"The firm has a very well-rounded practice group

and approaches restructuring cases with very effective strategies. I trust and rely on the team's legal advice and business acumen and they are always responsive to any questions I have."

"Kozyak Tropin always answers my questions quickly and in a manner that I can understand. The lawyers are highly skilled and experienced in complex bankruptcy litigation matters."

Work highlights Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton acted as co-counsel to Pepsi as the second largest creditor in the \$1.7 billion Chapter 11 cases of In re Vital Pharmaceuticals, also known as Bang Energy drinks, which is a leading energy drink brand in the USA.

Notable practitioners

David Samole (see p.1493) focuses his practice on bankruptcy and insolvency related litigation, high net worth workouts and cross-border matters. He elicits praise for his representation of claimants in contentious Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:**

"David is an excellent attorney. He is well versed in the law, respected by his peers, an extremely able negotiator, and always quick and available to assist as requested. He is a truly good, reasonable, pragmatic person and an absolute treat to work with."

"He has tremendous business acumen." **David Rosendorf** (see p.1492) stands out for his broad bankruptcy practice. He is also well versed in litigating fraudulent transfer actions and advising on matters involving complex financial structures.

Strengths: "David is a wealth of knowledge when it comes to litigation and case law." **Bernice Lee** (see p.1480) has notable experience acting in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases on behalf of debtors, creditors and trustees. She also frequently handles fraudulent transfer actions and bankruptcy-related transactions. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent lawyer who keeps us apprised of all important developments in complex bankruptcy matters." "She is very detail-oriented and organized."

Latham, Luna, Eden & Beaudine, LLP

What the team is known for Latham, Luna, Eden & Beaudine is a corporate and business law firm with significant expertise in bankruptcy and restructuring. The group represents both sides of the debtor-creditor divide in a range of insolvency matters. The team handles a broad range of work, including debt restructurings, refinancings, asset sales and Chapter 11 reorganizations.

Notable practitioners

Justin Luna is a well-regarded individual who is adept at advising major companies in financial distress.

Leiderman Shelomith + Somodevilla, PLLC

What the team is known for Serving southern Florida from offices in Fort Lauderdale and Miami, Leiderman Shelomith offers experience in debtor, creditor and trustee representation. The team has notable strength in advising distressed companies, with areas of expertise including Chapter 11 and Chapter 13 cases.

Strengths

"Leiderman is a unique firm I continue to admire for their professional and effective counsel."

"It is a boutique firm that is able to accomplish great results at an affordable rate."

"Leiderman has a team of responsive and competent lawyers, and it is able to handle small matters with the same attention as it would apply to complex matters."

Work highlights Leiderman Shelomith + Somodevilla represented Woodside Credit, a creditor in a corporate Chapter 7 matter involving fraud relating to luxury automobiles.

Notable practitioners

Zach Shelomith co-heads the team and frequently acts on behalf of debtors. Companies and other clients seek his advice on Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent lawyer who gets the job done in a highly professional manner." "Zach is the most patient person on earth. He is very diplomatic and is great at navigating small bankruptcy cases in a cost-effective way." "Zach is excellent at representing trustees and in corporate matters. He is well respected and upholds the reputation that the firm has built."

Lorium Law

What the team is known for Lorium Law is a southern Florida boutique firm with extensive experience across a range of bankruptcy matters, including preferences, turnover, dismissal and conveyances. The team also advises on reorganization cases and has expertise in Chapter 11 proceedings. The group's clients include trustees, debtors and creditors, including both institutional and non-institutional lenders.

Notable practitioners

Craig Pugatch is noted for his bankruptcy advice, with experience that includes advising trustees and fiduciaries in proceedings. He focuses his practice on matters involving insolvency law, commercial litigation and reorganization. **Chad Pugatch** has long-standing bankruptcy experience, acting for debtors and creditors in Chapter 11 cases. **Arthur Halsey Rice** is a well-regarded attorney who has extensive experience in Chapter 11 cases.

Markowitz Ringel Trusty + Hartog P.A.

What the team is known for Markowitz Ringel Trusty + Hartog is a boutique firm with considerable expertise across a wide range of bankruptcy matters, including creditors' and debtors' rights, restructurings and workouts. The group is highly regarded for its strengths in Chapter 11, Chapter 7 and fiduciary work, alongside notable experience advising high net worth individuals on cases both in and out of court.

Strengths

"The professionalism and courtesy shown by this firm is amazing."

Notable practitioners

Jerry Markowitz has a long-standing reputation as a knowledgeable bankruptcy practitioner and is able to draw on this knowledge when mediating bankruptcy cases. **Strengths:** "He is one of the elder statespeople of the local Bar." **Ross Hartog** acts on a wide range of bankruptcy matters and is known for his impressive trustee practice. **Strengths:** "He is reasonable, professional and easy to deal with."

Meland Budwick, P.A.

What the team is known for Meland Budwick is a distinguished boutique with considerable abilities in large-scale bankruptcy and restructuring matters in South Florida, fielding notable skills in financial fraud litigation. The group acts for an array of clients including debtors, creditors and trustees on Chapter 11, Chapter 7 and workout matters, with particular expertise in the hospitality and development industries. The team is able to draw upon the firm's strength in real estate, finance and corporate law to offer comprehensive bankruptcy coverage, including matters with complex cross-border aspects.

Strengths

"Meland Budwick provides the best level of service with exceptional responsiveness to all our questions and needs. They not only set the standard but exceed it. The team has demonstrated a true desire to provide the highest level of service and results while avoiding unnecessary invoicing."

"The firm has been good at managing and compartmentalizing issues."

"Meland Budwick is a very talented and well-staffed law firm with expertise across the board regarding business law issues."

Work highlights Meland Budwick represented the Chapter 7 trustee for DC Solar entities as special litigation counsel in connection with a large Ponzi scheme based in California.

Notable practitioners

Michael Budwick (see p.1461) maintains his reputation as a highly accomplished bankruptcy attorney. He possesses particular expertise in advising on Ponzi scheme-related bankruptcy.

Strengths: "Michael is an excellent strategic thinker and is very good in court. He has a nice manner about him; he is assertive." "Michael Budwick is a creative strategist. He is a chess player kind of person and you need to run to catch up." "Michael is one of the best business bankruptcy litigators and a fraud recovery specialist. He is also a capable Chapter 11 attorney." Well-regarded practitioner **Solomon Genet** (see p.1470) is a key member of the financial fraud group. He regularly handles contentious bankruptcy cases and is specifically adept at matters involving Ponzi schemes.

Strengths: "Sol is a terrific lawyer – he is smart, thorough and creative. He is a pleasure to work with." "He is an excellent strategic thinker, a great communicator, and provides thoughtful and practical advice." **Daniel Gonzalez** (see p.1471) is well versed in handling Chapter 11 proceedings. His other areas of expertise include Chapter 7 and the sale of assets under Section 363. **Strengths:** "Daniel is a strong leader and a driving force at the firm. His depth of knowledge and desire to deliver for his clients is obvious and appreciated."

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

What the team is known for Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough boasts a strong team that is noted for its extensive experience in bankruptcy matters. Its group regularly advises on cases involving insurers and health care entities. The practitioners demonstrate expertise in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 proceedings.

Strengths

"Nelson Mullins has a sophisticated practice. They

are client-focused, results-driven and provide practical advice."

"The firm is well staffed, and they have a great knowledge of the law. I appreciate the advice they provide."

"Nelson Mullins can handle very complex and fierce litigation excellently."

Work highlights Nelson Mullins represented Camilo Cola Filho in a cross-border Chapter 15 matter.

Notable practitioners

Gary Freedman is recognized for his advice in contentious bankruptcy cases, including in fraudulent matters. He also regularly handles Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** "He is a great lawyer who understands his clients' needs and focuses on outstanding results." **Frank Terzo** is highly recommended for his strength in bankruptcy matters relating to the healthcare arena. His practice sees him act for both creditors and debtors. **Strengths:**

"He is an expert in the healthcare space and has an unmatched breadth of experience." "He is well respected, smart, always responsive, and provides a unique perspective because of his experience as a businessman." "He is leading in medical matters involving fraud and he is able to navigate this complexity well."

Sequoia Law

What the team is known for Sequoia Law is highly regarded for its contentious bankruptcy practice. Its areas of expertise include Chapter 15, with experience in cross-border filings, especially in Latin America. The group draws on its knowledge of fraud for investigations into asset recovery and other complex bankruptcy matters.

Strengths

"The firm is more flexible than most in terms of its fee structuring."

"The firm is great for complex insolvency where there are fraud-related disputes."

Work highlights Sequoia Law represented the judicial administrator of a group of Brazilian companies that engaged in the cultivation and export of various products, in a Chapter 15 matter.

Notable practitioners

Leyza Blanco is co-head of the department at Sequoia Law. She is highly acclaimed for her ability to advise on and litigate bankruptcy cases with an international interest. **Strengths:** "She has one of the most intimate understandings and knowledge of the American Bankruptcy Code, specifically Chapter 15." "She is a good litigator at heart and commands the room well, and has an ability to understand the case and think on her feet." **Gregory Grossman** focuses his bankruptcy practice on cross-border cases and has extensive experience in complex Chapter 15 and fraud matters.

Strengths: "He is a strategic leader in Chapter 15 cases." "He is prepared and focused, he knows the legal area well and he gets good results." **Edward Davis** focuses his practice on assisting victims of fraud and corruption. He has considerable experience providing counsel in Chapter 7 and Chapter 15 cases. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent leader in complex matters and is very respected for his work as an asset recovery lawyer." Miami-based attorney **Fernando Menendez** concentrates his practice on domestic and cross-border insolvency matters,

including workouts. He frequently acts in bankruptcy litigation involving fraudulent transfers. **Strengths:** "Fernando can think outside the box in terms of strategy and complex issues."

Shraiberg Page P.A.

What the team is known for Shraiberg Page P.A. is a boutique firm with notable experience across the full range of bankruptcy and restructuring issues. The team acts on reorganizations both in and out of court, with a focus on matters involving midmarket companies including retailers, manufacturers and restaurants. The group represents both creditors and debtors, as well as landlords, trustees and institutional lenders.

Notable practitioners

Co-founding partner **Bradley Shraiberg** is sought after by creditors to advise on distressed finance. His practice also features debtor-side work. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent lawyer."

Shutts & Bowen LLP

What the team is known for Shutts & Bowen is a Florida law firm with extensive experience across a range of bankruptcy matters, including preferences, turnover, dismissal and conveyances. The group's wider areas of expertise include debt restructurings, Chapter 11 reorganizations, refinancing matters and asset dispositions. The team represents debtors and creditors, including both institutional and non-institutional lenders.

Strengths

"*Shutts & Bowen is very helpful in providing targeted advice on how to deal with the court and local parties.*"

"*I trust the firm's opinions and suggestions without question.*"

Work highlights Shutts & Bowen represented Truist Bank in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

Notable practitioners

Harris Koruglu (see p.1478) routinely advises trustees on Chapter 11 proceedings. He is notably adept at handling issues with cross-border elements. **Strengths:** "He provides a fantastic level of service." **Ryan Reinert** (see p.1490) gains praise for his broad bankruptcy practice. His expertise includes advising on real estate foreclosures and handling Chapter 11 cases in the manufacturing industry. **Strengths:** "He is always professional and understands the legal issues."

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller is recognized for its coverage of a broad spectrum of bankruptcy and restructuring-related issues, both in court and out of court. The team operates a highly regarded creditor practice as well as representing a variety of other key stakeholders in bankruptcy litigation and Chapter 11 reorganizations. The practitioners act for a broad range of clients, including airlines, international financial institutions and retail organizations. The team has notable strength in receiverships, in terms of both serving as receiver and representing those in this position.

Strengths

"*Their responsiveness earned our loyalty. The team is there at any hour like a true legal guardian in*

every sense."

"Stearns Weaver Miller is an outstanding law firm and has exceptional attorneys."

Work highlights Stearns Weaver Miller represented the plaintiff, the assignee on behalf of creditors, of Coex Coffee International against Cargill, in a fraud-related matter.

Notable practitioners

Patricia Redmond (see p.1490) is a well-regarded lawyer who regularly represents creditors' committees, secured creditors and debtors in cross-border Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** "Patricia is an excellent lawyer. She is a top-level advocate and negotiator. She is also trustworthy and professional." "She is extremely intelligent and has a cutting-edge knowledge of bankruptcy rules."

"*Patricia is a titan of the bankruptcy Bar. She has been practicing at a high level and with high sophistication for a couple of decades and has a lot of respect.*" **Drew Dillworth** (see p.1466) often represents parties involved in workouts, debt restructuring, bankruptcy, insolvency and commercial litigation related matters. He is recognized for his work on Chapter 11 restructurings and contentious litigation proceedings. **Strengths:** "He is resourceful and deals in an effective, classy and understated way." "Drew is often involved in high-profile, complex cases often involving fraud. He is a very calm, practical and trustworthy lawyer who is solution-focused." **Eric Silver** (see p.1495) focuses his practice on representing complex commercial restructuring, in both state and federal court. He represents court-appointed fiduciaries, secured and unsecured creditors, and purchasers of distressed assets. **Strengths:** "He is an incredibly talented, creative and skilled bankruptcy attorney." "Eric is very technically sound. He sees the big picture well and knows the area of law that he is in very well."

Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler PA

What the team is known for Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler has an extremely deep bench offering a wide bankruptcy and restructuring service. The team's areas of expertise include transactional matters, workouts, corporate reorganizations and Chapter 11 proceedings. The group is noted for its representation of debtors, creditors, trustees and other significant market participants.

Strengths

"*Stichter is one of the best bankruptcy firms in Florida. Those who work there have great breadth in bankruptcy and business law matters.*"

"*The matter involved a Chapter 11 and I was very nervous. The firm was beyond my expectation, it could not have gone any better.*"

"*Stichter helped guide me through the process and avoid personal and corporate bankruptcy. I feel it truly protected me and my company from the wolves.*"

Work Highlights Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler acted for Robert Furr as Chapter 7 trustee in an involuntary bankruptcy case filed against feeder funds in a multibillion-dollar Ponzi scheme fraud.

Notable practitioners

Russell Blain attracts praise for his market-leading bankruptcy expertise, with notable experience in Chapter 11 cases. He is specifically adept at handling fraud and Ponzi schemes.

Strengths "He is a very strong lawyer and has been practicing for a long time." **Harley Riedel** is head of department and also serves as managing partner of the firm. He is widely known as a state leader in the representation of debtors and creditors, and does notable work in Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 matters. **Strengths:** "Harley is truly an encyclopedia in bankruptcy and has a strong courtroom presence." "Harley reassured us and we left the initial meeting feeling like the world was not coming to an end. We remain forever grateful to him." **Elena Ketchum** elicits praise for her ability to advise on out-of-court workouts as well as assisting clients with Chapter 11 filings. **Strengths:** "Elena is thorough, empathetic, ethical, respected, affordable and enjoys a comprehensive command of the law."

Scott Stichter is a long-standing practitioner with a broad client base, which includes advising high-profile companies. He is experienced in handling Chapter 11 proceedings. **Amy Denton Harris** has in-depth experience in restructuring and represents both creditors and debtors. She is specifically adept at handling Chapter 11 matters.

Strengths: "She is hard-working, active and energized." **Charles Postler** frequently acts for debtors in complex bankruptcy matters. He is noted for his capabilities in transactions involving distressed companies. **Strengths:** "He has excellent client and transactional awareness." "Charles is highly skilled and qualified." **Daniel Fogarty**'s practice includes restructuring work for high-profile franchises. He frequently advises creditors on Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 proceedings, and is noted for his representation of distressed workout CEOs. **Strengths:** "He is really smart and very friendly. You can talk to him and reach resolutions."

Stephen Leslie has developed a broad bankruptcy practice and continues to gain recognition for his advice on Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 cases. **Strengths:** "Stephen is practical and knows what a good case is and what to avoid." **Matthew Hale** is a highly regarded practitioner with notable experience in Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** "He is a fantastic detail-oriented lawyer." **Barbara Hart** regularly represents debtors, borrowers and lenders in Chapter 11 proceedings. She has additional expertise in out-of-court workouts and distressed asset sales. **Strengths:** "Barbara amazed us with her knowledge, compassion and guidance throughout the process." "Ms. Hart is a very skilled attorney with a keen ability to maintain good working relationships with all parties."

Trenam

What the team is known for Trenam has a distinguished team that represents a full range of clients in bankruptcy matters, including debtors, creditors and trustees. The group's areas of expertise include commercial insolvencies. The practitioners offer additional capabilities in areas such as construction and real estate law.

Strengths

"*The firm has a strong and diverse team who are always able to address my needs.*"

"*Trenam has a great team of professionals that can help with any problem.*"

"*Trenam has a specialist for every phase in bankruptcy proceedings.*"

Work highlights Trenam represented the judg-

ment creditor holding an \$8.5 million judgment against Parusa Investment Corp. and FICO Financial Corp.

Notable practitioners

Lynn Welter Sherman is well regarded for her expertise in a wide range of bankruptcy issues. She acts for companies in distress and represents financial institutions in bankruptcy proceedings.

Strengths: "Ms. Sherman is an all-around wonderful lawyer with great depth and variety of experience." "She is a well-seasoned and encouraging lawyer." **Stephanie Lieb** is sought after by banks and other financial institutions for her impressive representation of creditors. She is well equipped to handle Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** "She is a very talented lawyer with the skills and connections to get the job done." "Stephanie is a wonderful attorney who is a good resource from a debtor or creditor perspective. She is thoughtful, practical, polite, professional and strategic. Her experience gives her a wide breadth of knowledge." **Lara Fernandez** focuses her practice on financial institutions, fiduciaries/trustees and private equity groups in business reorganizations, bankruptcy litigation, commercial foreclosures and workouts, and loan modifications. **Strengths:** "Lara is a certified bankruptcy business lawyer and has a keen sense for business matters. She is calm and great at responding to clients. Lara provides a quality product." "She is a lovely creditor-side attorney who is practical and easy to work with." **Rhys Leonard** is noted for his ability to assist in Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 cases. He has further experience providing counsel on issues related to avoidance actions and allegations of fraudulent transfers.

Strengths: "Rhys demonstrated superior research and writing skills."

Underwood Murray PA

What the team is known for Underwood Murray's team is renowned in the space for its ability to advise clients on a wide spectrum of complex bankruptcy and restructuring issues. The team boasts a diverse client base that includes creditors, owners, debtors and asset purchasers. Its practitioners are notably adept at representing clients in Chapter 11 and 15 proceedings. The group has further experience handling distressed asset sales and acquisitions.

Strengths

"Underwood Murray is a boutique and specialized firm that can handle complex cases and issues. It also has a strong bench."

Notable practitioners

Thomas Messana advises on a range of bankruptcy matters and is noted for his receivership practice. **Scott Underwood** co-founded Underwood Murray PA. He elicits praise for his work in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases, with extensive knowledge of bankruptcy litigation, including cases involving fraud. **Megan Murray** is a co-founder of Underwood Murray. She regularly assists on a range of matters, including cross-border Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases.

Venable LLP

What the team is known for Venable's group advises on a wide variety of complex bankruptcy litigation and restructuring, acting for a broad

spectrum of debtors, trustees, purchasers and creditors. The practitioners' areas of expertise include Chapter 11 cases, directors' liability matters and malpractice issues arising out of insolvency. The team is involved in cases across the USA, including in Delaware and New York, and maintains a strong cross-border practice, especially in Latin American matters.

Strengths

"Venable provides outstanding service and responsiveness. Its attorneys are well informed and engaged. They practice law at the highest levels of sophisticated and complex insolvency and receivership actions."

"The firm is excellent—highly sophisticated, professional and practical."

"Venable provide quick response times and are very experienced. The firm has the ability to assist in most areas of practice and they listen to the client's expectations."

Work highlights Venable acted as general counsel to Liberty Power Holdings and its affiliates in Chapter 11 proceedings.

Notable practitioners

John Genovese (see p.1470) is well regarded for his vast experience litigating complex bankruptcy cases, including criminal proceedings. **Strengths:** "John is very capable and professional." **Paul Battista** (see p.1458) wins praise from all corners of the market for his extensive bankruptcy litigation and restructuring experience. He regularly acts on behalf of debtors in complex Chapter 11 disputes. **Strengths:** "Paul is an exceptional lawyer who is as effective in the boardroom as he is in the courtroom. He is exceedingly practical in his approach to complex problems." "Paul is always well prepared and thoughtful." "He is an excellent lawyer who is competent and knows his way around the court." **Glenn Mose** (see p.1485) (s (see p.1485) specializes in acting on behalf of debtors, lenders and creditors in bankruptcy litigation. He is noted for his expertise in fraud and high-profile Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** "Glenn is very on top of everything and kept me in the loop. He came up with appreciated and creative responses." "Glenn is really reasonable and practical in reaching a resolution." **Allison Day** (see p.1464) is based in Miami and routinely represents clients in Chapter 11, Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 cases. She has additional notable expertise in acting in receivership proceedings. **Strengths:** "She is very smart, practical and deal-oriented." **Mariaelena Gayo-Gutierrez** (see p.1470) assists in complex issues, including restructuring and insolvency matters. She has a broad client base that includes both trustees and Chapter 11 debtors in possession.

White & Case LLP

What the team is known for White & Case boasts an impressive international offering in bankruptcy and restructuring matters, with a notable team in Miami. The group leverages on its deep resources nationwide to advise on large bankruptcy and reorganization proceedings, with considerable expertise in cross-border restructurings, especially in Latin America. The team continues to undertake high-profile bankruptcy filings in the energy sector.

Strengths

"White & Case has a highly technical team that is always available and ready to help."

"The team has depth from top to bottom and is able to handle virtually every jurisdictional issue that we have encountered."

"It has a powerful team with expertise in all areas such as real estate, finance and restructuring. White & Case is able to provide sound advice on extraordinarily complex matters."

"The team has strong advocates who will fight for a great outcome."

Work highlights White & Case represented 245 Park Avenue Property LLC and its affiliates in the multibillion-dollar restructuring of funded indebtedness related to the commercial office tower.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Lauria is head of the firm's global financial restructuring and insolvency group. He divides his time between New York and Miami, and is highly recommended for his international restructuring practice. **Strengths:** "Thomas is very efficient. He gets in the weeds and understands a lot of the non-legal and commercial attributes."

John Cunningham is highly respected for his bankruptcy practice. He is regularly sought after for his ability to handle high-profile international mandates. **Strengths:** "John is very responsive and diligent. The biggest thing that stands out is that he will really go battle for his client." **Keith Wofford** offers a broad range of experience in bankruptcy matters, including Chapter 11 proceedings and the acquisition of distressed assets. **Brian Pfeiffer** (see p.1488) focuses his practice on in-court and out-of-court restructurings of financially distressed businesses. **Strengths:** "Brian is a strong negotiator and knows all the relevant players." "Brian is phenomenal. He can understand the legal complexity and the Bankruptcy Code."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Joint head of department **Ido Alexander** of AlignX Law has a growing reputation for his ability to advise companies and individuals in bankruptcy cases. He is especially knowledgeable on Chapter 11 representations. **Strengths:** "Ido is a zealous advocate who has a commanding knowledge of the law and approaches issues with a problem-solving attitude. He is also good in court." "He is able to tackle challenging issues and has a willingness to be flexible with billing rates." "Ido is a fantastic guy. He is able to shepherd his client through their difficulties and find a solution."

Kristopher Aungst of Paragon Law LLC acts for a wide range of parties in complex bankruptcy proceedings, including debtors, creditors and trustees. **Strengths:** "He is very smart and knowledgeable, great with clients and can handle complex Chapter 11 matters with fraud elements." "His ability to focus on the client is second to none and is really good in the court room." "He is an excellent lawyer who provides the large law firm talent without the astronomical costs."

Douglas Bates of Clark Partington counsels high-profile clients on bankruptcy cases, including Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** "Douglas has an extraordinary work ethic and explores every avenue for his client. He is a good problem solver."

Chairman of Smith Hulsey & Busey, **Stephen Busey** is held in high regard for his extensive experience which includes litigating complex Chapter 11 cases. He is also adept at representing both debtors and creditors.

Ryan Davis of Winderweedle Haines Ward & Woodman acts for clients including lenders and debtors in a range of bankruptcy-related matters. His experience includes working on Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 cases.

Denise Dell-Powell of Denise Dell-Powell PLLC brings extensive market experience to creditor, debtor and trustee representations and is also called upon to advise on matters of foreclosure.

John Emmanuel of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC regularly advises on bankruptcy cases in the healthcare market. He maintains his reputation as a highly regarded practitioner with notable creditor-side experience.

Nicole Helmstetter (see p.1471) of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney focuses her practice on bankruptcies involving business restructuring and creditors' rights. She has a wide range of expertise in Chapter 11, Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 bankruptcy proceedings. **Strengths:** "Nicole is absolutely amazing. She does a good job advocating for her client and can handle complex matters in a composed and practical manner."

Hayley Harrison of Wernick Law, PLLC is a Miami-based attorney who is increasingly recognized for her bankruptcy practice. She frequently represents trustees in litigation involving asset recovery and distressed asset transactions.

David Jennis of Jennis Law Firm continues to garner market recognition for his bankruptcy practice. He is well known for his debtor-side representation.

Jason Jones regularly acts for debtors, creditors and trustees on bankruptcy matters.

Gary Kaplan of Jones Day has a broad practice spanning Chapter 11 proceedings and out-of-court restructurings. He acts for both debtors and creditors, and is adept at handling matters with cross-border elements.

Jeffrey Kucera (see p.1478) of K&L Gates has significant knowledge of complex bankruptcy issues from both the creditor and debtor sides. He has a strong client base with well-known names from the financial industry. **Strengths:** "We rely on his expertise and guidance to handle complex bankruptcy issues." "He has been a guiding light, a calming presence and an unbelievably knowledgeable lawyer throughout the process." "Jeffrey has high levels of communication skills and handles technicality very well. He has a deep knowledge of the law and is reasonably priced."

Philip Landau of Landau Law is a well-regarded practitioner for both debtors and creditors in

Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** "He is a strategic thinker, looks at the case on a big-picture level and has excellent analytical skills."

Founding partner **Thomas Lehman** of Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider + Grossman LLP has a practice that includes experience in representing creditors' committees in complex bankruptcy matters. He is also noted for his debtor-side practice. **Strengths:** "He is a pleasure to work with and ensures that your client is informed of what will happen." "He is a great lawyer with excellent skills."

Michael Lessne draws upon his financial background as a licensed CPA to provide in-depth financial advice in bankruptcy proceedings. He handles matters across a range of sectors, including healthcare. **Strengths:** "He is knowledgeable and pragmatic, and he excels as a practitioner." "He is savvy and has a good market presence."

David Levine of Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider + Grossman LLP is sought after by clients for his representation of debtors, creditors and trustees. His experience includes advising high-profile clients in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases.

Brett Lieberman of Edelboim Lieberman LLC is a popular choice for companies and lenders seeking counsel on a range of bankruptcy matters. He is well versed in handling both in-court and out-of-court restructurings. **Strengths:** "His leadership and advice evokes a familial feeling in the client, and enables them to have implicit trust in him. Brett's depth of knowledge, experience and professionalism was superb."

Michael Nardella of Nardella & Nardella, PLLC continues to be recognized for his burgeoning practice, acting for both debtors and creditors in proceedings. He has extensive experience in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 bankruptcies. **Strengths:** "He is a really great lawyer who is always there when you need him."

Edward Peterson has developed a broad restructuring practice. He regularly advises debtors on bankruptcy proceedings and is recognized for his work with Chapter 11 bankruptcies. **Strengths:** "He is an upstanding professional and makes resolutions."

James Post of Smith Hulsey & Busey is recognized for his deep knowledge of bankruptcy cases. He has extensive experience advising both debtors and creditors in contentious cases. **Strengths:** "James is a very creative lawyer who can use creative solutions to solve business issues."

"James Post is one of the most prepared lawyers I have ever worked with, and he has great analytical abilities."

Craig Rasile of Winston & Strawn LLP boasts an impressive cross-border restructuring practice. His client base includes companies in the health-

care, retail and transportation sectors. **Strengths:** "He provides very technical advice."

Edwin Rice of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings has a busy practice that sees him regularly advise on Chapter 7 cases. He also represents a range of parties in Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** "Edwin is extraordinarily smart and a very creative thinker." "He is very tenacious to the benefit of his client."

Luis Salazar of Salazar Law has a broad bankruptcy practice, which sees him handle a range of Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganizations.

Strengths: "He is a knowledgeable and capable lawyer." "Luis is a very strong advocate who is very good at getting to the heart of matters quickly and efficiently." "He is known to be professional, ethical and effective."

Michael Seese of Seese, P.A. has a broad bankruptcy practice, which sees him handle a range of Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganizations.

Scott Shuker of Shuker & Dorris, P.A. is well placed to represent debtors. He offers extensive experience advising clients on Chapter 11 proceedings, among other matters. **Strengths:** "He is the smartest bankruptcy lawyer in Orlando."

Jim Silver of Kelley Kronenberg is renowned for his ability to handle disputes relating to a range of claims, including fraudulent transfers and distressed assets.

Robert Soriano is a key partner in the Soriano Law, P.A. team, advising both debtors and creditors' committees on a range of transactions.

Mark Wolfson of Foley & Lardner LLP acts on behalf of companies, financial and healthcare institutions in bankruptcy proceedings, including in distressed M&A. **Strengths:** "He is a great lawyer."

Linda Worton Jackson of Pardo Jackson Gainsburg, PL is highlighted for her ability to advise on Chapter 11 cases, with experience advising distressed companies on the sale of assets.

Strengths: "Linda is wonderful and very smart. She takes a transactional approach and does a lot of acquisitions."

Andrew Zaron of León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP is recognized for his ability to represent a range of interested parties, including debtors, creditors, trustees and asset purchasers. **Strengths:** "He is a brilliant lawyer who can effectively explain complex matters in a way that clients can understand him." "His writing is a strong point. He has a quick response time and has great attention to detail." "He is extremely competent in his field. We have a great deal of confidence in his abilities and he made a complex matter much easier for us to understand and navigate."

Construction

Construction	Construction
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Becker & Poliakoff PA	Carey Michael R. <i>Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker & Mueller PA</i>
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP	Dudley Frederick <i>Dudley, Sellers and Healey, PL (ORL)</i> ◇
Peckar & Abramson, P.C.	Ferencik Robert E. <i>Ferencik, Libanoff, Brandt</i>
Smith Currie Oles LLP	King Bruce C. <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Band 2	Leading Individuals
Akerman LLP	Band 1
Carlton Fields	Alfert, Jr Robert <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP</i>
Greenberg Traurig, LLP	Ashby Kimberly <i>Foley & Lardner LLP</i>
Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson, LLP	Bercun Bohm Stacy <i>Akerman LLP</i> *
Shutts & Bowen LLP	Dannecker John H. <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *
Siegfried Rivera	Haimo Adam F. <i>Smith Currie Oles LLP</i>
Band 3	Hornreich Michael <i>Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins (ORL)</i> ◇
Bilzin Sumberg	Hunt Timothy A. <i>Hill Ward Henderson</i> *
GrayRobinson, PA	Lesser Steven <i>Becker & Poliakoff PA</i> *
Hill Ward Henderson	Sobel Stuart <i>Siegfried Rivera</i>
Holland & Knight LLP	Stein Gary M. <i>Peckar & Abramson, PC.</i> *
Paskert Divers Thompson	Subin Ben <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Phelps Dunbar LLP	Weintraub Lee <i>Becker & Poliakoff PA</i> *
VLP Copenhaver Espino	Wilson Michael <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP</i>
Band 4	Wright Wm Cary <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP	Band 2
Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker & Mueller PA	Arnold, B.C.S. Trevor <i>GrayRobinson, PA</i> *
Ferencik, Libanoff, Brandt, Bustamante & Williams	Dillon Sean M. <i>Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson</i> *
Foley & Lardner LLP	Handfinger Adam <i>Peckar & Abramson, PC.</i> *
Kirwin Norris	Kirwin Brian P. <i>Kirwin Norris</i>
Band 5	Kurian Sanjay <i>Becker & Poliakoff PA</i> *
Adams and Reese LLP	Libanoff Ira L. <i>Ferencik, Libanoff, Brandt, Bustamante</i>
Burr & Forman LLP	Lundeen Joy Spillis <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>
Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA	Paskert Jeffrey M. <i>Paskert Divers Thompson</i>
Cozen O'Connor	Prats Luis <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Daniels, Rodriguez, Berkeley, Daniels & Cruz	Thomas Michael J. <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>
Trenam	Wolf Brian <i>Smith Currie Oles LLP</i>
Wright, Fulford, Moorhead and Brown P.A.	Woodward Timothy <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP</i> *
* Indicates individual with profile.	Band 3
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Brodsky Jerry <i>Peckar & Abramson, PC.</i> *
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Copenhaver Bradley S. <i>VLP Copenhaver Espino</i>
Band 1	Cotney Trent <i>Adams and Reese LLP</i> *
Becker & Poliakoff PA	Dacheppalli Ben <i>Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP</i>
What the team is known for Becker & Poliakoff PA has a strong presence across the state, with a reputation for representing the owners of construction projects, including associations and developers. The firm has notable expertise in acting for condominium and community associations, including in litigation. It is also noted for its strength in the public-private partnership space. The team's sector expertise covers retail, education and healthcare.	Divers Brett <i>Paskert Divers Thompson</i>
Strengths	Ford Timothy C. <i>Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP</i>
"We are very impressed with Becker & Poliakoff's special areas of expertise."	Masterson Mark O. <i>Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon</i> *
"I appreciated Becker & Poliakoff's attention to detail, strategic thinking and effective communication throughout the process."	Miller-Tomczak Leslie <i>Akerman LLP</i>
Work highlights Becker & Poliakoff PA represented developer Metropica Residential I in a construction dispute with contractor Tutor Perini Building Corp. pertaining to an eight-tower residential master-planned community in West Broward County, Florida.	Mills E.A. "Seth" <i>Mills Law Group (ORL)</i> ◇
Notable practitioners	Rodriguez Ralf <i>Cozen O'Connor</i>
	Schimmel Seth M. <i>Phelps Dunbar LLP</i> *
	Thompson Ty G. <i>Paskert Divers Thompson</i>
Up-and-coming individuals	Strengths: "Sanjay is very skilled and knowledgeable in construction and condominium law." "Sanjay is great to work with." Claramargaret Groover (see p.1472) assists clients with a variety of construction matters with notable expertise in construction-related insurance litigation. Strengths: "Claire is impressive. She is solution-oriented and creates
Strengths: "Steven has tremendous experience, I wouldn't hesitate to use him." "I've seen no finer example of client dedication and service than Steven." "Steven is super knowledgeable on construction issues and provides great guidance." Lee Weintraub (see p.1499) is an experienced arbitrator and lawyer. He represents owners, contractors and design professionals in a wide array of construction disputes. He is especially knowledgeable about P3 projects and construction lien law. Strengths: "Lee is an expert in Florida law and liens." "I find that Lee is accessible, aware of the issues and flexible when necessary." "Lee navigates all possibilities to ensure a favorable outcome." Sanjay Kurian (see p.1479) is noted for his strong construction practice, which includes recent experience in defect cases. He is also adept at negotiating construction contracts on behalf of owners and developers. Strengths: "Sanjay is very skilled and knowledgeable in construction and condominium law." "Sanjay is great to work with." Claramargaret Groover (see p.1472) assists clients with a variety of construction matters with notable expertise in construction-related insurance litigation. Strengths: "Claire is impressive. She is solution-oriented and creates	

Becker & Poliakoff PA
What the team is known for Becker & Poliakoff PA has a strong presence across the state, with a reputation for representing the owners of construction projects, including associations and developers. The firm has notable expertise in acting for condominium and community associations, including in litigation. It is also noted for its strength in the public-private partnership space.

The team's sector expertise covers retail, education and healthcare.

Strengths

"We are very impressed with Becker & Poliakoff's special areas of expertise."

"I appreciated Becker & Poliakoff's attention to detail, strategic thinking and effective communication throughout the process."

Work highlights Becker & Poliakoff PA represented developer Metropica Residential I in a construction dispute with contractor Tutor Perini Building Corp. pertaining to an eight-tower residential master-planned community in West Broward County, Florida.

Notable practitioners

Strengths: "Steven has tremendous experience, I wouldn't hesitate to use him." "I've seen no finer example of client dedication and service than Steven." "Steven is super knowledgeable on construction issues and provides great guidance." **Lee Weintraub** (see p.1499) is an experienced arbitrator and lawyer. He represents owners, contractors and design professionals in a wide array of construction disputes. He is especially knowledgeable about P3 projects and construction lien law. **Strengths:** "Lee is an expert in Florida law and liens." "I find that Lee is accessible, aware of the issues and flexible when necessary." "Lee navigates all possibilities to ensure a favorable outcome." **Sanjay Kurian** (see p.1479) is noted for his strong construction practice, which includes recent experience in defect cases. He is also adept at negotiating construction contracts on behalf of owners and developers. **Strengths:** "Sanjay is very skilled and knowledgeable in construction and condominium law." "Sanjay is great to work with." **Claramargaret Groover** (see p.1472) assists clients with a variety of construction matters with notable expertise in construction-related insurance litigation. **Strengths:** "Claire is impressive. She is solution-oriented and creates

Construction: Mediators

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Alexander Bruce *Bruce Alexander Law (ORL)* ◊

Freud John *Mediation Solutions Inc (ORL)* ◊

Nulman James *Nulman Mediation Services (ORL)* ◊

Band 2

Carey Michael R *Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker & Mueller PA*

Gentile Melinda S *Peckar & Abramson, P.C.* *

Lesser Steven *Becker & Poliakoff PA* *

Mastin Deborah *Law Office of Deborah Mastin (ORL)* ◊

Ullom Paul J *Carlton Fields*

Vento John *Trenam*

Watson Lawrence *Upchurch, Watson, White (ORL)* ◊

Band 3

Brandt A Peter *Ferencik, Libanoff, Brandt, Bustamante*

Elder Fredrica *Elder & Lewis, P.A. (ORL)* ◊

Keiner Jeffrey *GrayRobinson, PA* *

Lane Joe *Lowndes (ORL)* ◊

Norris Bruce A *Kirwin Norris*

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

litigation. **Strengths:** "Jeremy is an intelligent, forward-thinking litigator."

Peckar & Abramson, P.C.

What the team is known for Peckar & Abramson, P.C. represents general contractors and construction managers, with experience in projects across Florida as well as in Latin America. The team demonstrates notable expertise in public-private partnership projects, as well as regulatory counseling. It is experienced in mediation, arbitration and litigation. The group in Florida is able to draw on the firm's market-leading nationwide presence, which includes offices in New York, Texas and Washington, DC.

Strengths

"The service provided by Peckar & Abramson was timely and effectively resolved our problem."

"P&A has the expertise to handle complex construction claims."

Notable practitioners

Stephen Reisman (see p.1490) combines his impressive construction practice with his vice chairmanship of the firm, in which capacity he provides comprehensive advice on all aspects of high-profile construction projects. **Strengths:** "Steve is one of the smartest construction lawyers."

Gary Stein (see p.1497) represents the full range of construction industry clients in a variety of construction disputes including defect, lien and delay claims. He is especially active in civil infrastructure and energy project development and disputes.

Strengths: "Gary is a very fine lawyer." **Melinda Gentile** (see p.1470) is an impressive construction attorney, whose experience includes advising clients on a broad range of contentious matters. She also offers extensive experience in construction procurement and bid protests. **Strengths:** "Melinda is an excellent mediator."

Adam Handfinger (see p.1473) has wide-ranging construction expertise and represents clients in both construction contracts and disputes, especially defect and bond claims. **Strengths:** "Adam is very good, he is a great resource."

Jerry Brodsky (see p.1460) advises contractors and other construction professionals on transactional matters as well as disputes. As well as advising on cases in Florida, he has a notable Latin American practice. **Strengths:** "Jerry offers excellent service and responsiveness."

Freddy Munoz (see p.1485) expertly represents general contractors in construction defect, delay and contract disputes. He also manages payment and performance bond issues. **Strengths:** "His strengths are quick response times, depth of legal knowledge, proficiency in addressing our concerns and an ability to clearly explain legal issues."

Smith Currie Oles LLP

What the team is known for Smith Currie is a noted construction boutique with particular strength in construction litigation, suretyship and public contracts. The team works for a broad range of clients, including insurance companies, developers and contractors. It is experienced in issues concerning highway and infrastructure projects.

Strengths

"Smith, Currie is excellent."

"The firm has a great team."

"Smith Currie is very responsive and thorough."

Notable practitioners

Adam Haimo has a highly reputable practice acting for clients involved in major construction projects in Florida, including the drafting and negotiation of contracts as well as any resulting litigation. **Strengths:** "Adam Haimo is a very sharp lawyer." "Adam is very knowledgeable and will always respond on time." "Adam is a very down-to-earth attorney with vast knowledge in construction law." **Brian Wolf** is a well-regarded attorney who acts for design, engineering and construction clients in a wide array of litigation arising in both state and federal court as well as ADR forums.

Strengths: "Brian is an exceptional construction attorney, a seasoned professional and a construction law expert." "Brian is a quality attorney, well versed in construction litigation." **Christopher Horton** is a partner based in Fort Lauderdale. He advises clients on the preparation of construction and design contracts as well as in construction-related litigation and arbitration. His broad construction expertise extends into public and private procurement matters as well as construction licensing. **Strengths:** "Chris is a tremendous attorney."

Fort Lauderdale-based partner **Eugene Polyak** represents clients throughout the life cycle of a construction project, advising on contract formation, giving ongoing project advice and acting as counsel in construction-related litigation. **Strengths:** "Eugene has good customer service, and is good in negotiations and good at explaining matters to clients." **Joseph Young** is an up-and-coming construction attorney commended for his broad expertise in the space. He handles contracting work and regularly represents clients in construction disputes.

Band 2

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP represents general contractors and other construction professionals as well as owners and developers. The team is knowledgeable across the full range of construction matters, with particular experience acting in disputes, including alternative dispute resolution. It offers broad sector expertise, including in public infrastructure, transportation and healthcare. The Florida group is able to draw on impressive firm resources across the country.

Strengths

"Akerman is superb. The team is very responsive, offers great follow-up and is always on top of current tasks."

"The team is extremely knowledgeable and up to date on current laws, regulations and industry standards."

Work highlights Akerman served as primary construction counsel for BDT&MSD with respect to construction financing and the renovation and improvement to the historic Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club.

Notable practitioners

Stacy Bercun Bohm (see p.1458) represents owners and developers in connection with contract negotiation and other construction issues pertaining to major development projects.

Strengths: "She knows the ins and outs of every construction law in Florida." "Stacy is next-level great." **Leslie Miller-Tomczak** attracts praise for her skill in drafting construction contracts, among other matters. Her practice sees her work on developments across Florida and nationally. **Strengths:** "Leslie has deep industry knowledge." "Leslie is knowledgeable, well informed and responsive." **Ross Heft** (see p.1474) has a growing transactional practice routinely handling negotiations and drafting of major developments, including multifamily, mixed-use and condominium projects. **Strengths:** "Ross is knowledgeable and always available when you need him."

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields demonstrates broad geographical coverage across the state and a deep bench of senior attorneys with strong reputations for construction work. Its expertise ranges from negotiating contracts to dispute resolution. The team is involved in a variety of projects including public, private and infrastructure matters. It represents a broad range of clients, including home builders, condominium associations and sureties. The Florida group is able to draw on resources in offices not just in Florida but across the USA, including in Los Angeles, New York and Washington, DC.

Strengths

"Carlton Fields handles very complex construction litigation matters." "The Carlton Fields construction law team includes experts who can address all aspects of a construction issue."

"Carlton Fields listens to the facts, simplifies the problem and provides a path to success."

Notable practitioners

Bruce King acts for owners, design professionals and contractors in construction litigation and is especially respected for his representation of sureties as part of his construction practice. **Strengths:** "Bruce is a well-respected lawyer."

George Meyer is a leading construction transaction practitioner advising on the preparations, negotiations and administration of the full range of project contracts. **Strengths:** "George Meyer has decades of experience in sophisticated construction matters." "George provides excellent vision." **Cary Wright** is among the preeminent construction practitioners in Florida, representing clients in a range of construction-related disputes and contract agreements. **Luis Prats** has extensive experience in the representation of owners, contractors and design professionals in construction litigation, arbitration and mediation. He also frequently acts as counsel through all phases of a construction project. **Strengths:** "Luis is excellent." **Paul Ullom** is a well-regarded mediator with a focus on complex construction disputes. **Strengths:** "Paul is a great mediator." **Jason**

Quintero represents clients in a broad range of construction-related disputes, with particular emphasis on lien, bond and construction defect cases. **Strengths:** "Mr. Quintero is an extremely knowledgeable lawyer who is creative and able to effectively implement a legal strategy to meet the needs of his clients."

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP has a broad practice with experience in high-end residential and substantial commercial projects. The firm primarily represents owners and developers. The team demonstrates notable skill in the drafting of construction contracts and in dispute resolution. Its litigation expertise encompasses procurement disputes, lien claims, design defects and a host of other matters.

Strengths

"Greenberg Traurig are easy to communicate with and clearly understand clients' needs."

"Greenberg Traurig has vast experience in the local market and across the US."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP represented affiliates of Royal Palm Companies, The Related Group and The Falcone Group in connection with all aspects of the design, development and construction of more than ten distinct projects with an aggregate value of over \$1 billion within Miami Worldcenter.

Notable practitioners

Michael Thomas has vast experience in construction litigation and contract drafting where he acts primarily for developer-side clients involved in residential, commercial and mixed-use real estate developments. **Strengths:** "He is an expert in the field." "Michael is an excellent attorney with great understanding." **Michael Murphy** advises clients on the full range of construction claims as well as in construction-related OSHA compliance and workplace accident investigations. **Strengths:** "He is excellent."

Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson, LLP

What the team is known for Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson, LLP is an Orlando-based boutique construction law firm with a national presence. It handles an impressive spread of work and has a particularly strong history of contractor and designer representation. The firm has a proven track record in many high-value and complex infrastructure matters. The team has a strong track record in litigation. It is also noted for its international capabilities, with projects undertaken in the Caribbean, Central America and Canada.

Strengths

"Moye O'Brien is an outstanding construction firm."

Work highlights Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson, LLP represented Walsh/Shea Corridor Constructors in an alternate dispute evaluation hearing which resulted in an executed change order to the design-builder of approximately \$300 million.

Notable practitioners

Sean Dillon (see p.1466) has extensive experience representing construction clients in all forms of dispute resolution including in both state and federal court. He advises clients on procurement matters including contract preparation and negotiation as well as bid protests. **Strengths:** "Sean is an outstanding and seasoned construction attorney." **Mark Masterson** (see p.1483) represents contractors involved in all types of construction projects advising on procurement matters and disputes. He is especially active in

design-build joint ventures on major design-build and public-private partnership infrastructure projects and EPC projects.

Shutts & Bowen LLP

What the team is known for Shutts & Bowen LLP is home to an established construction department with a focus on dispute resolution, including litigation, mediation and arbitration. It offers additional expertise in contracts, including engineering consultant agreements and subcontracts. Its litigation experience includes construction lien, design error and product warranty matters. The team represents a broad range of clients, including contractors, design professionals and construction firms.

Strengths

"Shutts & Bowen's team is very responsive."

"Shutts & Bowen has an extremely strong methodology of client communication and inclusiveness in discussing, deliberating and deciding on action for legal issues."

"Shutts & Bowen provide excellent services."

Work highlights Shutts & Bowen LLP represented Lexicon in a breach of contract and lien foreclosure case against Penn Florida Club Properties II.

Notable practitioners

John Dannecker (see p.1464) has a reputable practice advising construction industry clients, including public bodies, on the full spectrum of construction-related disputes. **Timothy Woodward** (see p.1500) is the head of the construction litigation group at the firm. His practice covers the full range of construction-related disputes.

Strengths: "Tim is an experienced construction lawyer." **Amanda Buffinton** (see p.1461) gains recognition for her work in the construction industry, advising clients on a range of matters, with recent work including construction defect cases. **Strengths:** "Amanda is absolutely amazing." "Amanda goes above and beyond what is expected, and delivers outstanding results." **Meredith Freeman** (see p.1469) is a Tampa-based partner. She specializes in representing minority and women-owned businesses within the construction industry for contract formation as well as in lien and other payment disputes. **Strengths:** "Meredith sets a standard of excellence in everything she does. She is wonderful to work with."

Siegfried Rivera

What the team is known for Siegfried Rivera represents clients, including owners, developers and contractors, across the full spectrum of construction matters. The firm is experienced in a wide array of construction areas including private and governmental projects. The team is particularly highly regarded for its strength in construction defect disputes. It has a noted presence in the south of the state, with offices in Coral Gables, Broward and West Palm Beach.

Strengths

"Siegfried Rivera has a strong understanding of legal, factual and practical issues."

"The team has an excellent ability to deliver."

Work highlights Siegfried Rivera represented One Paraiso Condominium Association in construction defect claims against the developer, contractor/subcontractors and architect.

Notable practitioners

Steven Siegfried has longstanding experience in construction matters. He represents a range of clients, from developers to design professionals, in all facets of construction projects. **Strengths:** "Steven is excellent." **Stuart Sobel** offers particular prowess in construction disputes and is especially sought after for his expertise in arbitration proceedings. **Strengths:** "Stu is a practical lawyer." **Michael Clark** has a broad litigation practice, which includes construction disputes and insurance claims. **Nicholas Siegfried** has a broad construction practice covering contract negotiation and drafting, project development and disputes.

a great work product."

Work highlights GrayRobinson, PA successfully represented Alvine and Associates as defendants in construction payment and defect dispute relating to the design and construction of the lanai tower at the JW Marriott Marco Island Beach Resort in Florida.

Notable practitioners

Trevor Arnold (see p.1457) has extensive experience working on behalf of contractors and design professional clients in construction disputes arising from a broad array of industry sectors. He offers particular expertise in personal injury, defect and delay cases arising from construction projects. **Strengths:** "Trevor is bright, direct and looks for ways to resolve matters quickly." **Jeffrey Keiner** (see p.1476), a certified mediator, handles a diverse array of construction disputes as part of his wide-ranging trial practice. He also counsels clients on professional malpractice claims. **Nikki Bhavsar** (see p.1459) is a senior associate based in the firm's Orlando office. She is frequently engaged in contract and litigation matters stemming from major developments. **Strengths:** "Nikki is very diligent and detail-oriented."

Notable practitioners

Ben Subin has a wealth of expertise in construction matters, and frequently advises contractors and owners in connection with high-value infrastructure, energy and other commercial projects. **Strengths:** "Bill is well regarded." **Monte Starr** specializes in construction litigation arising from industrial, commercial and infrastructure projects, with particular expertise in claims arising from EPC and P3 projects. He also assists clients with construction contract development and dispute avoidance. **Jennifer Lowndes** represents the full range of construction industry clients in contract negotiations and construction-related disputes. **Strengths:** "Jennifer helps to guide and direct clients."

Band 3**Bilzin Sumberg**

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg is a capable construction group noted for representing owners and developers in all construction matters from project conception to completion and any resulting warrant and defect claims. The firm offers particular expertise in P3 and other government contracting matters in the education and infrastructure sectors.

Strengths

"Bilzin Sumberg have the depth of resources to tackle complex issues."

"The firm have great knowledge and a large pool of legal experts that can help clients on all kinds of matters."

"Bilzin Sumberg have an incredibly strong team."

Work highlights Bilzin Sumberg advised Brightline on negotiations with government authorities to develop the three new stations and the procurement of design and construction contractors in compliance with applicable regulatory and grant requirements.

Notable practitioners

Joy Lundeen is acclaimed for her impressive construction litigation practice handling disputes in court and through mediation and arbitration proceedings. She has additional expertise in construction-related product liability litigation.

Strengths: "Joy is strong in trials and arbitrations." **Albert Dotson** is commended for his work on large infrastructure projects. He has notable experience advising financing parties involved in public-private partnerships. **Strengths:** "Al is highly respected and fantastic to work with." **Eric Singer** has significant experience advising on the regulatory requirements for major public-private development projects.

GrayRobinson, PA

What the team is known for GrayRobinson, PA is a strong presence across the state with expertise in a variety of project types. It is particularly strong handling litigation matters, including in facilities projects, public and private works and construction lien disputes. The firm's clients include architects, contractors and owners. The team is experienced in cases concerning engineering and IP issues.

Strengths

"The firm are very responsive and the team provide

Hill Ward Henderson

What the team is known for Hill Ward Henderson is heavily involved in development work, with a diverse client base including a range of industry professionals and some of the largest home builders in the state. The firm is noted for its involvement in a number of significant projects in the state, particularly in the Tampa Bay area. The team has experience dealing with surety work, construction contracts and litigation, with expertise in insurance matters.

Work highlights Hill Ward Henderson represented Lemartec Corporation in connection with the construction of approximately 20 new infrastructure and educational construction projects for the government of Puerto Rico.

Notable practitioners

Timothy Hunt (see p.1475) is a highly sought-after construction attorney who advises clients on contract negotiation as well as dispute resolution.

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight LLP is well regarded for transactional and contentious work in the construction sector, with noted strength in P3 projects. The firm has significant experience advising on large energy and industrial projects, including power plants. It is also well known for expertise in infrastructure, including projects involving roads and bridges. The group is experienced in construction-related mediation and arbitration. Its client roster includes large contracting companies, manufacturers, construction firms and other industry professionals.

Strengths

"Holland & Knight is very adept and handling complex construction matters and does so very efficiently."

Work highlights Holland & Knight LLP served as project counsel to the EPC Contractor of the \$2.6 billion P3 infrastructure project involving renovation and addition of toll lanes in the Orlando metropolitan area.

Paskert Divers Thompson

What the team is known for Paskert Divers Thompson focuses on construction dispute resolution. It is particularly noted for its representation of surety companies, while also recommended for its work with private and governmental parties, including owners, developers and contractors. The firm is additionally recommended for handling non-contentious work, including document preparation and project close-out. The office is located in Tampa.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Paskert is distinguished for his handling of construction defect cases and also has experience in surety and other construction cases. He maintains a strong alternative dispute resolution practice as a neutral. **Brett Divers** has a broad litigation practice which sees him advise on a range of construction cases, with particular expertise and experience in surety matters. **Strengths:** "He is a really good construction lawyer." "Brett is great." **Ty Thompson** is a Tampa-based construction specialist focusing on construction law-related transactional matters, litigation in court and ADR proceedings. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent lawyer."

Phelps Dunbar LLP

What the team is known for Phelps Dunbar LLP handles a range of construction matters ranging from construction agreements negotiation to dispute resolution, including defect and delay cases. They demonstrate significant expertise in alternative dispute resolution. The firm acts for owners, contractors and developers. It is involved in a range of projects, including infrastructure, commercial and residential developments. The team has notable experience in evaluating insurance agreements.

Strengths

"Phelps Dunbar have strong knowledge of the construction environment."

"The construction practice group at the firm is comprised of extremely capable attorneys."

Work highlights Phelps Dunbar LLP defended Arthur Gensler Jr and Associates in a contract dispute regarding the design of KMPG's Lake Nona training center.

Notable practitioners

Seth Schimmel (see p.1493) represents the full spectrum of construction industry clients involved in both vertical and horizontal project

development disputes. He also has extensive experience negotiating construction contracts. **Strengths:** "Seth is an extremely capable construction attorney." "Seth has good communication and diplomatic skills." **Bret Feldman** is noted for his expertise in construction litigation, which includes design and construction defect claims. His clients include developers, contractors and design professionals. **Strengths:** "Bret is a very clear and sophisticated lawyer with deep knowledge of construction litigation." **William Tinsley** offers expert counsel in all types of disputes and arbitrations arising from major public and private projects. **Strengths:** "Bill has interpersonal skills, knowledge of law practices, protocols and regulations, and the ability to think critically and solve problems."

VLP Copenhaver Espino

What the team is known for VLP Copenhaver Espino has a strong reputation in heavy infrastructure and roadwork projects, with particular expertise in public-private partnerships and government contracts. It is noted for its work across a broad range of disputes and offers expertise in technology related to transportation facilities. The team is located in Fort Lauderdale and Tallahassee.

Strengths

"The firm is one of the best in the Bar for road construction."

Notable practitioners

Joseph Lawrence has a broad construction law practice covering both construction contracts and litigation. He acts in both public and private construction project disputes in both state and federal court as well as through ADR proceedings.

Strengths: "He is well respected." **Robert Vezina** represents clients in both public and private construction disputes in state and federal court, with particular expertise in P3 contracts and bid protests. **Bradley Copenhaver** has considerable expertise in the construction of large transportation infrastructure projects. He has experience managing complex contract work for large companies and is additionally noted for his litigation prowess. **Strengths:** "Brad is a very knowledgeable and capable lawyer." **Michael Piscitelli** advises on complex construction disputes, including mediations and administrative proceedings.

Band 4

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

What the team is known for Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP is recognized for its growing construction offering in Florida. The team demonstrates expertise across the full spectrum of construction matters, contentious and transactional. The group also offers expertise in insurance, lien and surety-related work.

Strengths

"Bradley Arant provide a high-quality service."

"The attorneys are detail-oriented and prepared in complex and sophisticated construction cases."

Work highlights Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP represented Camden Property Trust and Camden USA in lawsuit concerning construction

defect claims against the contractor and architect.

Notable practitioners

Ben Dachepalli concentrates his practice on the representation of developers, contractors and design professionals in construction litigation claims including defect, liens and contract claims.

Strengths: "Ben is a great litigator. He is very responsive and attentive to matters." **Timothy Ford** is noted for his expertise in construction litigation. His experience includes insurance disputes and defect claims. **Strengths:** "Tim provides great advice."

Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker & Mueller PA

What the team is known for Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker & Mueller PA acts for a wide range of construction clients including public and private owners, contractors and suppliers. It has notable expertise in contract negotiation and drafting as well as dispute resolution, including arbitration. Its project experience includes power plants, commercial structures and sports stadiums.

Notable practitioners

Michael Carey has extensive experience in construction law and litigation as part of a broader disputes practice. **Strengths:** "He is excellent."

Hardy Roberts is a litigation specialist with extensive experience of construction-related litigation and regulation. **Mark Smith** is a litigator notable for his expertise in construction disputes with particular competence in defect cases. He is experienced in the marine construction space.

Ferencik, Libanoff, Brandt, Bustamante & Williams

What the team is known for Ferencik, Libanoff, Brandt, Bustamante & Williams is a highly regarded construction boutique known for representing contractors and subcontractors. Its expertise includes construction lien matters, bond claims, defect and delay claims and dispute avoidance. The firm works for a broad range of clients, including suppliers, product manufacturers and international companies. It has a strong presence in the Fort Lauderdale area.

Notable practitioners

Robert Ferencik acts for construction industry clients in construction claims, bid protests and professional liability disputes. **Ira Libanoff** represents contractors and owners in the full spectrum of construction disputes as well as in professional and business licensing matters. **Strengths:** "Ira is a great lawyer." **Peter Brandt** is highly regarded for his alternative dispute resolution work.

Foley & Lardner LLP

What the team is known for Foley & Lardner LLP has a respected construction practice which offers expertise in contentious and noncontentious matters. The team advises a range of clients, including owners, developers and contractors, on construction projects across the country. It handles a wide array of litigation matters, from breach of contract to construction defect cases.

Notable practitioners

Kimberly Ashby is a litigator with unmatched

experience handling construction trials at the appellate level. **Strengths:** "She is a really good construction lawyer." **David Harper** has a broad litigation practice covering a wide array of construction, commercial and condominium law-related disputes.

Kirwin Norris

What the team is known for Kirwin Norris is a boutique firm with significant experience in construction disputes. It represents commercial contractors as well as public and private owners. The team assists clients from concept to completion, including in the financing, construction and project closeout stages. The firm's offices are located in Orlando and Fort Lauderdale.

Strengths

"Kirwin Norris has an impressive practice group."

Notable practitioners

Brian Kirwin continues to be respected for his expertise in construction matters and is especially experienced in dispute resolution. **Bruce Norris** has a wealth of experience advising clients on construction litigation and also garners praise for his work as a mediator.

Band 5

Adams and Reese LLP

What the team is known for Adams and Reese LLP is home to an expert team of construction practitioners. The group is known for its niche expertise in the representation of roofing contractors that extends into public policy, statute drafting and building codes. The firm has additional related capabilities in construction-related OSHA work.

Strengths

"Adams and Reese's team is very knowledgeable."

"Adams and Reese are extremely responsive."

"The firm have a strong construction law team."

Work highlights Adams and Reese LLP represented RWE Clean Energy Solutions in an arbitration concerning an alleged breach of a public institution's \$21 million dollar energy performance contract dispute.

Notable practitioners

Trent Cotney (see p.1463) maintains a comprehensive construction practice covering litigation, arbitration and contract review, with particular expertise when acting for clients in the roofing industry.

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for Burr & Forman LLP offers clients broad-based construction expertise covering the full array of contracting and disputes work. The team represents developers and contractors as well as insurers and other project participants.

Work highlights Burr & Forman LLP represented Ring Power Corporation in litigation concerning alleged deficiencies in generator systems and electrical components for a public project in Pinellas County.

Notable practitioners

Troy Smith is a Jacksonville-based partner who represents clients involved in public and private

project developments, advising on construction-related contract drafting, litigation and licensing matters. **Strengths:** "Troy is very knowledgeable."

Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA

What the team is known for Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA represents architect, engineer and contractor clients in commercial and residential project development disputes. The team frequently handles litigation involving the full spectrum of construction issues as well as construction-related personal injury, OSHA issues and surety cases.

Notable practitioners

George Truitt is highly regarded for his strength in representing insurers in construction matters.

Cozen O'Connor

What the team is known for Cozen O'Connor has a prominent construction practice with notable experience in disputes. The firm is noted for its strength in healthcare, transport and energy-related projects. The team provides special expertise in coverage programs and claims.

Strengths

"Cozen O'Connor are extremely responsive."

Work highlights Cozen O'Connor represented Suffolk Construction Company, regarding breach of contract and payment bond claims against a dry wall and framing subcontractor and its bond surety in connection with a 43-story residential tower construction project known as the MET Square Project located in Miami, Florida.

Notable practitioners

Ralf Rodriguez has a broad litigation practice, with particular expertise in construction disputes. He is active in the full range of dispute resolution forums advising on construction, design defect and surety bond claims. **Strengths:** "Ralf is a very skilled attorney who is excellent to work with."

Daniels, Rodriguez, Berkeley, Daniels & Cruz

What the team is known for Daniels, Rodriguez, Berkeley, Daniels & Cruz advises architects, surveyors and engineers on construction litigation, alternative dispute resolution and contractual matters. The firm is also known for insurance defense work and other attendant areas such as architectural malpractice claims and surety law. Its offices are located in Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Tampa.

Notable practitioners

Jeremy Daniels concentrates his practice on disputes, including defective design and professional liability claims. **Strengths:** "Jeremy is an incredible lawyer." **Jose Rodriguez** has built an excellent practice representing an array of clients

in complex disputes, including design professional liability claims. **Strengths:** "Jose Rodriguez is outstanding."

Trenam

What the team is known for Trenam represents public and private owners, contractors and developers across a wide array of construction matters. Its work includes negotiating contracts and assisting with the full range of issues arising out of the development process. The firm is also noted for work in litigation and is active in the representation of parties at arbitration and mediation. The group has a strong presence in the Tampa area.

Notable practitioners

John Vento is noted for his longstanding experience in construction litigation and is also highly sought out as an arbitrator. **Strengths:** "John is an excellent mediator. He is very smart and quick to grasp issues." **Gregg Hutt** draws upon his background as an architect in his advice to developers and contractors. He handles the full range of construction disputes.

Wright, Fulford, Moorhead and Brown P.A.

What the team is known for Wright, Fulford, Moorhead and Brown P.A. is a construction-focused boutique known for disputes work, including insurance, liens, professional liability, defects and delays. The team is able to advise on contractual review as well as mediation and arbitration. Firm clients include engineers, architects and land surveyors. It has additional strength in environmental issues.

Notable practitioners

Tim Moorhead is a capable and experienced construction specialist who acts on a range of matters arising from project developments. **Curtis Brown** is a highly experienced practitioner advising clients in a wide range of construction-related litigation. **Strengths:** "He is a very good lawyer."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Bruce Alexander of Bruce Alexander Law is a renowned mediator who draws upon his longstanding experience in construction law. **Strengths:** "Bruce is a top mediator."

Brent Bell of Taylor English Duma has wide-ranging litigation experience, which includes notable strength in construction matters. He is also sought after to advise on the drafting and enforcement of construction contracts. **Strengths:** "Brent is super smart and a tremendous lawyer."

Gary Brown of Kelley Kronenberg has a comprehensive construction practice covering disputes and contract drafting and negotiation. He has additional experience acting for municipalities and local governments in construction agreements and bid protests.

Frederick Dudley of Dudley, Healy and Heath, PL has extensive experience in state licensing, administrative proceedings and legislative lobbying. **Strengths:** "He is a highly known and well-respected lawyer."

Fredrica Elder of Elder & Lewis, P.A. has extensive experience as a mediator specializing in construction disputes. **Strengths:** "Fredrica is excellent."

John Freud of Mediation Solutions Inc is highly commended for his work as a construction mediator. He has vast experience mediating the full range of disputes. **Strengths:** "John is an excellent mediator." "He is fantastic."

David Haber (see p.1472) of Haber Law represents clients in construction-related contract formation and dispute resolution. **Strengths:** "David is a sharp, knowledgeable and good litigator."

Michael Hornreich of Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins, Gunn & Dial, LLC is a former civil engineer who represents clients in construction disputes at trials and in arbitration.

Scott Kravetz (see p.1478) is managing partner of Duane Morris LLP's Miami office. He is highly experienced in delay claims, design-defect and surety litigation. **Strengths:** "He is a fantastic construction lawyer."

Joe Lane of Lowndes is a respected and experienced mediator with particular expertise in construction law.

Gregory Martin of Martin | Hild, P.A. handles high-stakes construction litigation and arbitration. He is also sought out to advise on contract preparation.

Deborah Mastin is a highly regarded mediator based in Miami. She is recognized for her expertise in resolving both domestic and international construction disputes. **Strengths:** "She is a very good mediator."

Seth Mills of Mills Law Group advises clients involved in a wide range of litigation including construction contract litigation, professional liability and surety. **Strengths:** "Seth is a terrific lawyer."

James Nulman of Nulman Mediation Services is a highly regarded mediator in a range of commercial disputes, including complex construction claims. **Strengths:** "James is excellent."

Lawrence Watson of Upchurch, Watson, White & Max is an experienced mediator with particular expertise in construction sector-related cases.

Corporate/M&A & Private Equity

Corporate/M&A & Private Equity	Corporate/M&A & Private Equity	Corporate/M&A & Private Equity
Florida: North & Central	Florida: South	Florida: South
Leading Firms	Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople
Band 1	Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Foley & Lardner LLP	Akerman LLP	Beloff Donn A. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Holland & Knight LLP	Greenberg Traurig, LLP	Klinghoffer Teddy D. Akerman LLP
Band 2	Holland & Knight LLP	Roddenberry Stephen Akerman LLP
Hill Ward Henderson		
Band 3	Band 2	Leading Individuals
Akerman LLP	McDermott Will & Emery LLP	Band 1
BakerHostetler LLP	Bilzin Sumberg	Awner Jonathan L. Akerman LLP
Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP	Gunster	Barkus David A. Holland & Knight LLP
Trenam		MacCullough Kara L. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Senior Statespeople	Band 3	March Bruce I. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	Bilzin Sumberg	Roston Carl D. Akerman LLP
Teblum Gary Trenam	Gunster	Siskind Harris C. McDermott Will & Emery LLP*
Leading Individuals	Band 4	Band 2
Band 1	DLA Piper LLP (US)	Alonso Fernando C. Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP*
Felman David S. Hill Ward Henderson *	Jones Day	Levenson Fred McDermott Will & Emery LLP*
Grammig Robert J. Holland & Knight LLP	Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff	Martin Enrique J. Winston & Strawn LLP
Band 2		Mitrione Michael V. Gunster
Decker Jeffrey E. BakerHostetler LLP*	Berger Singerman	Parker Clayton K&L Gates (ORL) ◊ *
Yadley Gregory Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP	Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP	Band 3
Band 3	J2 Advisors	Black David Berger Singerman *
Castellano Nelson T. Trenam	Kirkland & Ellis LLP	Hodes Jacqueline J2 Advisors
Davis Gardner F. Foley & Lardner LLP	RC Law LLP	Liss Jeremy S. Kirkland & Ellis *
Smith Darrell C. Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP	Sidley Austin LLP	Pasternack Marshall Bilzin Sumberg
Vazquez Steven W. Foley & Lardner LLP	Winston & Strawn LLP	Rosner Ira N. Holland & Knight LLP
Band 4		Samek Joshua M. Sidley Austin LLP*
Balint Nathan Akerman LLP*		Seifer David Bilzin Sumberg
Connery Jr John C. Hill Ward Henderson *		Band 4
Doliner Nathaniel L. Carlton Fields (ORL) ◊		Bates David G. Gunster
Freeland Jed Akerman LLP		Cantor Lorne S. Jones Day
Hall Eric Hill Ward Henderson *		Davis Jaret Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Hayes Diana Trenam		Freeland Jorge Freeland Partners, Inc (ORL) ◊
Lewis Jr M Richard Smith Hulsey & Busey (ORL) ◊		Kaye Joshua DLA Piper LLP (US)
McAleavey Tom Holland & Knight LLP		Keyes Michael Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff *
Mills Michael Holland & Knight LLP		Miller Alison W. Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler *
Moore Stephen Smith Hulsey & Busey (ORL) ◊		Miller Matthew Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Okaty Michael Foley & Lardner LLP		Schrir Martin Cozen O'Connor (ORL) ◊ *
Outman Nicholas Hill Ward Henderson *		Slavens Aaron Holland & Knight LLP
Reeves Michael Trenam		Wells David Winston & Strawn LLP *
* Indicates individual with profile.		Band 5
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.		Alvarez Javier TA PLLC (ORL) ◊
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.		Birke David Akerman LLP*
		Bullard Randy A. Morrison Foerster (ORL) ◊ *
		Burkett Martin G. Akerman LLP
		Fontes Mario Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith (ORL) ◊
		Gilbert Eric McDermott Will & Emery LLP*
		Hacker Michael McDermott Will & Emery LLP*
		Knight Tammy L. Holland & Knight LLP *
		Pupo Roberto R. Holland & Knight LLP *
		Quinn Paul Akerman LLP
		Rodriguez Nicholas Winston & Strawn LLP
		Sariego Jose Bilzin Sumberg
		Up-and-coming individuals
		Kanter Evan Jones Day
		Musaffi Jeffrey J2 Advisors
		Risi Nicholas Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff *
		Velez Luis Jones Day

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP is a full-service firm with wide geographical state coverage. Experienced in representing both public and private companies in a variety of matters, including M&A and dispositions. Regularly assists private equity funds in midmarket transactions across a range of industries, including healthcare, transportation and technology. Able to draw on significant firm strength in complementary areas such as tax, real estate and regulatory expertise.

Strengths

"It's a renowned and sophisticated practice." "The Akerman team has great subject matter experts who are personable and able to resolve complex issues."

"It's a highly sophisticated team who are timely and helpful in their counsel."

Work highlights Akerman LLP represented HEICO Corporation in the \$2 billion acquisition of Wencor Group from Warburg Pincus.

Notable practitioners

Teddy Klinghoffer boasts a market-leading corporate and M&A practice across a range of different industries, including recent work in the transport and healthcare sectors. **Strengths:** "Beyond the depth of his legal scholarship, Teddy is a well-rounded business person." **Stephen Roddenberry** draws upon his extensive experience in the market to advise clients on a wide range of corporate matters, from M&A to go-private transactions. **Jonathan Awner** maintains an impressive private equity practice and is also highly sought after for his handling of M&A. **Strengths:** "Jonathan truly understands our needs, is incredibly insightful and is an expert in his field." **Carl Roston** is a long-standing practitioner in the market who brings standout knowledge to M&A, among other corporate matters. **Strengths:** "Carl is an institution in Florida." **Nathan Balint** (see p.1458) is a well-regarded corporate lawyer, well versed in acquisition transactions. He is also known for his general corporate work, which includes governance and private equity matters. **Jed Freeland** has notable expertise in acting in corporate financing matters, in addition to M&A. **Strengths:** "Jed is incredibly smart and has a very sophisticated practice." "He has a good business head and is off-the-charts smart from a legal perspective." **David Birke** (see p.1459) enjoys a strong reputation for work advising private equity groups and their portfolio companies on both buy and sell-side transactions.

He is able to provide additional expertise as a qualified accountant. **Strengths:** "David is very client-focused with great depth of experience." "He's a very bright and smart attorney." "David is very smart, personable and commercial." **Martin**

Burkett is skilled in representing clients in corporate and private equity, with a strong pedigree in advising on transactional matters. **Paul Quinn** advises clients on corporate transactions such as mergers, acquisitions and dispositions. His client

base includes private equity firms and portfolio companies. **Strengths:** *“Paul is an outstanding lawyer.”*

BakerHostetler LLP

What the team is known for BakerHostetler LLP offers a broad corporate practice, representing companies across a variety of industries, and particularly noted for expertise advising energy and technology sector clients. Able to advise on both large-scale domestic and cross-border transactions, supported by a network of national and international offices. Acts for private equity firms in fund formation work and acquisitions. Also boasts experience in dealing with public and private securities matters, primarily representing issuers.

Strengths

“The services were excellent and the team understood the business nature of what was being done.” “BakerHostetler has a very strong bench and effectively utilizes attorneys at various levels. I have always been able to rely on prompt and thorough responses.”

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Decker (see p.1465) impresses clients with his range of experience in corporate matters, ranging from M&A to joint ventures. **Strengths:** *“Jeffrey is an amazing asset. His attention to detail and quick response times are exceptional.” “He is a very important source of advice, and he’s not afraid to provide his judgment.”*

Berger Singerman

What the team is known for Berger Singerman provides comprehensive corporate service to established businesses. Strong state coverage across four offices, with in-depth expertise in M&A and corporate finance matters. Offers experience handling private equity, venture capital and securities transactions. Acts for clients across a range of industries, including a focus on real estate and hospitality businesses. Frequently engaged to deal with matters across the country and internationally.

Strengths

“They’re incredibly diligent and responsive.” “Berger Singerman take a team approach to corporate client representation.”

Notable practitioners

David Black (see p.1459) works on high-value acquisitions on behalf of national and international clients. **Strengths:** *“David is great. He understands business and he is practical, really smart and quick.” “David is very practical. He’s a brilliant attorney who always puts clients’ interests first.” “Working with David is a great experience. He is brilliant, experienced and very attuned to servicing clients as needed.”*

Bilzin Sumberg

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg focuses on M&A, joint venture and private equity work, with particular expertise in fund formation, raising capital and fund-related M&A deals. Especially well known for handling real estate-related matters. Advises both public and private companies dealing with significant corporate transactions, acting for a diverse client roster which

includes Fortune 500 companies, investors and developers.

Strengths

“The team is extremely attentive and aware of timelines. They have experienced partners and strong associates.”

“They are very strong from top to bottom. The team has a great ability to take complex legal matters and put them into easy-to-understand concepts.” “The Bilzin Sumberg team is always prepared, thorough and on top of things.”

Notable practitioners

Marshall Pasternack is experienced in a host of transactional matters, including real estate joint ventures. He often works with high-profile developers. **David Seifer** is noted for his robust corporate practice and regularly acts for companies in M&A. **Strengths:** *“David is an excellent attorney who can handle very sophisticated work.” “He’s a very knowledgeable attorney with a wealth of experience in the field.” **Jose Sariego** works on transactions such as M&A and corporate financing. His clients include financial institutions.*

DLA Piper LLP (US)

What the team is known for DLA Piper LLP is sought after to advise on transactions spanning mergers, acquisitions and sales, among other matters. Clients include financial institutions, healthcare providers and technology companies. Well placed to handle cross-border matters, drawing upon the strengths of other offices in the USA and abroad.

Strengths

“The DLA Piper team provides great attention to detail.”

“They can be counted on to handle sensitive matters in a timely fashion with high precision and sophistication.”

“It’s a highly professional team of skilled partners and associates.”

Work highlights DLA Piper LLP represented Water Lead Surgery Center in its sale to Capitol Pain Institute via financial sponsor Iron Path Capital.

Notable practitioners

Joshua Kaye has a strong corporate practice and regularly works with those in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** *“Joshua has a great practice.”*

Foley & Lardner LLP

What the team is known for Foley & Lardner LLP offers broad state coverage and significant experience in securities. Expertise in representing underwriters and issuers in securities offerings and SEC compliance matters. Well versed in handling M&A for a range of local and national clients.

Strengths

“Foley has a deep bench of sophisticated attorneys.”

“They are very responsive and have a wide range of subject matter experts.”

“The Foley team is great to work with and provides a lot of value and commerciality in its advice.”

Notable practitioners

Gardner Davis is highly regarded for his advice on M&A as well as corporate restructuring. **Steven Vazquez** regularly advises on M&A across a range of industries, including in the healthcare and technology arenas, among others. **Strengths:** *“Steven*

*is a very good business lawyer who focuses on the key issues and does a good job managing the specialists throughout transactions.” **Michael Okaty** cochairs Foley & Lardner LLP’s transaction practice and is recognized for his experience in M&A. His expertise also encompasses corporate governance and capital raising.*

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP has a strong Florida base which is complemented by national corporate practice strength. The firm represents clients across the full range of corporate matters, including private equity investments, M&A and counseling. It acts for an impressive range of household names, including many of the state’s largest corporations. The group is also skilled at handling the transactional concerns of technology and pharmaceutical sector clients. It offers additional strength in handling cross-border matters, with frequent representation of Latin American clients.

Strengths

“The Greenberg Traurig team provides pragmatic advice along with technical expertise in corporate and securities matters.”

“A team of highly competent people who are extremely responsive across all practice groups.”

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP advised US Data Mining Group on its \$990 million all-stock merger with Hut 8 Mining Corp.

Notable practitioners

Donn Beloff is sought after to advise companies on a range of corporate matters, including M&A and securities offerings. **Kara MacCullough** is regarded as a leading corporate adviser with a broad practice, which includes advising on public and private company M&A. **Strengths:** *“Kara is a great partner who provides pragmatic solutions and advice in complex situations.” **Bruce March**’s broad practice spans venture capital and private equity deals, among other corporate matters. **Strengths:** *“He is one of the brightest minds I’ve had the opportunity to work with.” “Bruce has a quality practice.”**

Jaret Davis advises on securities and corporate transactions across a range of markets, with a key focus on the technology industry. **Strengths:** *“He is very attuned to the market.” **Matthew Miller** often advises on private equity transactions and securities offerings. He acts on corporate matters in the manufacturing, automotive and life sciences industries. **Strengths:** *“Matthew is a very strong attorney who offers great commercial and legal advice.”**

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster boasts a full-service corporate practice with a strong Florida offering and established connections with larger national firms. Well versed in M&A, private equity investments and international transactions. Represents clients across a wide range of industries, including aerospace, agriculture and financial services. Deals with a broad variety of entities, from private startups to large public companies. Well supported by a range of complementary departments, including banking and finance and litigation.

Strengths

"It is an outstanding and knowledgeable firm."

Notable practitioners

Michael Mitrione counsels companies on a range of transactional matters, ranging from M&A to private equity financings. **Strengths:** "Michael is an excellent lawyer." **David Bates** is an experienced corporate attorney who advises clients on matters such as venture capital investments and M&A.

Hill Ward Henderson

What the team is known for Hill Ward Henderson is predominantly involved in acquisitions, representing both buyers and sellers, and boasts particular experience in joint venture work. Frequently engaged by private equity funds, as well as smaller and family-run businesses. Also experienced in venture capital transactions. Sought by clients involved in a range of industries, with particular expertise in automotive matters.

Strengths

"Hill Ward Henderson provides excellent advice, guidance and engagement on the most complex issues."

"They have a strong and enduring commitment to their client relationships and are always available when needed."

"The team provides invaluable counsel on negotiating and structuring complex transactions."

Work highlights Hill Ward Henderson advised Coastal Construction Products on its sale to Beacon Roofing Supply.

Notable practitioners

David Felman (see p.1467) cochairs the corporate and tax group and has a comprehensive corporate practice which sees him advise on private equity transactions, among other matters. **Strengths:** "David is highly intelligent, sophisticated and skilled in his practice." "One of the best attorneys I've worked with. He is elite at what he does." "David exhibits unparalleled expertise and commitment to his clients." **John Connery** (see p.1463) provides clients with noteworthy advice on transactional matters, including private equity financings. **Eric**

Hall (see p.1473) is able to handle a range of corporate matters and is often engaged by clients on M&A. He regularly represents private equity firms in sales and venture capital financing.

Strengths: "Eric is always there for his clients. He works hard and gives good advice during deals." "He's extremely practical and levelheaded while providing sophisticated advice." **Nicholas Outman** (see p.1487) has a broad corporate practice and is highlighted for his knowledge of venture capital deals. **Strengths:** "Nicholas is an outstanding lawyer and very good at focusing on the key issues. He is very experienced and his counsel is consistently excellent." "He is highly responsive and knowledgeable." "Nicholas has a unique combination of legal acumen and business sensibility."

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight LLP handles a diverse range of work across its North and South Florida offices. Capable of handling transactions not just statewide, but nationally and across borders, with a focus on Latin America and Canada. Significant knowledge advising a range of clients, from startups to large companies on both the public and private sides. Boasts par-

ticular expertise in securities regulatory matters. Additional representative experience in private equity transactions and corporate governance matters.

Strengths

"The team is knowledgeable, capable and timely with its work."

"Holland & Knight has excellent subject matter experts across all areas critical to M&A transactions."

"They're extremely bright lawyers who understand complex and sophisticated matters and can offer practical solutions and advice."

Work highlights Holland & Knight LLP advised Celsius Holdings on the \$549 million sale of an equity stake to PepsiCo.

Notable practitioners

David Barkus is highly sought after to advise clients on M&A and private equity transactions. He handles matters for companies across various industries, ranging from construction to healthcare. **Strengths:** "David is a very good lawyer and an excellent negotiator." **Robert Grammig** is well versed in a range of corporate matters including acquisitions and investments, with notable recent work for clients in the fintech and retail sectors, among others. **Strengths:** "Robert is an outstanding, experienced and practical M&A lawyer who gets things done." **Ira Rosner** handles transactions across a range of industries, with recent work including advising clients in the construction market. **Tom McAleavy** is sought

after by clients for his knowledge of securities and M&A law. **Michael Mills** frequently acts on M&A and divestitures. He has further expertise in securities offerings and corporate governance. **Strengths:** "Michael is an extremely strong corporate lawyer who understands us as a client. He is reliable, responsive and efficient." **Aaron Slavens** often handles acquisitions and corporate financing issues for public and private companies. **Strengths:** "Aaron is incredibly responsive, experienced and has a good knack for understanding transaction nuance." **Tammy Knight** (see p.1477) advises clients on sophisticated M&A transactions. Further expertise includes in securities matters, public offerings and compliance issues.

Strengths: "Tammy is extremely sophisticated and has invaluable knowledge of M&A processes and standards." **Roberto Pupo** (see p.1489) cochairs Holland & Knight LLP's South Florida corporate, M&A and securities practice group, and is chair of its Latin America practice group. Clients look to him for counsel in a range of high-value corporate transactions.

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

What the team is known for Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP is a large-scale international law firm with a Miami base. Provides a broad range of corporate expertise for clients such as financial institutions, private companies, governments and non-profits. Significant experience in cross-border issues, including European and Latin American matters. Notable involvement in public-private partnerships involving significant infrastructure projects. Additionally skilled at handling corporate securities transactions.

Strengths

"Hunton Andrews Kurth provide timely, concise and thorough advice."

"The team is wonderful, extremely diligent and super fast."

Work highlights Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP advised Metalsider in connection with the acquisition of Aludyne Componentes Automotivos Brasil.

Notable practitioners

Fernando Alonso (see p.1456) is chair of Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP's Latin American practice. He is highly sought after for cross-border deals.

Strengths: "Fernando is very capable and reliable in M&A."

J2 Advisors

What the team is known for J2 Advisors is a Miami-based firm with notable experience in M&A, capital raising, corporate governance and debt financing. Expertise also encompasses divestitures and equity financing. Represents companies across a range of sectors, from healthcare and recruitment to technology and retail. Clients also include private equity funds and family offices.

Strengths

"The team goes above and beyond to resolve all legal issues."

"The team at J2 are business-minded and creative in arriving at solutions to transactions."

Work highlights J2 Advisors represented Bar Maid Corporation in its sale to Winco.

Notable practitioners

Jacqueline Hodes regularly advises private equity funds among other clients on mid-market transactions. **Strengths:** "Jacqueline is an excellent attorney who balances the business objectives of the deal with market-based legal protection." "Jacqueline is a pleasure to work with. Her depth of knowledge and understanding are amazing." **Jeffrey Musaffi** is noted for advising clients on M&A, among other corporate transactional matters.

Jones Day

What the team is known for Jones Day is home to an adept corporate practice with a strong pedigree in M&A, joint ventures and mid-market private equity transactions. Excels in a broad array of industry sectors, with clients benefiting from the firm's extensive global and national network to handle cross-border deals, particularly in Latin America.

Strengths

"The team has the experience and knowledge to carry work out efficiently and rigorously."

"The team is always available with every potential resource."

Work highlights Jones Day advised Sensata Technologies on its acquisition of Dynapower Company from Pfingsten Partners for \$580 million.

Notable practitioners

Lorne Cantor focuses on M&A, joint ventures and securities issues. He often works with those in the gaming industry. **Strengths:** "Lorne is a practical lawyer who is really good with clients." **Evan Kanter** advises private and public companies on domestic and cross-border M&A. **Luis Velez** often assists with domestic and cross-border M&A, as well as joint ventures. **Strengths:** "A very talented international M&A lawyer."

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

What the team is known for Kirkland & Ellis is a highly respected firm with broad national and international reach. The team advises clients on high-profile private equity transactions, encompassing acquisitions, investments and sales.

Strengths

"They are extremely efficient and very responsive to all parties."

"Kirkland & Ellis has a massive team of very high-quality legal experts across all specialties."

"The team are extremely creative and have an ability to find solutions to complex problems."

Work highlights Kirkland & Ellis represented BrightPet Nutrition Group, backed by A&M Capital Partners, in its acquisition of Raw Advantage Processing.

Notable practitioners

Jeremy Liss (see p.1482) advises private equity funds on structuring transactions. He frequently handles both domestic and cross-border matters.

Strengths: *"Jeremy is incredibly knowledgeable and insightful." "He is smart, works hard and is commercial and thoughtful." "He has a very strong grasp of issues that arises during a transaction and is able to quickly provide solutions to keep it on track."*

McDermott Will & Emery LLP

What the team is known for McDermott Will & Emery LLP is experienced across a range of industry sectors and regarded as a particularly strong candidate for healthcare matters. Well known for carrying out work related to middle-market private equity matters, including acquisitions and leveraged financings. Adept at handling cross-border transactions.

Strengths

"The team is very well versed in complex M&A transaction dynamics. They're business-minded, diligent and organized."

"McDermott is able to seamlessly navigate complex matters. Team depth is a major strength."

Work highlights McDermott Will & Emery LLP advised Kingswood Capital Management on its acquisition of Turbo Wholesale Tires.

Notable practitioners

Harris Siskind (see p.1496) works on a diverse range of deals, including M&A and dispositions. He is well regarded for his extensive experience in private equity deals within the healthcare sector.

Strengths: *"Harris provides great counsel and is always very responsive and thoughtful." "Harris is the absolute best in the business."* **Fred Levenson** (see p.1481) works on the full suite of transactions, including private equity deals and international M&A. **Strengths:** *"Fred is highly responsive and has consistently demonstrated the ability to execute across various transactions."* **Eric Gilbert** (see p.1471) continues to garner recognition for his strong corporate practice and regularly leads on M&A. **Strengths:** *"Eric is a pleasure to deal with. He is strategic in his thinking, has good attention to detail and provides sound legal advice." "He's an excellent corporate lawyer and business adviser who is able to marshal key resources to get deals done creatively."* **Michael Hacker** (see p.1473) regularly assists with a range of corporate matters, including M&A and dispositions. He is adept at

handling joint ventures for private equity sponsors and their portfolio companies. **Strengths:** *"Michael is always available and thoughtful." "Michael is great at what he does and focused on getting his client the best outcome." "Working with Michael is an excellent experience. He is very knowledgeable on corporate structures."*

RC Law LLP

What the team is known for RC Law LLP is a Miami-based firm that offers strong advice in domestic and cross-border M&A and joint ventures. It is sought after by a clientele of public and private companies and private equity firms.

Strengths

"The legal knowledge of the team is extraordinary, and their focus on addressing client issues is outstanding."

"They are able to navigate complexities and come up with efficient transactions."

"Their knowledge and experience allows them to foresee potential challenges."

Work highlights RC Law advised Open Pass on the issuance of shares of common stock to Telecom Argentina.

Notable practitioners

Rusalka de la Campa and Xavier Ruiz are key contacts.

Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP

What the team is known for Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP possesses expertise in M&A, corporate and securities work, with significant experience in private equity. Services clients across a wide range of industries. Frequently advises clients on their cross-border matters from Florida offices located in Sarasota and Tampa.

Notable practitioners

Gregory Yadley is cochair of Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP's corporate practice. His strengths include representing clients in M&A and securities transactions. **Strengths:** *"Gregory is very practical, experienced and brings a lot of value to transactions."* **Darrell Smith** specializes in corporate transactions, acting across a range of markets, with notable experience in advising private equity funds.

Sidley Austin LLP

What the team is known for Sidley Austin LLP is a widely respected firm advising clients on domestic and international transactions. The team offers expertise in industries including sports, real estate and infrastructure.

Strengths

"Sidley Austin has a wide range of subject matter experts across industries. They are incredibly responsive and always willing to make themselves available."

"The firm has very strong attorneys across the board who are very responsive to clients. They always deliver world-class advice and service."

"The team is great at handling complex matters and is very efficient."

Work highlights Sidley Austin LLP advised Azelis on its acquisition of Gillico Ingredients.

Notable practitioners

Joshua Samek (see p.1492) has notable expertise across an array of corporate matters, including

divestitures and M&A.

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff & Sitterson PA offers significant experience to clients dealing with mid-market transactions across a range of industries, including banking and life sciences. Expertise includes M&A, private equity and corporate regulatory work. Frequently involved in joint venture real estate matters. Also regularly advises on securities offerings and filings.

Strengths

"The team is extremely dedicated and responsive." "I was thoroughly impressed with the level of intellect, insight, industry knowledge, legal acumen and professionalism displayed by the team."

"The lawyers at Stearns Weaver are extremely professional and dedicated to providing excellent work and results."

Notable practitioners

Michael Keyes (see p.1476) advises clients on corporate and securities work, including M&A and capital raises. **Alison Miller** (see p.1485) has a solid reputation for her representation of clients in complex transactions. She often works with those in the financial services and real estate sectors.

Strengths: *"Alison is amazing. She is extremely bright, knowledgeable and cares for her clients."*

Nicholas Risi (see p.1491) advises clients on transactions both domestically and internationally. He is experienced in areas including acquisitions and financing. **Strengths:** *"Nicholas is very sharp, business-minded and very aware of the current market."*

Trenam

What the team is known for Trenam is a distinguished corporate law practice with a strong pedigree in handling matters including M&A, business formation and joint ventures. Clients range from individual entrepreneurs to national public companies. Experienced in advising on healthcare and technology-related matters.

Notable practitioners

Gary Teblum has experience advising on a range of transactions, including M&A. He is respected for his additional expertise in securities matters.

Strengths: *"Gary is a fine lawyer."* **Nelson Castellano** handles corporate transactions, with notable clients including those in the technology industry. He also garners praise for his representation of private equity groups and venture capital funds.

Diana Hayes is called upon for her strong track record in corporate transactional matters, with her practice featuring strength in advising corporate and private equity clients on M&A and securities matters. **Michael Reeves** is recognized for advising on corporate financing and structuring matters, as well as M&A.

Winston & Strawn LLP

What the team is known for Winston & Strawn LLP advises a range of clients on transactional matters including joint ventures, investments and acquisitions. The team is noted for expertise in both domestic and international deals.

Strengths

"Winston & Strawn's ability to handle complex and

sophisticated matters is exceptional."

Notable practitioners

Enrique Martin has a robust international M&A practice that spans a range of industries, from media to infrastructure. **Strengths:** "Enrique's expertise, dedication and exceptional service are instrumental in navigating complex legal landscapes." **David Wells** (see p.1500)'s corporate practice covers the full range of transactions, covering different industries, including health-care and retail, among others. **Strengths:** "David is incredibly well connected and great to have in your corner in a deal." **Nicholas Rodriguez** is highlighted for his expertise in international M&A and corporate matters.

He is highly analytical, inquisitive and responsive."

"He's very responsive and available at all hours."

"He is really practical, knowledgeable and good at doing everything possible to get a deal done."

Randy Bullar (see p.1461) **d** (see p.1461) of Morrison Foerster advises multinational clients in connection with domestic and cross-border M&A across a broad range of sectors.

Nathaniel Doliner of Carlton Fields has a strong reputation in the market for his experience in corporate, M&A and securities matters.

Mario Fontes of Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP has a wide-ranging corporate practice which features strength across M&A, capital markets work and broader corporate governance counseling. He receives particular plaudits for his abilities in international and cross-border mandates.

Strengths: "Mario is a very good corporate lawyer."

Jorge Freeland of Freeland Partners, Inc has notable experience acting for clients in the private equity space. He frequently works on midmarket mergers and acquisitions, among other matters.

Richard Lewis of Smith Hulsey & Busey is well

versed in M&A and has notable experience in the acquisition of companies by private equity firms.

Strengths: "Richard is very knowledgeable and always acts with a sense of urgency in delivering legal services."

Stephen Moore of Smith Hulsey & Busey is an experienced transactional attorney with a wealth of experience in advising clients on M&A, joint ventures and private equity work.

Clayton Parker (see p.1487)'s broad practice at K&L Gates sees him advise on cross-border private equity deals. He represents a range of clients, from private equity firms to venture capital funds.

Martin Schrier (see p.1493) of Cozen O'Connor has experience acting on the buy side and the sell side of transactions. He regularly handles international mandates. **Strengths:** "Martin is very strong and has a thorough knowledge of the subject matter."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Javier Alvarez of TA PLLC is noted for his expertise in a range of transactions, with particular experience in matters involving South and Central America. **Strengths:** "Javier is a strong attorney.

Richard Lewis of Smith Hulsey & Busey is well

Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation

Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation

Leading Firms

Band 1

Hill Ward Henderson

Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadef

Band 2

Akerman LLP

GrayRobinson, PA

Gunster

International Law Solutions Group, PA

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Hill Ward Henderson

What the team is known for Hill Ward Henderson is a highly sought-after employee benefits practice, with experience advising on all aspects of benefit plan design, amendment and operation. The firm is knowledgeable about a wide array of employee benefit plans, including retirement, fringe benefit and health and welfare plans. Its attorneys assist clients with ERISA disputes as well as in connection with IRS plan examinations. The group frequently advises clients in the healthcare space, among others.

Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Ward Alton C *Hill Ward Henderson*

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Davis James B *Gunster*

Dixon Sharon Quinn *Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler* *

Band 2

Alcalde Beth *Akerman LLP*

Burke Richard E *GrayRobinson, PA* *

Fawbush Andrew *Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP*

Friedman Robert J *Holland & Knight LLP (ORL)* ◊

Meyers Arthur S *Meyers Arthur S Meyers Law Firm PLLC (ORL)* ◊

Salomon Peter *Akerman LLP*

Vignec Kirsten L *Hill Ward Henderson*

Band 3

Carrasco Lisa *Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP*

Doyle Jon F. *International Law Solutions Group, PA* *

Hamlin Bret *Hill Ward Henderson* *

Pressly Finn *Ballard Spahr LLP (ORL)* ◊

Up-and-coming individuals

McLaughlin Andrew *Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler* *

Strengths

"They have a very good reputation."

"They have a lot of experience."

"The service is excellent. They are knowledgeable, very responsive and I also appreciate their reflec-

tion on the business aspects."

Work highlights Hill Ward Henderson advised a large healthcare system with over 12,000 employees on employee benefits and executive deferred compensation matters in relation to its merger with a smaller healthcare system.

Notable practitioners

Alton Ward is a seasoned employee benefits lawyer. He is widely respected by clients and peers for his expertise in the employee benefits space. **Strengths:** "Alton provides outstanding expertise in employee benefits." Tampa-based

Kirsten Vignec chairs Hill Ward Henderson's executive compensation and employee benefits practice. She regularly advises clients on employee benefits matters arising from M&A transactions. **Strengths:** "Kirsten is fantastic to work with, her sophistication and practicality are unmatched." **Bret Hamlin** (see p.1473) has a broad employee benefits and executive compensation practice. He frequently counsels clients on single employer and multiemployer retirement plans, as well as health and welfare plans. **Strengths:** "He is very responsive, very knowledgeable and very detail-oriented."

Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP

What the team is known for Smith, Gambrell & Russell LLP has impressive capabilities across the breadth of employee benefits and compensation

mandates, including dedicated expertise in areas such as health benefits and qualified and non-qualified plans. The firm has a broad client roster, which includes tax-exempt entities and multinational corporations. It acts on all aspects of plan drafting and implementation, as well as regulatory compliance mandates and matters stemming from corporate transactions.

Strengths

"The team is responsive and very knowledgeable." "Smith, Gambrell & Russell provide exceptional value and they are a trusted partner." "They are very knowledgeable. We are always able to reach out and get a response."

Work highlights Smith Gambrell advised Black Knight with its employee benefit plans and necessary changes in relation to the divestiture of two subsidiaries and acquisition by Intercontinental Exchange.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Fawbush maintains a strong executive compensation and employee benefits practice, complemented by notable strength in ERISA matters. His practice includes advising on issues arising from M&A, as well as providing compliance counsel and handling plan design. **Strengths:** *"He is very helpful and insightful." "Andrew is a very good lawyer, not only in terms of the legal issues, but also in terms of being honest in an open and polite way." "He is the go-to when looking for an ERISA litigation expert."* Jacksonville-based **Lisa Carrasco** represents clients in the healthcare sector, among others. She is skilled in handling the implementation and design of employee benefit plans, and offers notable expertise in benefits and compensation issues pertaining to corporate transactions. **Strengths:** *"She has helped us navigate through very difficult circumstances." "Lisa is an expert on the detail."*

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson has an excellent reputation for its representation of a broad range of clients on matters involving the creation and operation of employee pension and welfare plans. The group also provides advice on deferred compensation programs. It has particular strength in matters arising from the higher education and hospitality sectors, fielding expertise in both regulatory mandates and issues arising from transactions.

Strengths

"Our advisers at the firm stay current with our industry and the business environment."

Notable practitioners

Sharon Quinn Dixon (see p.1466)'s longstanding welfare and benefits practice is complemented by particular strength in regulatory matters arising from healthcare reform. **Strengths:** *"Sharon is a class act and a great benefits lawyer." "She is an excellent attorney." "Sharon is our go-to resource for all things retirement plans and ERISA."* **Andrew McLaughlin** (see p.1483) has a wide-ranging employment and employee benefits practice, which includes strength in ESOPs and retirement plans. **Strengths:** *"Andrew is very professional and available for advice." "We value his organization and*

accuracy."

Band 2

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP is a highly regarded practice with experience across the full gamut of employee benefits and executive compensation issues. The firm assists clients with the operational and compliance matters pertaining to a wide array of retirement, health and welfare and compensation plans. The department also frequently advises clients on benefits and compensation issues relating to corporate transactions, as well as assisting with IRS and DOL audits.

Strengths

"They are incredibly prompt, responsive, thoughtful and they provide a stellar work product." "They provide excellent guidance and attention to detail."

Work highlights Akerman LLP advised Newbury Street Acquisition Corporation on executive compensation issues in relation to a special-purpose acquisition transaction with Infinite Reality.

Notable practitioners

Beth Alcalde assists clients with ERISA and other compliance issues relating to employee benefit plans. **Strengths:** *"Beth Alcalde is a fantastic lawyer." Peter Salomon* is a go-to attorney for benefits and compensation issues, stemming from big-ticket corporate transactions, as well as advising on regulatory compliance and broader tax mandates. **Strengths:** *"He is commercial, has a personable demeanor and provides a thoughtful approach."*

GrayRobinson, PA

What the team is known for GrayRobinson is a well-regarded team that provides robust advice on a wide array of employee benefits matters. It demonstrates particular expertise in ERISA compliance and IRS audits. It is also able to advise on the employee benefits issues arising out of corporate transactions.

Notable practitioners

Richard Burke (see p.1461) of GrayRobinson advises public and private sector employers on business-critical employee benefits issues, and is especially experienced with navigating administrative proceedings such as IRS and DOL audits.

Strengths: *"Richard was very engaged and helpful. He had a lot of knowledge regarding pension plans and tax guidelines." "He is a terrific lawyer."*

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster has a growing employee benefits and executive practice with a wealth of experience counseling plan sponsors, advisers and fiduciaries on ERISA compliance. The firm offers expertise in the design, operation and termination of retirement, welfare and compensation plans, as well as assisting clients with transactional benefits and compensation concerns. Its attorneys frequently counsel clients on tax and securities issues pertaining to employee benefit plans and executive compensation arrangements.

Strengths

"They are very detailed, thorough and responsive." "They are extraordinarily competitive for the value that they provide."

"Gunster provided excellent guidance. The team was truly always available."

Work highlights Gunster advised Nova Southeastern University on the transition of its 201K and 403b plans from multiple vendors to a single vendor.

Notable practitioners

James Davis maintains a broad tax practice, while offering dedicated experience in executive compensation and ERISA matters, including transactional concerns and regulatory compliance.

Strengths: *"James has always been able to provide the best advice. He is a fountain of information."*

"James provides exceptional quality. He appears to know everything down to the most minute detail."

"When we need an ERISA litigation expert, he is the go-to." "He is one of the best attorneys I have worked with, he is very knowledgeable."

International Law Solutions Group, PA

What the team is known for International Law Solutions Group is a renowned boutique specializing in executive compensation matters. The firm is an especially strong choice to counsel clients on cross-border mandates. It frequently assists multinational companies with the design and implementation of international compensation programs.

Notable practitioners

Jon Doyle (see p.1466) advises multinational companies on cross-border executive compensation issues.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Robert Friedman of Holland & Knight acts across a broad range of benefits matters, including those involving pension, profit-sharing and welfare benefit plans. He is notably experienced in ERISA litigation, as well as advising on ESOP concerns.

Strengths: *"Robert is an excellent lawyer." "He has a good depth of expertise and experience."*

Arthur Meyers of Meyers Law Firm PLLC advises clients on executive compensation, with a focus on issues relating to equity compensation.

Strengths: *"Arthur really understands what we need and provides a premium service." "Arthur is responsive, extremely experienced and very helpful." "He is an expert on employment and executive compensation matters."*

Finn Pressly of Ballard Spahr is especially knowledgeable about health and welfare benefit plans. He provides counsel on plan design, compliance and operation. **Strengths:** *"He is responsive, he is brilliant and he is practical." "Finn understands the practical and business implications, as well as the legal implications, and he is able to help navigate those." "Finn is a terrific lawyer."*

Energy & Natural Resources

Energy & Natural Resources

Leading Firms

Band 1

Ausley McMullen, PA

Beggs & Lane

Gunster

Holland & Knight LLP

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Holland Jr G. Edison Beggs & Lane

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Clark Susan F. Radey Law Firm (ORL) ◊

Cloud Thomas A. GrayRobinson, PA (ORL) ◊ *

Downing Robert J. Greenberg Traurig, LLP (ORL) ◊

Griffin Steven R. Beggs & Lane *

Keating Beth Gunster

May D. Bruce Holland & Knight LLP

Means Malcolm N. Ausley McMullen, PA

Moyle, Jr Jon C. Moyle Law Firm (ORL) ◊

Rios Lara Holland & Knight LLP

Schwing Christina M. Holland & Knight LLP

Self Floyd R. Berger Singerman (ORL) ◊ *

Wahlen J. Jeffry Ausley McMullen, PA

Wright Robert Scheffel Gardner, Bist, Bowden (ORL) ◊

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

"Beggs & Lane are excellent. The team works hand in glove with its clients."

Notable practitioners

Edison Holland offers vast experience in energy and utility work, alongside his broader corporate practice. **Steven Griffin** (see p.1471) is a skilled practitioner with significant experience representing clients before the FPSC. He also provides regulatory advice in relation to renewable energy projects. **Strengths:** "Steven Griffin is responsive and always well prepared."

for her impressive practice which sees her handle a range of complex transactional matters for clients in the energy sector. She routinely advises on financings and capital markets transactions and is often sought out for her expertise in cross-border issues. **Christina Schwing** is an experienced litigator who regularly acts for electric cooperatives. She has an impressive track record defending clients against high-value class actions. **Strengths:** "Christina's strength is her preparedness. She makes phenomenal arguments."

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster is a notable Floridian firm with significant breadth and depth of experience in the energy sector. It advises on a wide range of matters, including financings, M&A and restructurings, as well as representing clients in litigation. The firm acts for a varied client base ranging from developers and utility companies to private equity firms.

Strengths

"Gunster always does a very good job for us. The team understands our needs. The firm is like an extension of ourselves."

"Gunster has deep understanding of case law and precedents."

"I could not ask for a more responsive legal team. Gunster is always available and always provides high-quality service."

Work highlights Gunster assisted with the filing and approval of Florida Public Utilities Company, Electric Division's cost recovery for its storm protection plan.

Notable practitioners

Beth Keating focuses her practice on advising utility companies on federal and state regulatory matters. Clients benefit from her 30-plus years of experience in the space, including her previous tenure as an attorney at the FPSC. **Strengths:** "Beth Keating's command of administrative law in Florida is unbelievably good." "Beth fully understands our business and our goals, and is very proactive in helping us achieve them."

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight is an impressive firm with strong experience across both transactional and contentious matters concerning the energy sector. The firm routinely advises on high-value transactions for a range of clients as well as offering notable expertise in class action defense.

Work highlights Holland & Knight advised Leyline Renewable Capital on a project development loan for RAI Energy to support the development of multiple utility-scale solar and solar-plus-storage projects.

Notable practitioners

Bruce May offers extensive experience representing clients before the FPSC and various regulatory agencies. He also leads the firm's public utility practice. **Strengths:** "Bruce is extremely thorough and professional." **Lara Rios** wins praise

Other Ranked Lawyers

Susan Clark of Radey Law Firm is a popular choice for clients seeking representation before the FPSC, including in utility rate cases. She is noted in the market for her previous experience as former general counsel and chairman of the FPSC. **Strengths:** "Susan Clark is very capable and knowledgeable." "Susan knows the Florida Public Service Commission like the back of her hand."

Thomas Cloud (see p.1462) of GrayRobinson, PA is noted in the market for his significant experience acting for municipal bodies in energy and utility matters. He handles noncontentious matters such as financings as well as advising on regulatory issues. **Strengths:** "Thomas has expertise in representing municipal entities."

Robert Downing of Greenberg Traurig, LLP is a respected corporate practitioner who regularly advises on M&A and financings for clients in the energy and infrastructure space. **Strengths:** "Robert Downing is helpful, responsive and attentive."

Jon Moyle of Moyle Law Firm maintains a wide-ranging practice which includes advising clients in the energy sector on regulatory issues. **Strengths:** "Jon Moyle is a very savvy lawyer. He is reasonable and practical."

Floyd Self (see p.1494) of Berger Singerman is notable for his broad practice covering a wide range of energy and utilities issues, as well as his significant knowledge of telecom matters. He stands out for his regulatory expertise. **Strengths:** "Floyd Self is an outstanding attorney." "Floyd is a skilled state administrative law practitioner."

Robert Scheffel Wright of Gardner, Bist, Bowden, Dee, LaVia, Wright, Perry & Harper P.A. offers almost four decades of experience in the utilities and energy space. He acts for a wide range of clients including power producers and local governments on regulatory matters, litigation and contract negotiations.

Band 1

Ausley McMullen, PA

What the team is known for Ausley McMullen, PA is a full-service Tallahassee firm with vast experience acting for utility companies. It offers a deep bench of attorneys with strong trial and appellate capabilities. The firm also represents clients before regulatory agencies.

Notable practitioners

Malcolm Means has notable expertise representing clients before the Florida Public Service Commission. His wide-ranging practice includes advising on the regulatory aspects of energy and infrastructure projects. **Jeffry Wahlen** maintains a broad practice which includes representing clients in state and federal courts. He acts for a varied client base, including telecommunications organizations and utility companies. **Strengths:** "Jeffry Whalen is always a voice of reason. He collaborates well with others and he is knowledgeable about the regulatory process."

Beggs & Lane

What the team is known for Beggs & Lane is a Pensacola-based practice with significant expertise in the energy and utilities sector. The firm regularly represents clients before the FPSC as well as advising energy companies across various states. It also offers notable capabilities in the renewable energy space.

Strengths

"Beggs & Lane are very responsive and provide a high level of service."

Environment

Environment
Leading Firms
Band 1
Gunster
Lewis, Longman & Walker PA
Band 2
Akerman LLP
Bilzin Sumberg
Carlton Fields
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff
Band 3
Berger Singerman
Holland & Knight LLP
Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC
Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant & Atkinson, P.A
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Cole Terry Gunster
Lewis R Steven Lewis, Longman & Walker PA
Walker Stephen A Lewis, Longman & Walker PA
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Alderman Silvia M Akerman LLP
Barkett John Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP (ORL) ♦ *
Barsh Kerri Greenberg Traurig, LLP
DeMeo Ralph A Guilday Law (ORL) ♦
Goldstein Michael R The Goldstein (ORL) ♦
Lockett Laurel E Carlton Fields
McAliley Neal Carlton Fields
Neely Robyn Akerman LLP
Nelson Howard E Bilzin Sumberg
Pence William L BakerHostetler LLP (ORL) ♦ *
Phillips Luna E Gunster
Preston William D William D Preston PA (ORL) ♦
Sellers Lawrence Holland & Knight LLP
Band 2
Bouthillier Reggie L Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler *
Burgess Rick J Gunster
Curtin Lawrence Holland & Knight LLP
Hearne Frank L Mechanik Nuccio Hearne (ORL) ♦
Lichtstein Jason Akerman LLP *
Manson Douglas MansonBolves (ORL) ♦
Munson Gregory Gunster
Olsen Eric T Gunster
Weinstein David B Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Band 3
Collier Jeffrey A. Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler *
Cremer Jacob Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff *
Eldred Carl Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff *
Fernandez Segundo J Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant
Jazil Mohammad Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky *
Madden Deborah Gunster
Meyers Dawn Berger Singerman *
Noble Ron Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC (ORL) ♦
Oertel Kenneth Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant & Atkinson, P.A
Perko Gary V Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky *
Quincey Irene Kennedy Pavese Law Firm (ORL) ♦
Ross Elizabeth Gunster
Ullo, Jr F Joseph Carlton Fields
Associates to watch
Barshel Alexandra Bilzin Sumberg
* Indicates individual with profile.
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster has a strong Florida base with a broad geographical spread, offering statewide expertise in water, air and land issues. It has additional capabilities in endangered species and wetlands advisory work. The firm is experienced in acting for clients before a range of local, state and federal regulatory bodies, alongside strengths in environmental litigation and administrative challenges. It represents public and private sector clients across a variety of industry areas, including food, real estate and manufacturing.

Strengths

"The firm's knowledge, experience and list of contacts within agencies on permitting and regulatory issues is very strong."

"Gunster is excellent. They provide a very proactive service."

Notable practitioners

Terry Cole is a long-standing practitioner with experience advising on water quality and air pollution. **Strengths:** *"Terry is a dean of the environmental Bar."* **Luna Phillips** has an excellent reputation in this space and is noted for her standout water practice, with strengths including advising on environmental regulation. **Strengths:**

"She knows the landscape and history of the law and is a great adviser." **Rick Burgess** has a comprehensive practice which includes advising on environmental disputes. His expertise includes regulatory matters and permitting, as well as enforcement proceedings. **Strengths:** *"Rick is a masterful environmental litigator."* **Gregory Munson** has experience in environmental protection and is regularly sought after for his expertise in water management. **Strengths:** *"Greg really knows his way around statutes and is able to provide elegant and efficient arguments."*

Eric Olsen is noted for his expertise in water-related matters. He draws on his knowledge of mitigation banks to assist clients with a variety of projects. **Strengths:** *"Eric is very thoughtful and comes up with very creative solutions."* **Deborah Madden** has a broad environmental practice, advising developers and public companies, among others, on regulatory matters and litigation. **Strengths:** *"Deborah is very knowledgeable and accessible."* **Elizabeth Ross** has extensive experience in water management issues, including permitting matters.

Lewis, Longman & Walker PA

What the team is known for Lewis, Longman & Walker PA has a deep bench and wide geographical state coverage across four offices. Its areas of expertise include wetland permitting and hazardous waste cleanup, alongside broad complementary experience across governmental and administrative law. The firm acts for a broad range of clients, including government bodies, businesses and individuals.

Notable practitioners

Steven Lewis is an expert on issues related to wetland law and water quality. He also advises

clients on a range of airport and port-related cases. **Strengths:** *"Steven has a keen legal mind, extensive knowledge in his areas of expertise, and top negotiating skills."* **Stephen Walker** has a solid reputation in this market for his environment practice. He advises on a range of environmental matters, including water law issues.

Band 2

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP offers solid strengths in transactional, regulatory and litigation matters, with notable strengths in forestry issues and wetlands permitting. It leverages its impressive strengths in its real estate practice to offer expertise in due diligence, environmental cleanup and wider development work. The firm offers additional capabilities in handling urban redevelopment matters. It represents both public and private clients, including Fortune 500 companies and developers.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Akerman are knowledgeable as well as highly responsive and attentive to the client's needs."

"Akerman is a one-stop shop for legal representation and counsel."

Work highlights Akerman LLP represented C.L. Industries Inc. in negotiating an environmental indemnity agreement and the execution of a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement for the former Woodbury Chemical site.

Notable practitioners

Silvia Alderman is highly regarded for her contentious and noncontentious practice and she is considered an authority on environmental permitting and compliance. **Strengths:** *"Silvia is one of the most intelligent environmental attorneys and has a strong background of complex environmental issues."* **Robyn Neely** works on a range of environmental matters, including advising clients on regulatory issues. **Jason Lichtstein** (see p.1482) is active in brownfield redevelopments and environmental cleanups. **Strengths:** *"Jason is awesome. He is always on top of the details of the case."*

Bilzin Sumberg

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg is highly regarded for its strengths in wetlands issues, alongside noted expertise in contamination and remediation matters. The environmental team draws on the firm's land development and real estate practice to give comprehensive advice in development projects. It represents a range of public and private sector clients, with a focus on developers and property owners. The firm's expertise spans environmental aspects of transactional matters.

Strengths

"The attorneys at Bilzin are able to tackle complex projects in jurisdictions with restrictive environmental guidelines."

"Bilzin's team are skilled and knowledgeable while also being personable and professional."

"The firm has experienced attorneys with the capability to handle complex matters."

"The Bilzin team are very strong on environmental matters and are excellent at coming up with solutions to complex environmental problems."

Notable practitioners

Howard Nelson maintains his market-leading reputation in a range of matters, including permit appeals and project development. **Strengths:** "Howard is a well-known and sought-after attorney for clients with environmental issues." "Howard is very available and has great communication." "Howard is an excellent attorney in developing strategies to solve environmental issues." **Alexandra Barshel** is a well-regarded associate who works with regulators and environmental consultants in matters related to permitting, contaminations, and remediation. **Strengths:** "Alexandra is a smart and knowledgeable young attorney." "Alex has been consistently reliable in meeting deadlines, providing detailed reports and document input." "Alexandra's attention to detail is fantastic."

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields is a comprehensive practice, skilled in a number of environmental issues, including litigation, permitting and brownfield development. It houses a highly regarded bench of environment law specialists in offices across the state.

Notable practitioners

Laurel Lockett combines her real estate practice with environmental law, advising on the redevelopment of contaminated sites, among other matters. **Strengths:** "Laurel is top notch and one of the best environmental attorneys." "Laurel has a broad range of environmental expertise." **Neal McAliley** has a strong reputation for contentious and noncontentious environmental matters, with experience in advising on criminal investigations. **Strengths:** "Neal is masterful at developing case strategy and provides top-tier client service." **Joseph Ullo** is recognized for his extensive experience in brownfield development, permitting and environmental compliance. Ullo formerly served as the director of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Waste Management.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP has a renowned environmental group with deep experience handling complex environmental litigation, including class actions and mass tort claims. It also regularly advises clients on the environmental law aspects of corporate transactional matters, brownfield developments, wetlands permitting and energy and infrastructure projects. The team is able to draw on wider firm resources to provide a broad offering to clients in industries including energy, transportation and real estate.

Strengths

"The team learn the material and know the issues as well as the clients do and even better than testifying experts."

"Greenberg are extraordinary. The attorneys are brilliant, tireless and hungry to win."

"The GT team are very responsive and are capable of handling short fuse transactions as well as reg-

ulatory issues."

"The Greenberg Traurig team possesses a wealth of litigation experience involving complex technical and scientific issues."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP represented Miami-Dade Limestone Products Association in its Phase 2 wetland permit applications for the Lake Belt region.

Notable practitioners

Kerri Barsh is highly regarded for her leading practice, advising on matters including regulatory compliance relating to infrastructure development projects. **Strengths:** "Kerri is respected for her breadth of experience and success." **David Weinstein** is a well-regarded trial attorney. He is recognized for his litigation strength in matters including toxic tort class action cases as well as criminal environmental cases. **Strengths:** "David is a great adviser with a wealth of experience." "David is a brilliant lawyer and a wonderful person."

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. is a respected environment and land use group with statewide presence. It represents both public and private sector clients across a wide breadth of environmental legal matters. The firm's expertise covers brownfield redevelopments, environmental permitting and toxic tort litigation.

Strengths

"The lawyers at Stearns Weaver Miller have a high level of expertise and hold a high level of standards across multiple disciplines."

"The firm's quality of work is consistent, and the way they are able to think and anticipate minor details stands out."

"The Stearns team have impeccable research skills, are extremely detailed, and really work to find creative solutions."

Work highlights Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. represented The Mosaic Company in environmental regulatory work regarding Mosaic's phosphate mines and fertilizer production facilities across the State of Florida.

Notable practitioners

Reggie Bouthillier (see p.1459) combines his knowledge of land use with an environmental regulatory practice, which sees him advise on a range of contentious and noncontentious matters.

Strengths: "Reggie is wicked smart, patient and very, very strategic." **Jeffrey Collier** (see p.1462) is an experienced attorney with expertise in a range of environmental issues, including remediation, brownfield development and resource permitting.

Strengths: "Jeffrey is very knowledgeable in his field and has extensive experience working with different agencies." "Jeff is a legal and technical expert on several environmental regulatory subjects, procedures and resulting strategic guidance."

"Jeff is responsive, creative and has strong negotiation skills." "Jeffrey has an in-depth knowledge of existing regulations, proposed rules and legislation within the industry as well as the topic of endangered species." **Jacob Cremer** (see p.1464) has expertise in a variety of issues, including environmental permitting, remediations and wetlands disputes. **Strengths:** "Jake is a consummate pro-

fessional with vision that affords him unique capabilities to deliver desired results." "Jacob is a highly effective communicator and carries himself with poise and confidence." **Carl Eldred** (see p.1467) is noted for his experience in counseling clients on solid and hazardous waste management and compliance, waste cleanup, hazardous substance and pollutant releases and alternative fuel work. **Strengths:** "Carl has exceptional knowledge and helps present the information in a way that will get to the end product very quickly." "Carl is very bright and very knowledgeable."

Band 3

Berger Singerman

What the team is known for Berger Singerman offers a full range of environmental expertise, with strengths in areas including waste management, contaminated land matters, water law issues and clean energy. It regularly engages with a range of government agencies in dealing with a wide variety of regulatory matters. The firm also represents both public and private clients, including alternative fuel companies and real estate developers.

Strengths

"Berger Singerman attorneys routinely tackle complex matters successfully."

"The firm has deep expertise and the service level is excellent."

Work highlights Berger Singerman represented GT Homes in its purchase of a large piece of undeveloped land previously used as a golf course and agricultural land. The firm was brought in to seek closure from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to allow the acquisition and development of the land.

Notable practitioners

Dawn Meyers (see p.1484) has considerable regulatory experience and advises clients on environmental issues ranging from site contamination and wetlands matters to invasive species and marina development. **Strengths:** "Dawn is a strong lawyer and has great contacts in terms of decision makers at the DEP. She's excellent."

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight LLP is able to draw on nationwide resources to advise on a wide range of regulatory matters, including water resources and wetland work. It brings additional strength in complex environmental and administrative litigation. The firm advises clients before a host of agencies, including the Army Corps of Engineers and EPA. It has significant statewide presence, with seven office locations across the state of Florida.

Notable practitioners

Lawrence Sellers has an excellent reputation in this space with experience in a range of matters, including permitting and enforcement issues.

Lawrence Curtin often handles issues relating to air and water and is an expert in energy and power plant permitting. His clients include electricity providers.

Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC

What the team is known for Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC has significant experience in the environmental litigation space carrying out high-profile litigation in federal and state courts. It regularly acts for clients from electric utility and waste industries, among numerous other sectors. The firm has impressive knowledge of permitting issues and the Clean Water Act.

Strengths

"The team at Holtzman consists of creative and outside-the-box attorneys who seek to solve complex regulatory and legal matters."

"The team are very knowledgeable and responsive."

Work highlights Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC represented the City of Marathon, Florida in a Clean Water Act and federal Endangered Species Act citizen suit brought by an environmental organization in the Florida Keys.

Notable practitioners

Mohammad Jazil (see p.1476) has a strong litigation practice, which includes advising clients on the Clean Water Act, among other environmental matters. **Strengths:** *"Mo's knowledge and responsiveness are excellent." "Mohammad has a very intellectual approach to his federal practice and is very persuasive in litigation presentations."* **Gary Perko** (see p.1487) is notable for his strength in handling a wide variety of environmental disputes. He regularly defends utility companies facing enforcement actions by government agencies and also handles complex administrative law cases. **Strengths:** *"Gary is very smart and has great judgment as to what works and what doesn't." "Gary is one of the most experienced environment lawyers in Florida."* *"Gary's command of alternatives for cli-*

ents facing regulatory pressure in environmental permitting and enforcement cases is excellent."

Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant & Atkinson, P.A.

What the team is known for Oertel, Fernandez, Bryant & Atkinson, P.A has an established group of experienced attorneys who cover the full range of environmental, administrative and governmental issues. Based in Tallahassee, the firm represents a wide variety of clients, from private entities to state regulatory agencies.

Strengths

"The team at Oertel are helpful, knowledgeable and solution-oriented."

Notable practitioners

Segundo Fernandez is noted for his work on environmental regulation matters. **Ken Oertel** is a well-regarded attorney with expertise in a range of environmental matters. He has long-standing experience that spans regulatory advice and government contracting.

Other Ranked Lawyers

John Barkett (see p.1458) of Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP handles a range of matters and has considerable expertise in water quality issues and complex superfund work. **Strengths:** *"John is responsive, knowledgeable and listens well before responding with relevant guidance." "John's knowledge and expertise are endless."*

Ralph DeMeo of Guilday Law remains a prominent figure who advises on a wide range of environmental issues, including toxic torts and hazardous waste matters. His practice covers regulatory and compliance matters and litigation. **Strengths:**

"Ralph is very active on PFAS work and is a very good environmental attorney." "Ralph is incredibly professional and has a broad range of environmental expertise."

Michael Goldstein of The Goldstein Environmental Law Firm P.A. has a strong reputation in this market, particularly for his brownfield work. He regularly advises clients on the redevelopment of brownfield land. **Strengths:** *"Michael is an excellent lawyer who is very strong on brownfield matters."*

Frank Hearne of Mechanik Nuccio Hearne & Wester, P.A. is an experienced attorney and is well regarded by others in the market. He regularly advises on matters such as environmental cleanups.

Douglas Manson of MansonBolves has notable expertise in water law, including permitting and regulatory compliance.

Ron Noble of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC is recommended for his expertise on environmental permitting and regulatory compliance.

William Pence (see p.1487) of BakerHostetler LLP is recognized for his regulatory advice and often works with utility and pipeline companies.

Strengths: *"William is always on target, vigilant and very knowledgeable." "Bill is a very experienced and smart attorney who works extremely hard to come up with creative solutions."*

William Preston is noted for his impressive environmental practice, which includes advising on permitting and compliance. **Strengths:** *"William is a very good attorney who is strong on regulatory and administrative work."*

Irene Kennedy Quincey of Pavese Law Firm handles a broad range of environmental matters, including water and wetlands work.

Healthcare

Band 1

McDermott Will & Emery LLP

What the team is known for McDermott Will & Emery provides top-level transactional counsel and integrated regulatory support to clients, such as private equity companies, with a focus on large and complex deals. The team assists clients with acquisitions and advice related to physician practices and is able to draw on a network of lawyers to offer major health insurers and health systems a collaborative nationwide service. The firm also represents clients in healthcare sector investigations and litigation.

Strengths

"The McDermott team was available and responsive at all times, providing us with informative service

throughout all transactions."

"McDermott always provide very strong advice when dealing with difficult and complex situations, and their attorneys are user-friendly in explaining difficult concepts."

"McDermott are smart with a unique ability to think like businessmen. They have many great specialists."

Work highlights McDermott Will & Emery LLP represented Martis Capital, a healthcare private equity firm, in its acquisition of a leading venture capital firm.

Notable practitioners

Ira Coleman (see p.1462) provides counsel to a broad range of clients, including physician practice management groups and private equity firms. He provides high-quality advice on acqui-

sitions, sales and financings. **Strengths:** *"Ira sets a client-focused approach within the firm."*

"Ira was very responsive and gave us a top-notch team." "Ira is a force in healthcare. He's always at the cutting edge." **Gary Scott Davis** (see p.1464) has significant expertise handling high-value sales and joint venture formations. His client list includes healthcare centers and nonprofit health systems. **Strengths:** *"Gary is a great managed care transactional lawyer."*

Lester Perling (see p.1488) is recommended for his expertise in healthcare litigation, including allegations of healthcare fraud and kickback claims. He is also highlighted for his knowledge of transactions. **Strengths:** *"Lester is very knowledgeable in the space and gives a good overall strategy from day one." "He has deep, specialized and pragmatic Florida regulatory advice,*

Healthcare
Leading Firms
Band 1
McDermott Will & Emery LLP
Band 2
DLA Piper LLP (US)
Foley & Lardner LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Band 3
Akerman LLP
Hogan Lovells US LLP
LashGoldberg
Band 4
Carlton Fields
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Gunster
Polsinelli PC
Smith Hulsey & Busey
Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

* Indicates individual with profile.
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

particularly around issues affecting providers and pharmacies.” **Jerry Sokol** has a strong reputation for representing providers and private equity houses in strategic acquisitions. He is particularly noted for his work in the physician practice management space. **Strengths:** “Jerry is very good.” **Adam** (see p.1491) **Rogers** (see p.1491) has significant experience representing clients in M&A transactions, as well as handling regulatory concerns. He is particularly noted for his strength in health IT matters. **Strengths:** “Adam Rogers is smart, calm, reasonable and knows when to draw the line.” “Adam is client-focused and commercial.” **Jennifer Vecchio** handles a wide range of transactional matters, with notable competency in matters involving ambulatory surgeries. **Strengths:** “She is very experienced and very knowledgeable.” “Jennifer is very good.” **Dana Dombey** (see p.1466) is building a strong healthcare practice, which includes handling complex transactions and regulatory matters. Her clients include private equity funds, ambulatory surgery centers and physician practices. **Strengths:** “Dana is user-friendly, always available and responsive.” “Dana is a phenomenal strategic adviser. She is oriented to achieving my goals and makes sure that I receive relevant and practical advice from other specialists in the firm.” **Bernard Grondin** (see p.1472) is frequently sought by private equity clients to handle healthcare sector acquisitions. **Strengths:** “Bernie is outstanding. He is technically proficient while also being elite in client service. He is our go-to for difficult-to-solve problems.” **Jamie Gelfman** (see p.1470) is recognized for her experience in regulatory and compliance matters, including in reimbursement, licensure, Medicare/Medicaid, fraud and abuse and privacy. **Strengths:** “She was inventive and forward-thinking on a complex M&A transaction with healthcare regulatory issues.” “Jamie was a pleasure to work with and very realistic in her expectations and explanations of complex legal avenues.”

Healthcare
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Erde Joanne B <i>Duane Morris LLP (ORL)</i> ◊
Segal Mike <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP</i>
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Coleman Ira <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Currier Maria <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Davis Gary Scott <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Hartsfield Shannon B. <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Imperato Gabriel L. <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough</i>
Kaye Joshua <i>DLA Piper LLP (US)</i>
Lacktman Nathaniel <i>Foley & Lardner LLP</i>
Lamb Bruce D <i>Gunster</i>
Perling Lester J. <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Smith Craig <i>Hogan Lovells US LLP</i>
Band 2
Chiu Charmaine <i>Smith Hulsey & Busey</i>
Dix Martin R <i>Akerman LLP</i>
Goldberg Martin B <i>LashGoldberg</i> *
Kennedy III James J <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Lash Alan D <i>LashGoldberg</i> *
Sokol Jerry J <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i>
Band 3
Bachman Radha <i>FisherBroyles LLP (ORL)</i> ◊
Bittman Michael J. <i>Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough</i>
Cherniga Michael J <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>
Davis Kirk S <i>Akerman LLP</i>
Ecenia Stephen <i>Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell (ORL)</i> ◊
Ferrante Thomas <i>Foley & Lardner LLP</i>
Frazier Seann M. <i>Parker, Hudson, Rainer (ORL)</i> ◊ *
Grigas Steve <i>Akerman LLP</i>
Helton Jeanne <i>Smith Hulsey & Busey</i>
Levinson Michael P <i>Berger Singerman (ORL)</i> ◊
Rogers Adam <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Russo Stephanie A. <i>Russo Law and Mediation (ORL)</i> ◊
Vecchio Jennifer <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i>
Wilson Everett <i>Polsinelli PC</i>
Band 4
Bronson Ardit <i>DLA Piper LLP (US)</i> *
Carman Stephanie <i>GrayRobinson, PA (ORL)</i> ◊ *
Dillon William <i>Gunster</i>
Dombey Dana <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Donovan, Esq. Kimberly <i>Squire Patton Boggs (ORL)</i> ◊
Fernandez Jack E. <i>Zuckerman Spaeder LLP</i>
Fineberg Justin <i>LashGoldberg</i> *
Garcia Maria D. <i>Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton (ORL)</i> ◊ *
Gennett Mike <i>Polsinelli PC</i>
Grondin Bernard <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Grossman Allen R. <i>Grossman Furlow & Bayo LLC (ORL)</i> ◊
Premo Kathleen <i>Epstein Becker & Green PC (ORL)</i> ◊ *
Sass Russell <i>DLA Piper LLP (US)</i>
Schick David L <i>BakerHostetler LLP (ORL)</i> ◊
Williams Robert <i>Burr & Forman LLP (ORL)</i> ◊
Wilson Marisa <i>Polsinelli PC</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Gelfman Jamie <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Goodman Rachel <i>Foley & Lardner LLP</i>

Band 2

DLA Piper LLP (US)

What the team is known for DLA Piper LLP has a versatile team offering a broad range of transactional support, as well as experienced litigation representation. The firm is called upon by a diverse range of clients acting and investing in

the healthcare space such as private equity funds, insurance companies and physician groups. Other areas of experience include contentious matters relating to healthcare, including class action claims, reimbursement disputes and alleged violations of HIPAA.

Strengths

“DLA Piper has a full spectrum of knowledge and experience and provides business-proactive advice.”

“The team is very accessible. We are able to directly communicate with partners and associates without delay.”

“DLA Piper is exceptional. The team’s ability to work through very complex matters is outstanding.”

Work highlights DLA Piper LLP represented CareMax in its \$135 million acquisition of Steward Health Care.

Notable practitioners

Joshua Kaye is highly regarded for his M&A and transactional due diligence-focused healthcare practice. He is particularly noted for his work on behalf of private equity firms and healthcare providers. **Strengths:** “Joshua Kaye is superb. He deals with highly sophisticated deal structuring in a creative way.” “Joshua Kaye’s business orientation stands out. He has rigorous expertise which reaches beyond technical application of the law.”

Ardith Bronson (see p.1460) acts for national payors on a range of healthcare-related litigation issues. Reimbursement disputes are a key area of her work, in particular matters concerning ERISA payments. **Strengths:** “Ardith is a phenomenal writer and a very good strategist.” “Ardith is a smart, skilled lawyer.” “Ardith provides excellent client service. She is extremely sophisticated and has superb commercial vision.”

Russell Sass works on a range of matters within the healthcare transactional space. His clients include providers, private equity groups and other investment firms. **Strengths:** “Russell Sass is great at managing clients and taking complicated regulatory issues and breaking them down, which is really helpful on deals.” “Russell Sass is very helpful and knowledgeable in the medical/dental space.”

Foley & Lardner LLP

What the team is known for Foley & Lardner LLP is highlighted and recommended across the market for handling the intersection between healthcare and technology, and in particular regulatory and transactional work related to telemedicine. The team is well versed in healthcare regulatory and compliance work, including anti-kickback and fraud and abuse matters. The firm often appears on behalf of clients in litigation matters, in appeals and before regulatory bodies.

Strengths

“Foley & Lardner always has the best service and highest level of expertise of the firms we work with.” “Foley & Lardner are first class when it comes to telehealth regulatory issues.”

“Their guidance is unique and tailored to clients’ immediate needs and goals.”

Work highlights Foley & Lardner provided regulatory and corporate advice to Thirty Madison during its acquisition of The Pill Club.

Notable practitioners

Nathaniel Lacktman is an expert healthcare

attorney. He regularly advises on large-scale regulatory and operational matters and is considered to be a leader in the telehealth space. **Strengths:** “Nathaniel Lacktman is a first-rate lawyer. He thinks ahead to what the digital health space will look like, as well as providing tremendous legal services.” “Nate is the quintessential ‘lawyer’s lawyer,’ with a deep expertise in the law. He cares deeply about his clients and the telehealth industry.” “He is keenly aware of commercial goals and helps us think through complex legal matters with a risk-based approach.” **Thomas Ferrante** is noted for his work advising clients on a range of regulatory and compliance issues, as well as providing counsel on telehealth matters. **Strengths:** “Thomas Ferrante is an excellent business lawyer; he can combine legal analysis with business needs in a helpful way.” “TJ is an excellent technical lawyer with a strong command of the law.” “TJ is knowledgeable in the healthcare regulatory and Medicare space.”

Rachel Goodman is recognized for her experience in telemedicine and digital health. She also represents her clients in a variety of regulatory and compliance matters, including fraud and abuse, anti-kickback laws, Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, and providing counsel for investors and startups. **Strengths:** “Rachel is truly a confidant, a strategic problem solver and, of course, an exceptional lawyer.” “Rachel is a terrific resource for telehealth matters.” “Rachel is incredibly intelligent and knowledgeable about all aspects of healthcare law.”

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight offers a sizable group with wide-ranging healthcare expertise. The team is able to advise on all aspects of transactional healthcare work, with an active role as transaction counsel for healthcare and private equity companies in Florida. The firm also demonstrates impressive experience in litigation and regulatory compliance and licensing matters. Team members additionally act on HIPAA and data privacy matters.

Strengths

“Their work is sophisticated, precise and aims to accomplish the corporate goals of their client without overcomplicating transactions.”

“Holland & Knight has experts in all fields and is a full-service healthcare firm.”

“Holland & Knight is my go-to law firm for handling complex healthcare transactions.”

Work highlights Holland & Knight LLP successfully represented an inpatient treatment facility in an investigation and response to a data breach.

Notable practitioners

Maria Currier is highly regarded for her broad healthcare practice handling transactional matters for an array of clients, as well as managing regulatory work, including telehealth issues.

Strengths: “Maria Currier is an extraordinarily good lawyer.” **Shannon Hartsfield** is a healthcare lawyer known for her expertise in HIPAA, data privacy and regulatory compliance matters. She acts for a range of healthcare providers, pharmaceutical companies and medtech companies.

Strengths: “Shannon is a great attorney and very kind. She can synthesize HIPAA laws and is very practical in her approach.” “Shannon is good at ana-

lyzing the particular situation and providing appropriate guidance or advocacy.”

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

What the team is known for Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP is a highly regarded team handling regulatory compliance work, including internal investigations, whistle-blower claims and fraud issues. The firm frequently represents providers during litigation and disputes with governmental agencies and offers additional expertise in patient privacy matters and complex transactional arrangements.

Strengths

“Each of Nelson Mullins’ attorneys has specialized expertise relating to Florida’s complex healthcare regulatory scheme and multiple years of experience.”

“Nelson Mullins were a great help and had broad breath of knowledge.”

“Their advice has been exceptional in a very complex situation.”

Work highlights Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP assisted Belong Health in creating a REACH Accountable Care Organisation.

Notable practitioners

Mike Segal has extensive experience in the healthcare space. He handles a range of transactional matters and is particularly expert in accountable care organization matters. **Strengths:** “Mike is fantastic.” **Gabriel Imperato** is recognized for his expertise in whistle-blower investigations and fraud and abuse issues. He is particularly well known in the market for his extensive compliance practice. **Strengths:** “Gabriel is an excellent counselor on compliance matters which involve violations of the Anti-Kickback Statute. Gabe is very well connected and gives very good advice.”

Michael Bittman acts for a variety of clients in the healthcare sector in contentious cases.

Strengths: “Michael is an integral part of our team and works to get us high-level solutions in a very timely manner.” “Mike is an excellent investigator. He gets to the bottom of whatever, looking at things efficiently and carefully. He provides thorough reports of his findings.”

Band 3

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP has a multidisciplinary group that demonstrates strength across a broad array of healthcare matters, including regulatory compliance, insurance and transactional issues. The firm’s expertise includes pharmaceutical licensing, corporate restructuring and M&A matters. The team additionally has experience in restructuring and insolvency proceedings.

Strengths

“We have received strong, expert guidance and rapid service from Akerman.”

Work highlights Akerman provided guidance to Catholic Health in a number of areas including drafting and negotiating physician practice acquisition documents, employment agreements and professional services arrangements.

Notable practitioners

Martin Dix advises clients such as pharmaceutical companies and healthcare providers on regulatory pharmaceutical matters, including structuring issues and licensing concerns.

Strengths: “Martin Dix is a go-to expert in pharmacy law.” **Kirk Davis** is recognized for his work across a range of issues, including regulatory and transactional matters. **Steve Grigas** advises on regulatory and compliance matters, including as part of Chapter 11 filings. He is noted for his Medicaid experience. **Strengths:** “Steve Grigas is very well versed in managed care organizations and is my go-to for any kind of contract expertise.”

Hogan Lovells US LLP

What the team is known for Hogan Lovells offers expertise across the full spectrum of healthcare matters from M&A transactions to reimbursement and litigation mandates. The firm routinely advises a variety of major healthcare providers, health plans and third-party billing companies and has a significant focus on compliance matters.

Strengths

“The Hogan Lovells group is specialized, paying particular attention to detail and client needs. They are quick in responding.”

“Hogan’s team had a strong depth/breadth of experience with respect to Medicare regulatory issues.”

Work highlights Hogan Lovells successfully obtained dismissal of a federal court lawsuit, for Centene Corporation, alleging violations the Medicaid Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Notable practitioners

Craig Smith is highly sought after by healthcare providers and managed care groups to handle complex litigation matters. He is also noted for his work advising on M&A and restructuring matters.

Strengths: “Craig provided timely and thoughtful legal/regulatory advice.” “Craig is always a pleasure to work with.”

LashGoldberg

What the team is known for LashGoldberg is a well-respected healthcare boutique highly recommended for its experience in litigation, including reimbursement and insurance disputes. The firm represents a broad spectrum of clients, including providers, nonprofit and for-profit hospitals and physician groups, and regularly appears before both state and federal courts. The team offers additional expertise in matters arising from the False Claims Act.

Strengths

“The firm has wonderful partners who are brilliant in court. They have a very deep bench.”

“The team’s work product quality is fantastic.”

“Their guidance is thorough, well thought out, practical and timely.”

Work highlights LashGoldberg successfully secured \$10.8 million for TeamHealth Affiliates in Tampa against UnitedHealthcare’s refusal to pay reasonable rates to clinicians who treated its insureds.

Notable practitioners

Martin Goldberg (see p.1471) represents clients in healthcare litigation, including reimbursement claims and False Claims Act disputes. **Strengths:**

“Martin has particular expertise in managing and navigating government investigations.” “Martin is a very astute healthcare lawyer and an exceptional litigator.” “Martin is the gold standard.” **Alan Lash** (see p.1480) is recognized for his capabilities in litigation and arbitration in the healthcare sector. He has particular expertise in reimbursement and contractual disputes. **Strengths:** “Alan is an excellent attorney with a very agreeable disposition. Alan is a particularly effective oral advocate as he has a knack for distilling complex issues to their essence.” “Alan is a good strategist and litigator and is responsive. He has expertise in managed care contracting terms.” **Justin Fineberg** (see p.1468) has significant experience representing a range of healthcare clients, including physician groups and healthcare systems, in complex litigation. **Strengths:** “There is no lawyer that I trust more to handle our complex litigations against health insurance companies than Justin Fineberg.” “Justin is absolutely brilliant, he is a wonderful strategist.”

Band 4

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields has an experienced team offering a high-quality service covering numerous aspects of healthcare business transactions and is noted in the market for its reputation on corporate matters within the sector. The team frequently acts for hospitals, clinics and surgery centers, as well as academic medical facilities and health insurers.

Notable practitioners

James Kennedy has a broad practice encompassing corporate transactions and provider operations. **Strengths:** “James is a prolific healthcare attorney in Florida.”

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP offers an impressive breadth of healthcare expertise from transactional, regulatory compliance and operational advice. The firm frequently represents providers and private equity funds through the course of acquisitions and divestitures in the healthcare space.

Strengths

“Greenberg Traurig understands the commerciality of our business.”

“Greenberg has expertise in lots of different subject matters in lots of different areas, and a deep and robust bench.”

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP represented GroveCourt Capital Partners in connection with its acquisition Premier Radiology Services, a teleradiology service provider.

Notable practitioners

Michael Cherniga has a strong focus on sales and acquisitions in the healthcare sector. His broad client base encompasses acute care providers and managed care platforms. **Strengths:** “He’s a go-to at Greenberg for healthcare matters.”

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster is a well-regarded healthcare practice with significant experience advising clients on regulatory matters at

both state and federal level, including licensure matters, tax issues and fraud and abuse. The firm is also recognized for its experience in handling corporate transactions and notes offerings.

Strengths

“Gunster is well equipped to address the variety of issues that are presented to them.”

“Gunster’s attorneys are responsive, efficient and professional.”

“We’ve had plenty of complex issues and all of them have been very ably solved by Gunster.”

Work highlights Gunster represented 37 physician shareholders of Medical Specialists of Palm Beach in an investment by Ascend Capital Partners.

Notable practitioners

Bruce Lamb is highly regarded for his work advising providers on regulatory issues around expansions and the establishment of new hospitals. In addition he acts for clients on transactions in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** “Bruce is well versed in healthcare. I have always been impressed when working with him.” “I have been very pleased with the issues and outcomes of the matters that Bruce has handled for me.” **William Dillon** often represents healthcare providers in complex compliance matters. He has particular expertise in data privacy and security issues in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** “William is a great HIPAA expert.” “Bill is very responsive and very thorough.”

Polsinelli PC

What the team is known for Polsinelli is noted for its work within the healthcare transactional space, including its ability to handle the related regulatory aspects. The firm’s clients include insurance agencies, health plans and providers. The team also assists with telemedicine regulations.

Strengths

“They are a great team.”

“They are very good lawyers.”

Work highlights Polsinelli served as lead M&A counsel on behalf of a hospital system, Lee Memorial Health System, and its subsidiary, Best Care Assurance, in connection with their sale of a Medicaid health insurance plan to Anthem.

Notable practitioners

Everett Wilson comes recommended for his wide-ranging transactional expertise, which sees him act for both SPACs and healthcare providers. His experience includes handling the arising regulatory concerns. **Strengths:** “Everett is a good lawyer, and a mover and a shaker.” **Mike Gennett**

is known for his representation of healthcare providers in Medicare and Medicaid disputes, government investigations, False Claims Act qui tam cases and privacy/HIPAA matters. **Strengths:** “Mike is great. He is a very good lawyer and very knowledgeable.” **Marisa Wilson** offers regulatory and compliance counsel in connection to M&A activity in the healthcare space.

Smith Hulsey & Busey

What the team is known for Smith Hulsey & Busey undertakes notable work on behalf of large health systems across Florida. The team represents physician groups and clinics in a broad array of matters, such as complex joint ventures, Med-

icaid reimbursements and the regulatory issues around hospital expansions and healthcare sector transactions. The firm is also well versed in data protection matters, billing issues and medical malpractice cases.

Strengths

“Smith Hulsey & Busey’s partners are cognizant of important commercial issues facing the healthcare industry. They provide quality work with a quick turnaround.”

“Smith Hulsey & Busey responded quickly, thoroughly and with attention to detail.”

“Smith Hulsey & Busey are a very comprehensive firm for today’s multifaceted and evolving risk environment. They have a very deep bench.”

Work highlights Smith Hulsey & Busey served as outside general counsel for Flagler Health+ during its affiliation with UF Health.

Notable practitioners

Charmaine Chiu is noted for handling a range of issues, including the regulatory aspects of acquisitions, joint ventures and hospital development projects. She also advises on data protection matters and contractual issues. **Strengths:** “Charmaine is an outstanding and sophisticated lawyer who is dedicated to providing excellent client service.” “Charmaine is very easy to work with. She hears our needs and looks at situations from all aspects and gives legal opinions of any question we ask for.” “She is so intelligent, I highly recommend her.” **Jeanne Helton** is commended for her work across a range of matters including healthcare M&A, misbilling litigation and allegations of medical malpractice. **Strengths:** “Jeanne Helton is friendly and collaborative.”

Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

What the team is known for Zuckerman Spaeder LLP is a respected healthcare practice with significant experience representing clients in high-stakes disputes. The team is particularly adept at qui tam and False Claims Act litigation, as well as acting on large-scale investigations. The firm attracts a broad client base across the sector.

Strengths

“I was impressed with their ability to address the issues presented and to collaborate with our regulatory guidance to distill the issues into a defense position.”

“Zuckerman Spaeder are laser-focused and very good at what they do.”

Notable practitioners

Jack Fernandez is a go-to attorney for healthcare entities facing False Claims Act suits. His experience includes both white-collar criminal mandates and civil actions. **Strengths:** “Jack Fernandez’s legal skills are deep and sophisticated. He understands the nuances of the business environment and is a very strong legal strategist.” “One of Jack’s great strengths is his ability to look beyond the immediate crisis and to offer advice that could avoid unexpected pitfalls.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Radha Bachman of FisherBroyles LLP has a broad practice handling a variety of transactional and regulatory matters. She provides counsel to

healthcare providers, with an emphasis on physician groups. **Strengths:** "Radha Bachman is courageous and brilliant."

Stephanie Carman (see p.1462) of GrayRobinson, PA has significant experience in regulatory compliance, healthcare litigation and licensing matters. Her broad client base includes hospitals and academic medical centers. **Strengths:** "Stephanie Carman is an outstanding and very knowledgeable collaborator." "Stephanie has extraordinary people skills." "She is an excellent lawyer who gives good legal advice while keeping things simple and to the point."

Kimberly Donovan of Squire Patton Boggs leads the firm's healthcare group. She is well versed in acting for healthcare clients in arbitration and litigation matters. Her expertise covers a wide range of issues including ERISA, Medicaid and HIPAA.

Strengths: "Kimberly is a very good lawyer and good advocate."

Stephen Ecenia of Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell & Hoffman, P.A is recognized for his strong practice in healthcare litigation, as well as in licensure and compliance matters. **Strengths:** "Stephen Ecenia is a very knowledgeable healthcare lawyer."

Joanne Erde of Duane Morris LLP is highly regarded for her work in Medicare and Medicaid compliance, with particular competence in reimbursement.

Seann Frazier (see p.1469) of Parker, Hudson,

Rainer & Dobbs LLP is a litigator who is noted for his representation of healthcare facilities in policy disputes and administrative challenges. He is also recognized for his work handling regulatory and licensing matters. **Strengths:** "Seann Frazier is an exceptionally capable attorney who achieves extraordinary results for his clients." "Seann is a bright attorney with a great deal of focus on state regulatory issues." "Seann is a true lawyer's lawyer. He knows what needs to be done and does it. He is thoughtful and a 'doer'."

Maria Garcia (see p.1469) of Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton has developed a strong practice advising healthcare providers on managed care reimbursement disputes. **Strengths:** "Maria is a force unto herself. She is calm, thorough, intelligent and strategic."

"Maria is very knowledgeable on healthcare law issues."

Allen Grossman of Grossman Furrow & Bayo LLC is recognized for his representation of clients in a variety of healthcare regulatory issues and disputes, including Florida state licensure matters.

Strengths: "Allen is extremely knowledgeable, well connected and efficient." "Allen is really bright and talented."

Michael Levinson of Berger Singerman covers a broad range of regulatory and transactional matters for a range of healthcare industry participants, including medical device companies.

Strengths: "He is very knowledgeable and is able to take complex issues and simplify them. I feel valued as a client and rely on them for complex issues."

Kathleen Premo (see p.1488) leads Epstein Becker & Green PC's Florida healthcare practice. She acts on a wide span of regulatory, compliance and organizational matters. **Strengths:** "Kathleen Premo is a fabulous lawyer. She is an extraordinarily good worker and gets such good results."

Stephanie Russo of Russo Law and Mediation is experienced in handling a broad range of operational matters and regulatory compliance for some of the nation's largest healthcare providers.

David Schick of BakerHostetler LLP advises both individual physicians and medical groups on contractual matters and transactions. He often advises on employment agreements.

Robert Williams of Burr & Forman LLP is an expert litigator who regularly represents healthcare entities in investigations and enforcement proceedings. He is also noted for his handling of regulatory compliance mandates and transactions. **Strengths:** "Robert Williams is easy to deal with." "Rob was great to work with and provided excellent, intelligent guidance throughout." "Robert is a noted and experienced practitioner and a committed lawyer."

Immigration

Immigration
Leading Firms
Band 1
Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli & Pratt
Band 2
Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP
Gunster
Rifkin and Fox-Iscoff PA
Band 3
Akerman LLP
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli & Pratt

What the team is known for Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli & Pratt is a full-service immigration practice with exceptional litigation skills, especially regarding appeals. It has comprehensive knowledge of complex immigration issues including

Immigration
Eminent Practitioners
Eminent Practitioners
Gonzalez Enrique Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy
Leading Individuals
Star individuals
Kurzban Ira J Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli & Pratt
Band 1
Fox-Iscoff Tammy Rifkin and Fox-Iscoff PA
Kramer Mary E Law Office of Mary E Kramer, P.A. (ORL) ◊
Pratt John Patrick Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli & Pratt
Tobocman Sarah Lea Gunster
Band 2
Bettridge Scott Cozen O'Connor (ORL) ◊ *
Holt Estrella Jennifer Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen
Hoyos Maite Maite Hoyos PA (ORL) ◊
Ribeiro Mariana R Gunster
Saleh Anis N Saleh & Associates (ORL) ◊
Tetzeli Helena Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzeli & Pratt
Band 3
Alden Christine J. Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
Casablanca Maria Akerman LLP
Up-and-coming individuals
Borovska Yova Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
Osorio Beatriz Osorio P.A. (ORL) ◊ *
Villalba Jacqueline Harper Meyer LLP (ORL) ◊
Associates to watch
Gonzalez Ana Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP
Nortelus Anielka Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy

removal defense, detention hearings and all types of visa petitions. Its clients range from private individuals and investors to multinational companies throughout the USA and worldwide, including Europe, South America and the Middle East. Its partners have published widely, including articles for the Florida Bar and the Immigration Law Sourcebook.

Strengths

"Their attorneys are excellent."

Notable practitioners

Ira Kurzban continues to be regarded as an outstanding figure in the field. He handles corporate and immigration matters as well as individual cases, and receives particular praise for his federal litigation experience. **Strengths:** *"Ira is incredibly talented and well known."* **John Patrick Pratt** is well regarded for his broad range of expertise which covers employment-based visa issues as well as deportation cases and federal court litigation. **Strengths:** *"John is one of those people that you can call about the most obscure section of law and he will know the answer – he is a walking encyclopedia."* **Helena Tetzeli** handles a wide range of immigration disputes and maintains a very strong reputation in this field throughout Florida. **Strengths:** *"Helena is an incredible litigator."* *"Helena is a very good attorney, she is very knowledgeable."*

Band 2

Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP

What the team is known for Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP has a comprehensive practice in Miami advising on all areas of immigration law, including immigrant and nonimmigrant visas and business compliance. Its clients include businesses in the technology, hospitality and healthcare sectors. It is particularly experienced handling immigration-related M&A due diligence. It advises a number of higher education institutions on SEVP and SEVIS compliance.

Strengths

"They always respond with solutions to complex matters and guidance on the best course of action." *"The team is very knowledgeable and they have a number of team members that are always available to help."*

"The team is always on top of details and they are reliable."

"The Fragomen team can handle complex and sophisticated matters."

Notable practitioners

Enrique Gonzalez is the cochair of Fragomen. He is experienced in a range of immigration issues, including EB-5 applications and I-9 audits. He is held in particularly high esteem for his work on behalf of hospitality clients and higher education institutions. **Strengths:** *"He is an excellent communicator."* *"Enrique is a very good attorney, he knows what he is doing."* **Lance Kaplan** is cochair of Fragomen. He has deep immigration expertise and frequently advises corporations on global mobility programs. He is based in the firm's Miami office. **Strengths:** *"Lance has a strong sense of business acumen, coupled with an eye for client*

service." **Jennifer Holt Estrella** receives considerable recognition for her wide-ranging immigration practice, which encompasses regular advice on H-2B programs. **Strengths:** *"She is a master of US immigration law."* *"Jennifer has really incredible knowledge and she is very responsive."* **Ana Gonzalez** handles a wide array of immigration matters, and has experience preparing Temporary Protected Status applications, Employment Authorization Documents and O-1 approvals on behalf of her clients. **Strengths:** *"Ana always delivers. She provides stellar service and the breadth of her knowledge is amazing. She listens to clients and provides creative alternate solutions when needed."* *"Ana's level of professionalism and knowledge is stunning."* **Anielka Nortelus** is experienced in assisting clients with immigrant and nonimmigrant visa petitions. **Strengths:** *"Anielka is very responsive and always provides excellent guidance on all immigration matters."*

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster has highly experienced business immigration specialists with extensive expertise in both immigrant and nonimmigrant visa matters. It is adept at handling a variety of immigration issues for national and international clients, including those in Latin America. It has particular strength in customizing compliance programs and advising on the immigration consequences of M&A. It represents clients from a range of industries such as healthcare, technology and manufacturing.

Strengths

"Gunster excels at complex cases and handles them with ease. They have a deep and highly experienced team."

"It is amazing how they can assist clients from many different industries with such specific immigration issues. They are very knowledgeable in their field of practice."

"Gunster really take initiative. They provide a very proactive and responsive service."

Notable practitioners

Sarah Lea Tobocman is a leading immigration attorney and co-chairs the immigration practice at Gunster. **Strengths:** *"Sarah is very knowledgeable about a wide range of US immigration matters. I have also found her to be very responsive and commercial in her approach."* *"Sarah has a deep background of experience that she pulls from. This allows us to overcome obstacles, speeds up more routine processes and can make a confusing situation seem really simple."* *"Sarah anticipates our needs, spots issues, and is always creating strong work product that we can trust and depend on."* *"Sarah is very detail-oriented."* **Mariana Ribeiro** is particularly skilled in handling employment-based immigration issues, often working on visa matters and I-9 compliance. **Strengths:** *"Mariana is an excellent attorney."* *"She is very impressive and is always available. Mariana gives great advice."* *"Mariana does a great job of following up and helping us stay organized."*

Rifkin and Fox-Isicoff PA

What the team is known for Rifkin and Fox-Isicoff PA is a renowned boutique with a strong focus on business immigration, including the full spectrum

of visa and extraordinary ability petitions. The firm is regularly engaged in removal work and court litigation for clients across the USA, Latin America, Europe and Asia. It is also adept at naturalization and family-based immigration petitions.

Notable practitioners

Tammy Fox-Isicoff is highly regarded for her litigation experience, frequently representing individuals in immigration and naturalization matters. Her practice frequently sees her counsel clients in the entertainment sector. **Strengths:** *"Tammy is an incredible attorney."* **Larry Rifkin** is highly experienced in the field of immigration law. In addition to this work he also handles matters pertaining to nationality law.

Band 3

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP is a full-service firm with a strong immigration practice. It offers expertise in obtaining nonimmigrant and immigrant visas and compliance audits. It is experienced in handling EB-5 investor issues, and also adept at advising on family-based immigration matters.

Strengths

"Akerman has an excellent team that responds to all correspondence promptly. They are very knowledgeable and I would highly recommend them for any immigration matter."

"The team provides excellent response times and service."

Work highlights Akerman LLP advised Adventist Health System in winning over 500 immigrant petitions for alien workers, on behalf of various Adventist Health facilities throughout the USA.

Notable practitioners

Maria Casablanca handles a broad range of immigration issues, including EB-5 visas and I-9 compliance matters. She is chair of the immigration planning and compliance group at Akerman.

Strengths: *"Maria is highly responsive, practical and efficient in terms of providing services to clients located in different jurisdictions."* *"Maria is a very good attorney. She is very helpful and gracious with her time."* *"Maria has a great reputation in the industry."* **Denise Gavica Perez** offers wide-ranging skills in immigration law matters, advising on both immigrant and nonimmigrant employment-based visas for clients in the healthcare, technology and financial services sectors.

Strengths: *"Denise has been an excellent partner. You can count on her to provide timely advice and recommendations."* *"She provides excellent service, knowledge and response times."* *"Denise is an excellent team leader."*

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

What the team is known for Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC retains a strong reputation in Florida's business immigration market, advising clients from a variety of fields, including education, healthcare and sports. It covers the full range of immigration services, with notable expertise in E-2 and EB-5 work, I-9 compliance, labor certifications and PERM. It counsels individuals as well as companies, including a number of entertainers

and athletes.

Strengths

"They are very knowledgeable on the subject and deliver great value for money."

Work highlights Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney successfully submitted various EB-1A and EB-1B applications on behalf of physicians, researchers and healthcare technology professionals.

Notable practitioners

Christine Alden acts for an array of domestic and international corporates on employee mobility matters, as well as acting for individuals on self-sponsoring extraordinary ability petitions.

Strengths: *"Christine is a great attorney."* **Dilip Patel** is frequently retained by clients to advise on immigration matters ranging from PERM certifications and green cards to extraordinary ability petitions. He is further experienced in handling H1-B visa applications.

Strengths: *"Dilip is very knowledgeable on immigration matters and he is very responsive."* **Yova Borovska** regularly assists clients on a range of immigration matters. This includes advising clients on permanent residence petitions and non-immigrant visas.

Strengths: *"Yova is very knowledgeable about immigration matters. She is able to guide us in the best direction to select the type of immigration visa that will meet our needs."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Scott Bettridge (see p.1459) of Cozen O'Connor advises corporate clients on a broad array of immigration matters, including I-9 audits and L-1 applications. He is further adept at advising on nonimmigrant visas including O-1 applications.

Strengths: *"Scott is a brilliant professional."* *"Scott is very smart."*

Jeffrey Devore of Devore Law Group is well versed in advising clients on business immigration and employer compliance matters.

Strengths: *"Jeffrey is a good attorney, he is very smart."*

Michael Harris of HARRISLAW is adept at advising on EB-5 investor visas, as well as assisting with deportation defense matters.

Strengths: *"Michael is a great lawyer who truly cares about his clients."*

Michael Harris of HARRISLAW is adept at advising on EB-5 investor visas, as well as assisting with deportation defense matters.

Strengths: *"Michael is very knowledgeable; he is a walking encyclopedia."*

Eugenio Hernandez of Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Garro LLP represents professionals, investors and entrepreneurs in a wide range of business immigration matters.

Maite Hoyos is recommended for her immigration work on behalf of clients in the entertainment industry.

She regularly advises on visa issues, among other matters.

Mary Kramer is highly esteemed for her work on complex litigation cases. Her immigration practice has a particular emphasis on matters relating to criminal law and highly sensitive asylum cases.

Strengths: *"Mary is an incredible attorney."* *"She is very well respected for her work in criminal immigration."*

Sonia Oliveri of Rimon, P.C. has deep experience in EB-5 investor visas, frequently acting for individual investors. She draws her broader client base from a variety of sectors, including healthcare and construction.

Strengths: *"I was impressed by Sonia's responsiveness, as well as her attention to detail, fast turnaround time and multilingual abilities."*

Sonia Oliveri of Rimon, P.C. has deep experience in EB-5 investor visas, frequently acting for individual investors. She draws her broader client base from a variety of sectors, including healthcare and construction.

Strengths: *"Sonia is an excellent business immigration attorney."*

Beatriz Osorio (see p.1486) often assists with visa petitions and labor certification applications.

Her clients include numerous banks and healthcare companies.

Strengths: *"She is very knowledgeable and a good team member."*

Anis Saleh is adept at advising on both family-based and employment-based immigration matters. He is further skilled in deportation and removal defense litigation.

Strengths: *"Anis is fantastic."*

Jacqueline Villalba of Harper Meyer counsels her clients on issues such as work permits, visas and general immigration compliance.

Nicolas Watkins (see p.1499) chairs the business immigration practice at GrayRobinson and advises on issues such as immigrant and nonimmigrant visa petitions.

Strengths: *"Nicolas is a great person and a great attorney. He is very good at business immigration law."*

Elaine Weiss of Weiss & Kahn P.A. handles a variety of immigration and naturalization cases and has more than three decades of experience in this field.

Strengths: *"Elaine is a very good attorney."*

Insurance

Insurance: Transactional & Regulatory
Leading Firms
Band 1
Foley & Lardner LLP
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Band 2
Adams and Reese LLP
Colodny Fass
Cozen O'Connor
Gonzales Taplin PA

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Adams and Reese LLP

What the team is known for Adams and Reese LLP offers strength in representing policyholders

Insurance: Transactional & Regulatory

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Karlinsky Fred Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Band 2

Colodny Mike Colodny Fass *

Levine A Kenneth Cozen O'Connor

Band 3

Delegal Mark Delegal | Aubuchon (ORL) ◊

Paquette Nick Foley & Lardner LLP

Stanfield Tim Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Volpe Timothy Adams and Reese LLP

Up-and-coming individuals

Brito Christian Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Associates to watch

Citrin Matthew Foley & Lardner LLP

vides broader representation in contentious matters. Its national footprint lends extra strength to the insurance practice.

Strengths

"The firm consistently provides thoughtful, practical advice for the many issues we present."

"They are experts at what they do and they have the ability to handle complex tasks in a timely manner."

"Adams and Reese provides excellent analysis and well thought-out strategies."

Notable practitioners

Timothy Volpe is recognized for his work advising an array of carriers on regulatory issues including license expansion and reporting. He also offers expertise in litigation.

Strengths: *"Tim is an outstanding attorney who is focused on the client's goals at all times."*

"He is a very talented and seasoned attorney."

as well as insurance and reinsurance carriers. It frequently offers advice on regulatory matters such as reporting and licensing. The firm also pro-

Insurance: Dispute Resolution**Leading Firms****Band 1**

Berger Singerman

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Reed Smith LLP

Band 2

Akerman LLP

Carlton Fields

Clyde & Co LLP

Phelps Dunbar LLP

Band 3

Adams and Reese LLP

Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP

Clausen Choquette PLLC

Colodny Fass

Cozen O'Connor

Fowler White Burnett PA

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

Band 4

Berk, Merchant & Sims, PLC

Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A.

Flaster Greenberg PC

GrayRobinson, PA

Kennedys

TorresVictor

Leading Individuals**Band 1**

Andrews Walter J Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP*

Boyle Mark Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A.

Higer Michael Berger Singerman*

Lumpkin R. Hugh Reed Smith LLP*

Band 2

Aldrich Marcy Levine Akerman LLP

Bahadoran Sina Clyde & Co LLP

Brodie Steven J. Carlton Fields

Clausen Lozier Gina Clausen Choquette PLLC

DeField Andrea Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP*

Jurman Rory E. Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP*

Kammer Ronald L. Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

Torres Anna TorresVictor

Weaver Matthew Reed Smith LLP*

Band 3

Abate Maria Elena Colodny Fass*

Besvinick Laura Clyde & Co LLP

Chavin Valorie Chavin Mitchell Shmuely PA (ORL)◊

Dickenson John David Cozen O'Connor

Keller Thomas Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP

Litsky Matthew L. Phelps Dunbar LLP

Moore Meghan Flaster Greenberg PC

Pennekamp J. Michael Fowler White Burnett PA*

Sims Melissa Berk, Merchant & Sims, PLC

Zelinger Hope Bressler, Amery & Ross, PC. (ORL)◊

Up-and-coming individuals

Anderson Amanda K. Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A.

Kuleba Christopher Reed Smith LLP*

McGriskin Michael Phelps Dunbar LLP

Associates to watch

Steklof Cary Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP*

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP hosts a statewide team that frequently acts in high-value class actions on behalf of insurers. It offers excellent healthcare expertise and auto insurer representation. The firm has particular strength in handling investigations into insurance fraud, as well as related litigation.

Notable practitioners

Marcy Levine Aldrich brings a wealth of expertise in litigation to defend class action claims in relation to auto insurance, claims handling and other coverage issues. **Strengths:** "Marcy is a subject matter expert. She's efficient and provides strong legal analysis."

Berger Singerman

What the team is known for Berger Singerman is widely recognized for its experience handling a broad range of insurance disputes on behalf of policyholders. The team of litigators frequently act in cases such as D&O and bad faith coverage claims. It has notable expertise in catastrophic property damage litigation.

Notable practitioners

Michael Higer (see p.1474) is recognized for his strong representation of policyholders across property damage claims, bad faith litigation and construction defect cases, among other areas.

Berk, Merchant & Sims, PLC

What the team is known for Berk, Merchant & Sims is adept at handling insurance disputes arising from a wide range of contexts, including coverage disputes and bad faith litigation as well as liability matters. The firm supports its clients from its office base in Coral Gables.

Notable practitioners

Melissa Sims is a founding member of Berk, Merchant & Sims, PLC and an active practitioner in the Florida insurance market. She expertly supports her clients with insurance coverage litigation and bad faith claims.

Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A.

What the team is known for Boyle, Leonard & Anderson showcases expertise in a range of contentious insurance matters. These include insurance bad faith claims as well as coverage issues arising from hurricanes and flooding.

Notable practitioners

Mark Boyle is noted for his expertise in representing policyholders. His practice covers first-party property disputes including for significant construction defect and catastrophic loss claims. He is managing partner of Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A. **Amanda Anderson** has a growing reputation in the market, receiving praise from market commentators for her work on contentious insurance mandates. She notably represents policyholders.

Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP

What the team is known for Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP is a dedicated insurance litigation firm with offices in Miami, Tallahassee and Tampa. It regularly tackles sophisticated litigation, including product liability and property casualty matters. Cases featuring a construction element

are a particular specialty. The firm is also noted for its strength in reinsurance disputes and medical malpractice.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Keller maintains a respected insurance coverage practice with notable experience handling first-party property insurance coverage claims.

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields maintains a strong reputation for handling coverage litigation and class action defense. It regularly acts for clients in the life insurance and property casualty industries. The firm's expertise includes representing insurers and underwriters against bad faith and D&O disputes, and providing regulatory counsel.

Notable practitioners

Steven Brodie handles a wide range of insurance coverage matters for insurance carriers. He is especially experienced in litigating disputes involving property damage and bad faith claims.

Clausen Choquette PLLC

What the team is known for Clausen Choquette is a firm with a solid reputation in the Florida insurance market. It covers the full gamut of contentious matters including those relating to property damages and payment issues. The group supports clients in the hospitality and manufacturing sectors, among others.

Strengths

"This firm is very aware of the complex and changing Florida insurance industry. They stay ahead of complex issues."

Notable practitioners

Lake Worth-based **Gina Clausen Lozier** is a founding partner of Clausen Choquette PLLC and focuses her commercial policyholder practice on first and third-party claims. She offers particular expertise in property damage claims arising from natural disasters. **Strengths:** "She is efficient and answers all our questions accurately and quickly."

Clyde & Co LLP

What the team is known for Clyde & Co LLP boasts a versatile team with significant experience acting for insurance carriers in coverage claim disputes. It is regularly retained by clients in personal injury, bad faith and product liability claims, among others. The firm maintains a full-service offering with a national and worldwide presence.

Strengths

"Their entire team is excellent at providing timely responses."

Notable practitioners

Sina Bahadoran represents carriers in complex litigation pertaining to a diverse array of claims. He often works on D&O, product liability and employment practice issues. **Strengths:** "Sina is one of the most strategic attorneys I have met. He understands the big picture and what needs to be done to resolve the claim. He is a true professional and mentor." **Laura Besvinick** represents clients in contentious matters including insurance coverage issues relating to the construction sector, among others. **Strengths:** "Laura is a talented and careful

lawyer who is active on several complex matters."

Colodny Fass

What the team is known for Colodny Fass boasts a broad group that fields a number of regulatory experts and government consultants, as well as a capable litigation team handling a range of disputes. It maintains a strong reputation for its deep knowledge of Florida insurance regulations and experience working with key government bodies and industry associations.

Notable practitioners

Mike Colodny (see p.1462) brings over four decades of experience to his regulatory and lobbying work for carriers and large corporations. **Maria Abate** (see p.1456)'s diverse practice encompasses insurance coverage disputes, insurance fraud, bad faith claims and class action defense.

Cozen O'Connor

What the team is known for Cozen O'Connor fields an established team with a strong reputation for advising and representing industry-leading insurers in coverage, regulatory and compliance matters. Its practitioners possess a breadth of experience in claims arising from a number of areas, with notable strength in property and casualty, reinsurance and bad faith claims.

Work highlights Cozen O'Connor represented six plaintiff insurers, including Arch Specialty Insurance Company and AXIS Surplus Insurance Company, in a declaratory judgment action challenging a Hurricane Sally insurance claim made by a condominium association and related appraisal award.

Notable practitioners

Kenneth Levine primarily advises insurance companies with regard to complex regulatory and transactional matters. **John David Dickenson** acts for carriers on a variety of insurance and reinsurance claims, including first-party property and professional liability issues.

Flaster Greenberg PC

What the team is known for Flaster Greenberg PC supports its clients with key insurance dispute matters including coverage claims for business interruption losses and property damage. Its clients are notably active in the construction and real estate sectors.

Strengths

"Flaster Greenberg has been highly effective and easy to work with."

Work highlights Flaster Greenberg attorneys represented Deauville Associates in a \$40 million insurance coverage dispute concerning a fire at a Miami Beach hotel.

Notable practitioners

Meghan Moore demonstrates outstanding expertise in representing real estate developers and contractors in contentious insurance mandates. Based in Boca Raton, she is notably active in coverage disputes. **Strengths:** "Meghan Moore is a delight to work with. She is assertive, prepared and a very hard worker."

Foley & Lardner LLP

What the team is known for Foley & Lardner LLP offers a solid regulatory and transactional prac-

tice, advising domestic insurers and international companies. It regularly handles workers' compensation issues as well as a range of insurance-related corporate and commercial matters.

Strengths

"I am very pleased with the law firm. They are extremely responsive."

"The firm has a deep bench of professionals dedicated to insurance."

"Foley & Lardner are versatile and provide sound advice."

Work highlights Foley & Lardner supported HomeServe USA with the over \$1 billion acquisition of its holding company by Brookfield.

Notable practitioners

Nick Paquette is able to assist clients on a range of insurance matters, including transactional mandates as well as related regulatory issues. Paquette has experience advising retailers, healthcare groups and insurance providers. **Strengths:** "Nick is an excellent adviser and counsel." **Matthew Citrin** assists clients in need of insurance counsel, providing a wide range of regulatory advice and transactional support.

Fowler White Burnett PA

What the team is known for Fowler White Burnett PA demonstrates strength across a range of insurance disputes and regulatory concerns, acting for clients such as insurers, self-insureds and underwriters. Its areas of expertise include life and casualty disputes, broker's negligence claims and reinsurance litigation. It has particular expertise with clients in the aviation and marine industries. The firm additionally offers strength advising on legislative concerns.

Strengths

"Fowler White Burnett is an experienced and collaborative team that is understanding of client interests."

"The firm is always responsive and reaches excellent results."

"They offer a full array of legal assistance and first-class service with clear and concise answers."

Work highlights Fowler White Burnett represented Safe Harbor Port Cove in an over \$2 million coverage dispute relating to a personal injury claim.

Notable practitioners

Michael Pennekamp (see p.1487) chairs the insurance practice group at Fowler White Burnett PA and notably represents clients in a wide range of disputes, including those arising from natural disasters. He has considerable expertise in the maritime and aviation industries. **Strengths:** "He is efficient, understands clients' interests and is capable of providing balanced advice and solutions." "Mike is dependable, responsive and well versed in the matters he handles."

Gonzales Taplin PA

What the team is known for Gonzales Taplin advises an impressive collection of insurers on transactional matters. Its areas of activity include M&A as well as showcasing regulatory expertise. The group offers further strength in cross-border transactions.

Strengths

"The team is able to navigate highly complex and

difficult situations in a variety of sensitive matters."

Notable practitioners

Norman Taplin is a key contact at the firm.

GrayRobinson, PA

What the team is known for GrayRobinson, PA's expert team is active across the full gamut of contentious insurance matters. These include coverage disputes arising from personal injury claims and notable property damage. The firm represents insurers, managed care entities and adjusters.

Strengths

"I am very impressed by GrayRobinson's service levels and responsiveness."

Work highlights GrayRobinson represented Kinsale Insurance Company in a coverage dispute arising from a shooting incident, with \$22 million damages claimed.

Notable practitioners

Richard Barry leads the insurance defense practice.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig offers a deep bench of insurance regulatory and transactional specialists, drawing upon its global presence to support its Florida practice. Its client roster includes insurers, reinsurers and investment management entities. The firm utilizes firm-wide expertise in complementary practice areas such as M&A, finance and securities. Its strong relationships with legislators, commissioners and other professionals further boosts its regulatory expertise.

Strengths

"Greenberg Traurig has exceptional connections with various state departments and is always available when needed."

"We have had a great experience with them. They add value in helping us navigate complex processes."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig advised Slide Insurance Company in connection with its takeover of 91,000 policies from United Property & Casualty Insurance Company, which was placed into receivership by the Florida Department of Financial Services.

Notable practitioners

Fred Karlinsky attracts plaudits for his leading transactional and regulatory insurance practice. He has deep expertise in the representation of insurers and reinsurers. **Strengths:** "Fred's greatest strength is his relationship with the state regulators. He is incredibly up to date with the insurance landscape." "Fred is well respected."

Tim Stanfield is a respected attorney who offers advice on a range of regulatory matters alongside his lobbying practice. His clients stem from both the public and private sectors. **Christian Brito** frequently advises and supports his clients through a range of insurance-related regulatory and transactional matters. **Strengths:** "Christian is excellent, client-friendly and handles substantive work. He is also incredibly available." "He is very attentive to our needs."

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

What the team is known for Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP handles a variety of insurance coverage claims on behalf of insurance carriers. Its team is adept at providing advice and representation in coverage matters concerning losses arising out of catastrophic bodily injury, business interruption and professional liability.

Strengths

"They help you get to a resolution as quickly and efficiently as possible."

"Hinshaw & Culbertson really takes the time to understand our business and how we operate. We can always count on the firm to assist us."

"They are thorough and communicative."

Work highlights Hinshaw & Culbertson represented Hudson Insurance in an over \$1 million coverage dispute relating to an auto accident.

Notable practitioners

Rory Jurman (see p.1476) is widely acknowledged as an insurance specialist. He regularly litigates on behalf of insurance carriers in complex claims disputes. **Strengths:** *"Rory Jurman is a seasoned litigator who gets great results for our company."*

"He provides a high level of both customer service and legal skill in his representation." *"Rory is also an excellent presenter and is highly experienced in handling difficult cases. He also holds strong negotiation skills."* **Ronald Kammer** is experienced in advising clients on a variety of insurance coverage matters. He is particularly recognized for his expertise in claims concerning bodily injury and employer liability. **Strengths:** *"Ron brings creative solutions to often complex situations. He loves his trade, which is evident in what he does, how he does it and how he delivers it."*

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

What the team is known for Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP is well versed in insurance matters, including first-party coverage disputes, insurance risk advisory work, transactional and due diligence matters. It offers substantial experience in cybersecurity, property damage and D&O claims, among others. The firm's clients include those in the construction and technology sectors.

Strengths

"The firm handles all of our complex insurance matters and is timely and proactive."

"They are very plugged in commercially."

Work highlights Hunton Andrews Kurth represented the U.S. Sugar Corporation in an \$8 million insurance coverage action against its insurer, Commerce and Industry Insurance Co.

Notable practitioners

Walter Andrews (see p.1456) is regularly retained by policyholder clients for high-stakes dispute resolution in the insurance arena. His expertise covers first-party property losses, D&O claims, business interruption and toxic tort claims.

Strengths: *"He is fast-paced, informative and confident. We enjoy working with Walter."* **Andrea DeField** (see p.1465) represents policyholders across a range of insurance policy and coverage issues. She has particular expertise in cyber issues such as large data breaches, co-leading Hunton Andrews Kurth's cyber insurance practice. **Strengths:** *"Andrea is simply the best at what she does. She is my go-to."* *"She is a really great*

and plugged-in lawyer. She provides subject matter expertise." **Cary Steklaf** (see p.1497) supports clients from his base in Miami, developing a notable practice in insurance disputes. He is active on insurer bad faith and significant coverage issues. **Strengths:** *"Working with Cary is easy. He is precise, goal-oriented and focused."*

Kennedys

What the team is known for Kennedys supports its clients base in wide array of insurance disputes, with experience spanning bad faith claims, coverage issues and litigation arising from personal injury. The firm has particular expertise in representing insurance carriers.

Strengths

"Kennedys is my go-to for coverage issues in Florida. It is prompt and responsive."

Work highlights Kennedys counseled Evanston Insurance Company on a \$5 million coverage dispute against the Broward Sheriff's Office.

Notable practitioners

Eric Hiller is a key contact for clients.

Phelps Dunbar LLP

What the team is known for Phelps Dunbar LLP boasts a sizable group with notable litigation expertise, as well as the capacity to handle a range of noncontentious issues. It represents clients such as brokers, insurers and underwriters. The firm frequently acts in complex, cross-border disputes, fielding an experienced group of trial and arbitration experts. Its bench is additionally skilled at advising across a range of first and third-party coverage litigation.

Strengths

"Phelps Dunbar houses highly capable and effective litigators."

"The firm provides detailed analysis, and issues are explained in an easy-to-understand manner."

Work highlights Phelps Dunbar defended Scottsdale Insurance in \$100 million insurance coverage litigation brought by commercial property owners and/or operators of hotels, resorts, nightclubs and air hangers in Florida and hotels in Boston and Nashville for their economic losses stemming from COVID-19.

Notable practitioners

Matthew Litsky is a respected insurance coverage practitioner with experience in handling first and third-party bad faith matters for insurance carriers and underwriters. **Strengths:** *"Matthew is excellent at litigation strategy. He exercises general oversight of other litigators and stays informed about cases."* **Michael McGriskin** represents insurers in first-party property disputes. He has experience advising on bad faith and property damage litigation. **Strengths:** *"Michael is very in tune with our business and how we operate."*

Reed Smith LLP

What the team is known for Reed Smith LLP's team handles a variety of insurance matters concerning D&O coverage and bad faith issues. The firm boasts notable experience advising clients on matters related to natural disasters. It acts across a range of sectors, including the automotive and retail industries.

Strengths

"Reed Smith has a wide range of experts with great experience."

"The team is organized, strategic and communicative. They provide solid advice supported by well thought-out research."

"The firm has a team of lawyers well equipped to handle complex matters."

Notable practitioners

Hugh Lumpkin (see p.1483) is well respected for his work on behalf of policyholders facing a variety of insurance disputes. He has notable recent experience in construction defect, hurricane damage and business loss suits. **Strengths:** *"Hugh is simply one of the best."* *"He has an extensive amount of knowledge, and he is incredibly calm and excellent with clients. It is wonderful to work with him."* **Matthew Weaver** (see p.1499) is a well-regarded commercial litigator handling insurance coverage and bad faith disputes. He represents a variety of policyholder clients adeptly. **Strengths:** *"Matthew is a skilled negotiator who is firm in his conviction and an excellent communicator with his clients."* **Christopher Kuleba** (see p.1479) is particularly active in insurance disputes arising from significant coverage claims. **Strengths:** *"He is one of the best young lawyers I have encountered."* *"Chris is an excellent attorney who provides solid advice and takes the appropriate actionable steps to guide us and our clients."* *"He is reachable and gives you his full attention."*

TorresVictor

What the team is known for TorresVictor is a firm experienced in contentious insurance matters. The firm has significant expertise in matters arising from personal injury cases as well as insurance bad faith mandates.

Notable practitioners

TorresVictor founding partner **Anna Torres** is a respected attorney who offers advice on a range of insurance coverage disputes. She handles claims concerning product liability, bad faith and wrongful death. She is based in West Palm Beach.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Valorie Chavin of Chavin Mitchell Shmuely PA represents clients with bad faith, construction and property damage claims. She gains plaudits for her representation of plaintiffs. She is based in North Miami.

Mark Delegal works with a range of insurance companies on the full spectrum of regulatory issues. He is a co-founder of Delegal | Aubuchon Consulting and based in Tallahassee.

Hope Zelinger is an experienced practitioner who is adept at handling insurance litigation. Her expertise includes coverage, loss and damage issues. She is a principal in the insurance litigation group at Bressler, Amery & Ross, P.C. and is based in Miami. **Strengths:** *"Hope is very responsive to our needs."* *"Hope Zelinger is our most trusted and relied-upon adviser, and a strategic partner."*

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property
Leading Firms
Band 1
Cozen O'Connor
Shutts & Bowen LLP
Band 2
Akerman LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Dickinson Wright PLLC
Fox Rothschild
Lott & Fischer
Band 3
Allen, Dyer, Doppelt + Gilchrist, P.A.
Berger Singerman
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bain Joseph W. Shutts & Bowen LLP*
Fischer Ury Lott & Fischer
Gale James A. Cozen O'Connor *
Lott Leslie Lott & Fischer
Nelson Gregory A. Fox Rothschild*
Band 2
Brafman David Akerman LLP
Chesal Michael Peretz Chesal and Herrmann, PL (ORL) ◊
Doppelt Ava Allen, Dyer, Doppelt + Gilchrist, P.A.
Hoffman Catherine Baker, Donelson, Bearman (ORL) ◊
Lewis Samuel A. Cozen O'Connor *
Malloy III John Cyril Malloy & Malloy, P.L. (ORL) ◊
Mayback Gregory Dickinson Wright PLLC
Ostroff Eric Meland Budwick, P.A. (ORL) ◊ *
Passler Mark Akerman LLP
Pollack Woodrow "Woody" H Shutts & Bowen LLP*
Band 3
Gilchrist Brian R. Allen, Dyer, Doppelt + Gilchrist, P.A.
Kauget Harvey S. Burr & Forman LLP
Lottenberg Geoffrey Berger Singerman *
Stein Stefan V. SteinPatent, P.A. (ORL) ◊
Sutin Alan N. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Tandy Heidi Berger Singerman *
Up-and-coming individuals
Corbett Ryan Burr & Forman LLP
Flanagan Patricia M Shutts & Bowen LLP*
Tillman Jodi-Ann Shutts & Bowen LLP*
* Indicates individual with profile.
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Cozen O'Connor

What the team is known for Full-service firm with notable strength in intellectual property matters. Routinely called upon to represent clients from a range of sectors, such as media, financial services and software. Offers significant experience in a variety of contentious matters, including patent disputes and trade secrets cases.

Strengths

"The Cozen O'Connor team are experts in the area of IP law."

Work highlights Cozen O'Connor represented Mersive Technologies in a theft of trade secrets case against its former Chief Technology Officer, Christopher Jaynes, and his new employer, QSC.

Notable practitioners

James Gale (see p.1469) is a registered patent attorney and has substantial experience in representing clients in litigation involving trademarks, theft of trade secrets and unfair competition claims. **Strengths:** "Jim is the go-to patent attorney for pretty much any issue. He is a consummate professional and enjoyable to be around, and has a commanding presence in the courtroom." "Jim is a total pro. He is very sophisticated, hard working and a real pleasure to work with." **Samuel Lewis** (see p.1482) comes recommended for his experience in handling IP disputes in relation to the technology sector. He draws upon his prior experience as a software developer to advise on complex contentious and transactional matters.

Work highlights Akerman advised electronic dance music artist Marshmello on brand registration and enforcement.

Notable practitioners

David Brafman is well regarded for his wide-ranging IP disputes practice. He has expertise in litigating patents and trademarks in areas including computer systems, manufacturing processes and LED lighting. **Mark Passler** handles an array of issues related to intellectual property, including due diligence for mergers and acquisitions, obtaining patent and trademark rights, and counseling on copyright matters. **Strengths:** "Mark makes information relatable and accessible to all. He is a fantastic lawyer and trusted counsel."

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for Increasingly prominent Florida-based IP group with significant expertise in both contentious and non-contentious matters. Frequently engaged to counsel clients on prosecution, portfolio management and due diligence across all types of IP. Offers further expertise in acting in disputes, including before venues such as the Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

Work highlights Burr & Forman represented SmartSky Networks in asserting several of its patents against a competitor who released an infringing network.

Notable practitioners

Harvey Kaugel operates a broad IP practice, regularly advising clients on an array of issues, including both litigation and prosecution matters. **Ryan Corbett** has a varied practice that includes patent prosecution and licensing, as well as trademark and patent litigation. He represents clients across a variety of technologies, such as mechanical devices and wireless communications.

Dickinson Wright PLLC

What the team is known for Impressive Fort Lauderdale-based practice with experience across the full range of IP issues. Possesses strong capabilities in contentious matters, including patent litigation, trade secrets cases and IP right proceedings. Regularly appears on behalf of clients before the US Patent and Trademark Office and the ITC.

Work highlights Dickinson Wright represented Mathieu Massa in a global trademark and unfair competition dispute in relation to trademark ownership of a restaurant and night club business.

Notable practitioners

Gregory Mayback advises a range of clients on patent prosecution matters, as well as assisting on IP transactions and litigation. He counsels clients in a variety of sectors, including electricals, medical devices and telecommunications.

Fox Rothschild

What the team is known for Respected IP practice principally focused on national and international prosecution and portfolio management issues. Offers further expertise on licensing issues. Well versed across both patents and trademarks.

Work highlights Fox Rothschild handled

enforcement matters in connection with Deltona Transformer Corporation's trademark portfolio worldwide.

Notable practitioners

Gregory Nelson (see p.1486) wins praise for his bioscience-focused intellectual property practice, which includes litigation and patent prosecution.

Lott & Fischer

What the team is known for Well-regarded intellectual property boutique based in Coral Gables. Offers substantial capabilities in matters relating to patents, trademarks and copyrights. Also regularly represents clients in litigation, including patent infringement cases and unfair competition claims.

Notable practitioners

Ury Fischer maintains a wide-ranging practice, covering intellectual property litigation, and patent and trademark procurement. **Leslie Lott** offers significant experience in intellectual property matters and is noted for her expertise in trademark issues and litigation.

Band 3

Allen, Dyer, Doppelt + Gilchrist, P.A.

What the team is known for Allen, Dyer, Doppelt + Gilchrist provides extensive intellectual property coverage in the Florida market, with offices in Orlando, Miami, Jacksonville and Winter Springs. Regularly advises clients on patent, trademark and copyright prosecution matters, as well as complex intellectual property litigation. The firm's expertise in IP is supported by its practice in business litigation and entertainment law.

Notable practitioners

Ava Doppelt is a respected IP attorney who has substantial litigation experience in trademark and copyright matters. She also advises clients in connection with the management of trademark and copyright portfolios. **Brian Gilchrist** is a well-re-

garded IP litigator with significant experience in disputes relating to patents, trademarks and copyright issues.

Berger Singerman

What the team is known for Berger Singerman offers broad intellectual property expertise encompassing patent, trademark and copyright work for clients from a wide range of industries. The group is frequently called upon to advise on prosecution, licensing and enforcement, among other matters.

Strengths

"Berger Singerman provides phenomenal results and value for money."

Work highlights Berger Singerman represented Kinghorn Medical in a breach of contract, tortious interference, and misappropriation of trade secrets case brought against National DME.

Notable practitioners

Geoffrey Lottenberg (see p.1482) is regularly called upon to advise clients in connection with complex patent and trademark litigation. He also handles IP procurement and licensing agreements. **Heidi Tandy** (see p.1497) focuses on trademark prosecution and transactional work in for clients from a range of industries, including retail and technology. **Strengths:** *"Heidi is the most amazing lawyer I have ever met. She could do ten things at once."*

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig is regularly called upon to litigate complex intellectual property disputes for clients from industries including technology and consumer goods. The group offers further expertise in prosecution and portfolio management.

Strengths

"I am stunned by their level of depth and quality. The Greenberg Traurig team has been truly instrumental for us."

"I have been consistently impressed with the quality

and breadth of advice available."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig continued to manage, develop and assist in growing a major portion of the worldwide patent assets of Yahoo.

Notable practitioners

Alan Sutin offers notable expertise in advising on the intellectual property aspects of large-scale commercial transactions in the technology and entertainment sectors. He also serves as the senior chair of the firm's global intellectual property and technology practice. **Strengths:** *"Alan Sutin is one of the most experienced and competent IP attorneys in the business."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Michael Chesal of Peretz Chesal and Herrmann, PL is a respected IP lawyer who is noted for his knowledge of trademark issues. He is also well equipped to handle matters concerning the protection, registration and infringement of copyrights, domain names and trade secrets.

Catherine Hoffman of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC is an experienced litigator and regularly manages global portfolios. She frequently advises clients from technical industries, drawing upon an impressive engineering background.

John Cyril Malloy is head of the IP litigation group at Malloy & Malloy, P.L. and litigates both patents and trademarks.

Eric Ostroff (see p.1486) is cochair of the IP group at Meland Budwick, P.A. and acts for a variety of clients on copyright and trade secret matters.

Stefan Stein of SteinPatent, P.A. is highly regarded in the market for his extensive experience in a variety of intellectual property matters. He is equally adept across litigation, licensing and patent prosecution matters.

Labor & Employment

Band 1

Fisher Phillips

What the team is known for Fisher Phillips is a stellar firm that offers a range of services including advice on discrimination litigation, occupational safety and traditional labor law. Expertise also spans wage and hour related matters. The team is active advising on dispute prevention and compliance matters. It has a broad client base, including those in the healthcare, education, transport and public sectors. It also has an impressive depth of experience in Florida and is able to draw on the strength of the firm's exten-

sive nationwide network of offices.

Strengths

"Fisher Phillips is a national firm with strong resources."

"The team at Fisher Phillips is extremely responsive and the depth of their team is strong."

Work highlights Fisher Phillips represented A.Y. McDonald in union contract renewal negotiations involving its factory and Dubuque foundry.

Notable practitioners

Charles Caulkins has impressive, longstanding experience in labor relations matters. He acts on behalf of employers in collective bargaining and labor and employment disputes. **Strengths:**

"Charles is a well-known leader in the field." **Steve Bernstein** is well known for his traditional labor union work. His experience includes labor arbitrations and collective bargaining, as well as OSHA matters. **Strengths:** *"Steve is one of the most creative, thorough, thoughtful and strategic labor practitioners."* *"Steve handles himself with great composure when expressing his client's needs. He is very aware of the need to serve the client well."* **Christine Howard** represents employers in a wide array of contentious matters, including discrimination, harassment and wage and hour litigation. **Strengths:** *"Christine is an excellent lawyer, she has a varied employment litigation*

Labor & Employment	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Fisher Phillips	
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff	
Band 2	
Akerman LLP	
BakerHostetler LLP	
FordHarrison LLP	
GrayRobinson, PA	
Greenberg Traurig, LLP	
Jackson Lewis P.C.	
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP	
Phelps Dunbar LLP	
Band 3	
Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, LLP	
Cozen O'Connor	
Littler Mendelson, PC	
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC	

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

practice." **Jeffrey Mandel** acts for employers in the private and public sectors on a wide range of matters, including wage and hour, discrimination and labor disputes. **Cathy Stutin** maintains a broad employment practice, which regularly sees her advise on contentious matters. **Strengths:** "Cathy does a very thorough job and produces very good work product." **Suzanne Bogdan** has notable strength in representing educational institutions in employment disputes.

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. operates as part of a full-service firm with the ability to pull in assistance from a broad range of departments. Offers counseling and litigation to companies with an emphasis on preventive maintenance, including an annual seminar for human resources employees and a significant amount of supervisory in-house training. Represents clients from a wide array of industry areas including life sciences, sports and transportation, both regionally and nationally.

Strengths

"The team's ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters is excellent. They are clear, concise and take sufficient time to explore issues."

"The firm's employment division has highly skilled and experienced labor and employment lawyers. Whenever a complex legal matter arises, I am confident that they will help us resolve it as quickly as possible."

"The team at Stearns Weaver provides excellent service. They take the time to know the client and to understand their needs, and the service is reflective of that."

"Stearns Weaver has very knowledgeable and professional staff who are always helpful and responsive to questions."

Notable practitioners

Robert Turk is held in high regard for his expert representation of employers in the full range of labor and employment disputes, including EEOC proceedings. **Strengths:** "Bob is fully aware of

Labor & Employment	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Gonzalez Thomas M <i>GrayRobinson, PA</i> *	
Malfitano Michael <i>Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete</i>	
Leading Individuals	
Star individuals	
McCREA Richard C <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>	
Band 1	
Caulkins Charles <i>Fisher Phillips</i>	
Eisenberg Susan Nadler <i>Cozen O'Connor</i> *	
Shaughnessy Kevin W <i>BakerHostetler LLP</i> *	
Turk Robert <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff</i>	
Zinober Peter W <i>Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak</i>	
Band 2	
Ackerbaum Cox Joyce <i>BakerHostetler LLP</i> *	
Bernstein Steve <i>Fisher Phillips</i>	
Beveridge Cathy <i>Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney (ORL)</i> ◊	
Estevez Anne Marie <i>Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP</i>	
Hearing Gregory A. <i>Bush Graziano Rice & Platter (ORL)</i> ◊	
Holshouser Eric J <i>Rogers Towers PA (ORL)</i> ◊	
Kline Arlene K <i>Akerman LLP</i> *	
McClelland Dennis <i>Phelps Dunbar LLP</i> *	
Sniffen Robert J <i>Sniffen & Spellman P.A. (ORL)</i> ◊	
Tuschman Richard D <i>Richard D Tuschman, PA (ORL)</i> ◊	
Band 3	
Berg Lisa <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff</i> *	
Cheskin Mark R <i>Hogan Lovells US LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	
Dyson Sacha <i>Bush Graziano Rice & Platter P.A. (ORL)</i> ◊	
Enjamio Juan <i>Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP (ORL)</i> ◊ *	
Hill Patricia J <i>Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	
Howard Christine <i>Fisher Phillips</i>	
Jaensch Tracey <i>FordHarrison LLP</i>	
Kitchen F Damon <i>Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete</i>	
Lerner Brian L <i>Kim Vaughan Lerner LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	
Mandel Jeffrey E <i>Fisher Phillips</i>	
Muldowney Patrick M <i>BakerHostetler LLP</i> *	
Phillips John <i>Phelps Dunbar LLP</i>	
Ponce Ingrid <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff</i> *	
Rassif Jenna <i>Jackson Lewis P.C.</i>	
Riegel Robert G <i>Lippes Mathias LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	
Schwartz Jurate <i>Proskauer Rose LLP (ORL)</i> ◊ *	
Spradley Susan <i>GrayRobinson, PA</i> *	
Stutin Cathy M <i>Fisher Phillips</i>	
Vance Kevin <i>Duane Morris LLP (ORL)</i> ◊ *	
Band 4	
Adler-Paindiris Stephanie L. <i>Jackson Lewis P.C.</i>	
Bogdan Suzanne K <i>Fisher Phillips</i>	
Boyer April <i>K&L Gates (ORL)</i> ◊ *	
DeBlasio III Patrick G <i>Littler Mendelson, PC</i> *	
Gabrielle Eric K. <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler</i> *	
Gerber Tracy <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>	
Goldberg McEnery Janet <i>Carlton Fields (ORL)</i> ◊	
Holtzman Gail <i>Taylor English Duma LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	
Hyde Kevin E <i>Foley & Lardner LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	
Johnson Kevin D <i>Johnson Jackson (ORL)</i> ◊	
La Fleur Deborah L <i>GrayRobinson, PA</i> *	
Molloy Katie <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>	
Russell Phillip <i>Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart</i>	
Russell Reed L <i>Phelps Dunbar LLP</i> *	
Silverman Scott T <i>Akerman LLP</i> *	
Travers Jessica T <i>Littler Mendelson, PC</i> *	
Zandy Aaron L <i>FordHarrison LLP</i>	
Associates to watch	
Sales Erin M <i>BakerHostetler LLP</i> *	

our industry and provides advice that is not only legally sound but also in line with our business

Labor & Employment: Mediators	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Burrueto Carlos <i>Burrueto & Burrueto, PLLC (ORL)</i> ◊	
Quintana Marlene <i>GrayRobinson, PA</i> *	
Band 2	
Eisenberg Susan Nadler <i>Cozen O'Connor</i> *	
Evans-Putney Karen <i>Litigation Resolution Inc. (ORL)</i> ◊	
Hankins Robyn <i>Law Office of Robyn S. Hankins (ORL)</i> ◊	
Sands Kimberly <i>Upchurch, Watson, White & Max (ORL)</i> ◊	
Silverman Scott J. <i>JAMS (ORL)</i> ◊	
Wolf Kay <i>Kay L. Wolf Mediation Services, LLC (ORL)</i> ◊	

objectives." "Robert is always available, patient, knowledgeable and dedicated to his client." "Bob goes above and beyond the call of duty. He does all pertinent inquiries in order to see the case from all possible angles." **Lisa Berg** (see p.1459) is a highly sought-after counselor for national employers on a range of issues, including employment policies, agreements, compliance and litigation avoidance.

Strengths: "Lisa is experienced, skilled and has a depth of knowledge in the labor and employment space." "She is an expert in the field." "Lisa is a great labor lawyer. She is very smart and practical."

Ingrid Ponce (see p.1488)'s practice runs the full gamut of labor and employment disputes.

Strengths: "Ingrid's work is superior; she is concise, informative and pragmatic. I also appreciate her responsiveness and depth of knowledge." "Ingrid has a deep understanding of the law and does a really great job of keeping abreast of the relevant facts of the case, making her an excellent resource and a trusted partner." "She is a pleasure to work with in terms of her thoughtfulness and creativity." **Eric Gabrielle** (see p.1469)'s wide-ranging experience includes handling labor and employment litigation as well as day-to-day counseling.

Strengths: "Eric is an experienced professional."

"Eric is an excellent advocate and extremely knowledgeable on the subject of employment law." "He is extremely diligent and very responsive."

Band 2

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP is a full-service group with an extensive bench of practitioners in Florida. Its work includes labor relations, counseling and compliance, as well as litigation. It has particular expertise in wage and hour matters as well as noncompete and trade secret work. Its clients include both Florida and national employers in a broad range of sectors, such as financial services, retail and transportation. It maintains an impressive presence in the state with offices in several cities.

Strengths

"Akerman has the right lawyers to provide strong representation on all matters. They are very responsive and efficient."

Work highlights Akerman represented Saint Leo University in consolidated unfair labor practice charges resulting from its withdrawal of recognition of United Faculty of Saint Leo University as the collective bargaining representative of full-time faculty.

Notable practitioners

Arlene Kline (see p.1477) is a strong choice to handle high-stakes employment disputes as well as advising on compliance issues. **Strengths:** “Arlene is a very impressive attorney who does great work.” **Scott Silverman** (see p.1495) has notable strength in a range of labor and employment disputes, with recent experience including wage and hour and noncompete disputes. **Strengths:** “Scott provides very good service and can settle very difficult cases.”

BakerHostetler LLP

What the team is known for BakerHostetler LLP possesses broad expertise across labor and employment issues. Noted for its defense of wage and hour class and collective actions both locally and nationally. Also handles noncompete and trade secret cases and a range of union-related matters. Assists clients in the prevention of employment litigation with ongoing counseling and strategy development.

Strengths

“They have taken the time to know our business and they utilize this knowledge to advise us with practical and actionable advice.”

“BakerHostetler lead by example. They demonstrate exceptional responsiveness to our issues and go the extra mile to resolve complex issues.”

“The team at BakerHostetler has extensive experience in labor and employment with specialists in all facets, from ADA to general labor laws.”

“The whole team is professional, responsive and a pleasure to work with.”

Work highlights BakerHostetler successfully represented a Fortune 100 Global Entertainment Company in a state court jury trial concerning claims of disability discrimination.

Notable practitioners

Kevin Shaughnessy (see p.1495) maintains an excellent reputation for his representation of employers in high-stakes contentious matters.

Strengths: “Kevin provides client service of the highest level.” “He is extremely responsive.” **Joyce Ackerbaum Cox** (see p.1456) provides expert

advice in a range of labor and employment disputes, including trade secret and noncompete cases. She is also a highly sought-after counselor on ADA accessibility compliance. **Strengths:** “Joyce is extremely knowledgeable in all areas of employment law we have consulted with her on. Her advice is always prompt and practical.”

Patrick Muldowney (see p.1485) undertakes a broad range of matters on behalf of employers, from discrimination to wage and hour claims. **Strengths:** “Pat is a skilled attorney.” **Erin Sales** (see p.1492) is a standout associate in the Florida employment Bar. She is noted for her skills in litigation.

Strengths: “Erin is practical and tenacious, with an ability to bring matters to a close.”

FordHarrison LLP

What the team is known for FordHarrison LLP is a boutique labor and employment firm with recognized strength in employment litigation at both state and federal court level. Notable expertise in union issues including collective bargaining. Adept at handling immigration-related issues. Works closely with companies to provide counseling and preventive measures. Sector-specific

experience pertaining to the healthcare and hospitality industries, among others. Offers unique statewide coverage with six offices across the state of Florida.

Strengths

“*FordHarrison are experts in the field, and the team provides exceptional service and response times.*”

“*The firm has a strong team with talented experts.*”

Work highlights FordHarrison served as defense counsel to Florida Farm Bureau Insurance and successfully defeated a collective action lawsuit filed by insurance agents. The agents claimed they were employees and not independent contractors.

Notable practitioners

Tampa-based **Tracey Jaensch** regularly defends clients against allegations of retaliation, tortious interference and discrimination. **Aaron Zandy** provides expert representation to employers in high-stakes disputes. His experience encompasses discrimination, harassment, wage and hour, and traditional labor issues. **Strengths:** “Aaron is both knowledgeable and professional.”

GrayRobinson, PA

What the team is known for GrayRobinson, PA is an established employer-focused practice that advises clients on the full spectrum of labor and employment matters. Expertise covers discrimination, retaliation and non-competition matters. Represents both public and private sector clients, with notable experience in the healthcare and education sectors. Statewide geographical reach with offices throughout Florida. Provides industry education and updates on changes and developments within the labor and employment sector.

Strengths

“The GrayRobinson labor and employment team has a deep talent pool that can handle a wide variety of employment related matters.”

“The team is responsive and very professional.”

“The firm very capably handles litigation matters. The team also provides excellent responsiveness and terrific client service.”

Work highlights GrayRobinson defended Lee County against claims asserting violations under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Gonzalez (see p.1471) is a seasoned labor and employment lawyer with particular strength

in contentious matters. **Marlene Quintana** (see p.1489) is an experienced labor and employment litigator, with strength in Title VII, ADA, FLSA and FMLA matters. She draws praise for her experience as a mediator. **Strengths:** “Marlene is one of the best mediators in the state. She does an excellent job.” “She is very responsive and understands the law.” “She is a phenomenal mediator.”

Susan Spradley (see p.1496) is noted for her deft handling of a wide range of contentious labor and employment issues, including discrimination cases. **Strengths:** “Susan is an incredible attorney.”

Deborah La Fleur (see p.1479) undertakes a wide array of employment disputes on behalf of employers. **Strengths:** “She is tenacious, professional and a great advocate.”

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig handles the full range of employment and traditional labor matters, specializing in employer defense work. The firm advises on a significant amount of wage and hour, employment contract and noncompete issues. Also handles discrimination and whistle-blower defense matters. It is experienced in handling class and collective actions, and has a strong track record before both state and federal court and in administrative proceedings.

Strengths

“*The team is well informed and responsive. They keep informed of the industry and best practice.*”

“*They are very well versed in labor and employment matters.*”

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig represented America II Electronics in a case alleging breach of contract, tortious interference with a contractual relationship for misappropriation of trade secrets and the violation of restrictive covenants.

Notable practitioners

Richard McCrea has a superb employment practice which includes advising on discrimination and breach of contract claims. **Strengths:** “He is focused and extremely sharp.” “Richard is an outstanding lawyer.” **Tracy Gerber** comes recommended for her representation of employer clients. She is also recognized for her arbitration expertise. **Strengths:** “She is prompt, creative, attentive and thoughtful.” **Katie Molloy** has a wide-ranging labor and employment practice, which includes advising on restrictive covenants and discrimination matters. **Strengths:** “Katie has a great read on the legal market in Florida and gives really practical advice.” “She is very responsive, smart and thorough.” “Katie is very efficient and straightforward.”

Jackson Lewis P.C.

What the team is known for Jackson Lewis P.C. is a strong litigation offering that handles wage and hour, restrictive covenant and disability discrimination issues. Also frequently engaged by companies to provide advice on day-to-day labor and employment matters. Adeptly services the entire state with offices in Miami, Tampa, Orlando and Jacksonville.

Strengths

“The team at Jackson Lewis is extremely responsive and very detailed, and they give very practical advice under various circumstances.”

“The firm has strong legal talent with a wide array of subject matter experts.”

“We can always count on the Jackson Lewis team for prompt and thoughtful advice and guidance.”

Work highlights Jackson Lewis obtained summary judgment in a discrimination case on behalf of a healthcare company and its subsidiary.

Notable practitioners

Jenna Rassif is an experienced litigator with noted strength in labor and employment matters, including discrimination and wage and hour cases.

Strengths: “Jenna has a brilliant mind.” **Stephanie Adler-Paindiris** is particularly active in wage and hour litigation, including class actions.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

What the team is known for Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP is a strong national offering with significant experience representing Fortune 500 companies across the USA. It has particular expertise in wage and hour and ADA-related disputes. It is proficient in handling restrictive covenant and trade secret litigation. It works with clients in a range of sectors, including retail and financial services.

Strengths

"The team at Morgan Lewis is extremely responsive and provides high-quality work product under tight timelines."

"Morgan Lewis is able to produce subject matter experts on any discrete area of law."

"The labor and employment group at Morgan Lewis can handle very complex and sophisticated matters and they do so regularly."

Notable practitioners

Anne Marie Estevez is well known for her expertise in discrimination claims and is especially active in the retail sector. She frequently acts as a mediator in addition to representing clients in litigation. **Strengths:** *"Anne is extremely knowledgeable and a phenomenal litigator."* *"Anne is one of the most responsive and practical lawyers I have ever worked with."* *"She gives excellent advice and is extremely responsive."*

Phelps Dunbar LLP

What the team is known for Phelps Dunbar LLP advises clients on a range of contentious employment matters including FLSA collective actions. It frequently represents employers in trials at both state and federal levels, as well as in arbitrations. It also handles labor relations work. It takes on more cases outside of Florida, with a growing national labor and employment presence. It also offers knowledge pertaining to matters at the intersection of cybersecurity, data privacy, and labor and employment law.

Strengths

"The team at Phelps Dunbar offers a wide array of expertise in the areas of labor law, wage and hour disputes, and immigration. Their work with other large national clients allows them to offer high-level support for growing businesses."

"Phelps Dunbar has a team of people who are thorough and practical in the advice they provide."

Notable practitioners

Dennis McClelland (see p.1483) is recognized for his strength in labor relations as well as labor and employment disputes. **Strengths:** *"Dennis is well versed in wage and hour law."* *"Dennis is very knowledgeable, thoughtful and responsive. He has a great deal of experience and provides tailored and useful advice."* **John Phillips** advises employers on a wide array of disputes, from harassment to FLSA claims. **Strengths:** *"John's responsiveness and availability is fantastic. He is always willing to help find a way to accomplish what we seek to do."* *"He is attentive, innovative and exceptionally organized."* *"John is very good at resolving cases quickly."* **Reed Russell** (see p.1492) represents employers in a broad range of employment disputes, including wage and hour and discrimination claims. He draws upon his experience as a former legal counsel at the EEO. **Strengths:** *"He is*

a very smart lawyer who does a good job of keeping abreast of changes in the law."

Band 3

Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, LLP

What the team is known for Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, LLP is a national labor and employment boutique, particularly noted in the Florida market for its strength in the traditional labor law space. Notable for its work with local government agencies, healthcare organizations and educational institutions, among others.

Strengths

"The firm consistently provides high-quality product for great value."

"The team at Constangy is extremely knowledgeable. They have the ability to assist with very sophisticated issues that require an in-depth knowledge of various legal situations."

"The firm is very strong in the areas of labor relations and compliance."

Work highlights Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete represented the Wakulla County Board of Commissioners in an unfair dismissal case regarding a whistleblower who alleged that their employment was terminated because they raised concerns related to corruption.

Notable practitioners

Michael Malfitano is a seasoned labor and employment lawyer. He offers expertise in EEOC matters as well as employment counseling.

Damon Kitchen acts for employers on a range of contentious matters, including discrimination and whistle-blower cases.

Cozen O'Connor

What the team is known for Cozen O'Connor is a broad labor and employment team with strength in wage and hour cases. Adept at handling cases in state and federal courts, with significant experience at both trial and appellate levels. Works with a wide range of clients, including those in the healthcare and education sectors. Draws upon a deep nationwide bench of attorneys to support its Florida team.

Strengths

"The attorneys are extremely responsive and strive to provide the highest level of service."

Notable practitioners

Susan Nadler Eisenberg (see p.1466) is a preeminent labor and employment lawyer. She maintains a flourishing practice, which includes discrimination, harassment, and wage and hour disputes. She is also routinely instructed as a mediator in employment-related cases. **Strengths:** *"Susan is a strong, sharp and sophisticated partner at Cozen. She is tough when it comes to litigation and always finds inventive ways to handle litigation matters. Overall, her service level is impeccable."* *"She is a brilliant employment lawyer."*

Littler Mendelson, PC

What the team is known for Littler Mendelson, PC demonstrates a strong and diverse litigation practice regularly defending employer clients in a wide range of claims including discrimination,

retaliation, breach of contract and violation of the Whistleblower Act. It also has experience advising on OSHA matters. The firm has offices in both Orlando and Miami providing a broad coverage of the state of Florida. The firm regularly represents clients in the retail and healthcare sectors.

Strengths

"The team provides excellent knowledge and guidance."

Work highlights Littler Mendelson successfully represented a national retail client in claims of discrimination, retaliation and retaliatory harassment.

Notable practitioners

Patrick DeBlasio (see p.1465) is a well-regarded litigator who acts on behalf of employers in a wide array of matters, including discrimination and FLSA claims. **Strengths:** *"Patrick is an excellent litigator."* **Jessica Travers** (see p.1498) has strength in the full range of labor and employment disputes, from class actions to single plaintiff cases. Her expertise encompasses wage and hour, discrimination and unfair competition issues, among others. **Strengths:** *"Jessica is terrific and she communicates in a very succinct fashion. She is also very responsive, strategic and efficient."* *"Jessica is very thoughtful in her approach and she provides reasoned responses in the context of the issue and our business."*

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC

What the team is known for Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC has a broad offering that includes significant experience in employment litigation and traditional labor matters. It is able to handle everything from single-plaintiff matters to large-scale collective actions. It has notable expertise in union campaign work and health and safety matters. It has a well-regarded Florida offering bolstered by the firm's impressive national bench strength, with offices across the USA.

Strengths

"The firm has a very broad and comprehensive set of capabilities in employment matters, with a broad reach throughout the US."

"Ogletree has a deep bench that provides expertise and robust service."

Work highlights Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart represented The de Moya Group in an OSHA investigation in relation to a construction site injury.

Notable practitioners

Peter Zinober is an accomplished employment litigator with experience advising on discrimination and wage and hour claims, among others.

Strengths: *"Peter is the gold standard. He is a well-respected, intelligent and wonderful lawyer."* *"He is one of the most respected lawyers in the state."* *"He is very engaged and knowledgeable."*

"Peter is an outstanding lawyer." **Phillip Russell** has a wealth of experience representing clients in the full range of labor and employment disputes, with a particular focus on OSHA matters.

Strengths: *"He provides excellent service."* *"Phillip has a good general knowledge of the field."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Cathy Beveridge of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney assists employers with day-to-day employment counseling as well as handling employment litigation and EEOC proceedings. **Strengths:** “Cathy is an excellent attorney.”

April Boyer (see p.1459) of K&L Gates is proficient at assisting clients with contentious and noncontentious labor and employment matters. **Strengths:** “April provides timely and effective counsel.” “April is an excellent attorney. She is tenacious, professional and provides great client service.” “She is an excellent, business-minded attorney and a real partner to her clients.”

Carlos Burrueto of Burrueto & Burrueto is a highly regarded employment mediator.

Mark Cheskin of Hogan Lovells has a broad litigation practice, which includes particular strength in labor and employment issues. **Strengths:** “Mark is an excellent lawyer.”

Sacha Dyson of Bush Graziano Rice & Platter regularly represents employers in contentious matters involving allegations of discrimination, retaliation and sexual harassment. **Strengths:** “Sacha is a very intelligent and capable attorney.”

Juan Enjamio (see p.1467) of Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP handles complex labor and employment disputes on behalf of US and international companies. His recent experience includes wage and hour, harassment and retaliation claims.

Strengths: “Juan is very efficient, to the point and gets to the answer. His experience shows when it's a novel issue as he will know what to look for.”

Karen Evans -Putney of Litigation Resolution has considerable experience mediating and arbitrating employment disputes.

Janet Goldberg McEnergy of Carlton Fields assists a wide array of employers with contentious and noncontentious labor and employment issues.

Robyn Hankins is highly regarded for her expertise in mediating a range of employment disputes.

Strengths: “Robyn is everything that you want in a mediator. She is both patient and dedicated.”

Gregory Hearing of Bush Graziano Rice & Platter is a highly esteemed lawyer with a wealth of experience in traditional labor matters, including labor arbitrations. **Strengths:** “Greg is a trusted legal partner who gets great results.”

Patricia Hill of Smith, Gambrell & Russell LLP advises employers on a wide range of labor and employment matters, including discrimination, wage and hour, and wrongful termination claims.

Eric Holshouser of Rogers Towers has extensive experience which encompasses labor relations and employment litigation. **Strengths:** “Eric is a wonderful attorney.”

Gail Holtzman of Taylor English Duma LLP is well known for representing employers in discrimination and sexual harassment cases. She is also well versed in assisting her clients with employee training. **Strengths:** “She has a lot of experience.”

Kevin Hyde of Foley & Lardner has experience handling labor and employment disputes, such as discrimination and FLSA cases, as well as day-to-day employment counseling. **Strengths:** “Kevin is very responsive.” “He is the consummate professional.”

Kevin Johnson of Johnson Jackson represents employers in high-stakes labor and employment disputes. He is well regarded for his representation of employers in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** “Kevin is experienced, practical and dedicated.”

Brian Lerner of Kim Vaughan Lerner LLP offers particular prowess in labor and employment disputes, including EEOC proceedings. **Strengths:** “He is an exceptional writer and also just very keenly aware of legal strategy.” “Brian is a smart and practical lawyer.”

Robert Riegel of Lippes Mathias offers strength in employment litigation and also advises clients on litigation avoidance. **Strengths:** “He is a good and knowledgeable lawyer.”

Kimberly Sands of Upchurch, Watson, White & Max is skilled in mediating a range of matters including discrimination, breach of contract and employment disputes.

Jurate Schwartz (see p.1494) of Proskauer Rose LLP is sought after by clients to handle a range of labor and employment matters, including litigation, administrative proceedings and day-to-day counseling. **Strengths:** “She is extremely knowledgeable on Florida labor laws.” “Jurate has an encyclopedic knowledge of the law at every level. She gets you the information you need quickly, no matter how obscure it is.” “She is very thorough in her work and provides comprehensive work product.”

Scott Silverman of JAMS has notable experience mediating a wide range of employment matters including discrimination, retaliation and harassment. **Strengths:** “Scott is very effective at interacting with both plaintiffs and defendants.” “He is a great mediator.”

Robert Sniffen of Sniffen & Spellman P.A. has a comprehensive labor and employment practice, which includes both contentious and noncontentious mandates. He is especially well regarded for his representation of local government and other public sector employers. **Strengths:** “Robert is a trial lawyer who is not afraid to try a case before a jury.”

Richard Tuschman’s experience covers the full range of labor and employment disputes, and he is known for his representation of both employers and employees. **Strengths:** “Richard is a fantastic and very knowledgeable lawyer.”

Kevin Vance (see p.1498) of Duane Morris undertakes complex employment litigation, including disputes involving terminations, trade secrets and discrimination. **Strengths:** “Kevin is levelheaded, provides sound advice and maintains a realistic understanding of business considerations.” “He is great at understanding complex situations and devising practical solutions.”

Kay Wolf of Kay L. Wolf Mediation Services is skilled in mediating a wide array of employment matters including discrimination and breach of contract.

Litigation

Litigation: General Commercial

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Burlington Robert *Coffey Burlington*

Coffey Kendall B *Coffey Burlington*

Davis Alvin B *Heise Suarez Melville, P.A.*

DeVault John *Bedell, Dittmar, DeVault, Pillans & Coxe*

Lowry Patricia E *Squire Patton Boggs*

Steinberg Marty *Hogan Lovells US LLP*

Wakshlag Stanley *Kenny Nachwalter PA **

Leading Individuals

Star individuals

Stearns Eugene *Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler **

Band 1

Crutchlow Richard H *Kenny Nachwalter PA **

Danon Samuel A *Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP **

Mestre Jorge *Rivero Mestre LLP*

Nichols Tracy A *Holland & Knight LLP*

Rivero Andrés *Rivero Mestre LLP*

Singer Stuart *Boies Schiller Flexner LLP*

Band 2

Berger Mitchell W *Berger Singerman*

Bianchi Jaime *White & Case LLP*

Cosgrove Scott *León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP*

Coulson David *Winston & Strawn LLP*

Diaz, Jr. Victor M *VM Diaz & Partners, LLC (ORL) ◊ **

Garcia Linares Manuel A *Day Pitney LLP*

Jiménez Marcos Daniel *León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP*

Kluger Alan J *Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine*

Kreitzer Michael N *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Mark Etan *Mark Migdal & Hayden*

Mead Grace *Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff **

O'Sullivan John F *Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan*

Pallett-Vasquez Melissa *Bilzin Sumberg*

Raymond Mark F *Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough*

Schachter Adam *Gelber Schachter & Greenberg*

Schifino Jr William *Gunster*

Shapiro Jay B *Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff*

Varner III Joseph H *Holland & Knight LLP*

Waldman Glen H *Armstrong Teasdale LLP*

Wells David M *Gunster*

Widom Mitchell E *Bilzin Sumberg*

Band 3

Brochin Robert M *Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP*

Colomar Garcia Marta *Diaz Reus & Targ LLP **

Ferrer José M *Mark Migdal & Hayden*

Foslid Adam M *Winston & Strawn LLP*

Gassenheimer James D *Berger Singerman **

Hayden Donald J *Mark Migdal & Hayden*

Jimenez Adolfo E *Holland & Knight LLP*

León Derek *León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP*

Mandel David S *Mandel & Mandel LLP (ORL) ◊*

Membila Gustavo *Winston & Strawn LLP*

Mullins Edward *Reed Smith LLP*

Ostroff Eric *Meland Budwick, P.A. **

Reid Benjamine *Carlton Fields*

Robinson Jim *White & Case LLP*

Shaw-Wilder Detra *Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton **

Waggoner Dennis P *Hill Ward Henderson*

Band 4

Ackerman David P *Akerman LLP **

Atkinson Nicole *Gunster*

Barlow Mahlon "Tripp" *Sivyer Barlow Watson (ORL) ◊*

Budwick Michael *Meland Budwick, P.A. **

Delionado John *Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP **

DelPozo Rodz Allette *Shutts & Bowen LLP **

DeMaria Joseph *Fox Rothschild (ORL) ◊ **

Fonseca Puggina Daniela *Baker McKenzie*

French Digna B *Squire Patton Boggs*

Honkonen Elizabeth *Kenny Nachwalter PA **

Kellogg Jason *Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider +*

Kolaya Timothy A *Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler **

Lieberman Philippe *Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen*

Lopez Javier *Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton **

Marsh Michael C *Akerman LLP **

Meeks Thomas J *Carlton Fields*

Mrachek L Louis *Mrachek, Fitzgerald, Rose (ORL) ◊*

Oretsky Sheila *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Ortiz Jose *Homer Bonner Jacobs Ortiz*

Reed Traband Stephanie *McCarter & English (ORL) ◊*

Romance Mark *Day Pitney LLP*

Ross Ian M *Sidley Austin LLP **

Schneider Jeffrey C *Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider +*

Sires Carlos *Boies Schiller Flexner LLP*

Stein Philip *Bilzin Sumberg*

Suarez Luis *Heise Suarez Melville, P.A.*

Swerdloff Nicolas *Hughes Hubbard & Reed (ORL) ◊ **

Weinstein David B *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Band 5

Baker Deborah *Greenspoon Marder LLP **

Barnett Eleanor *Armstrong Teasdale LLP **

Diaz, Jr. Michael *Diaz Reus & Targ LLP **

Fischer Dianne O *Sidley Austin LLP **

Greenberg Gerald *Gelber Schachter & Greenberg*

Greenberg Valerie *Akerman LLP **

Gurland Jr Harvey W *Duane Morris LLP (ORL) ◊*

Hooker Michael *Phelps Dunbar LLP (ORL) ◊*

Isani Jamie *Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP **

Jacobs Kevin P *Homer Bonner Jacobs Ortiz*

Kellogg Lawrence *Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider +*

Kimbro Bradford *Holland & Knight LLP*

Krimsky Beth-Ann E *Greenspoon Marder LLP **

Lamb Adam *Fox Rothschild (ORL) ◊ **

Levine David *Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP*

Lustrin Lori *Bilzin Sumberg*

Migdal Josh *Mark Migdal & Hayden*

Patel Pravin *Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP **

Pedrosa Eliot *Jones Day*

Pegg Allen P *Hogan Lovells US LLP*

Pineiro Michael *Marcus Neiman Rashbaum (ORL) ◊ **

Polenberg Jon *Becker & Poliakoff PA **

Roppolo William V *Baker McKenzie*

Samuels Leonard K *Berger Singerman **

Spuches Christopher *Agentis PLLC (ORL) ◊*

Stocker Michele L *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Torres Christopher *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Toth Brian *Toth Funes PA (ORL) ◊*

Vaughan Robert *Kim Vaughan Lerner LLP*

Webb Joshua *Hill Ward Henderson*

Up-and-coming individuals

Aron Maia *Mark Migdal & Hayden*

Green Michael *Gunster*

Lifshitz Tal J *Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton **

Ruiz Jennifer *Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA (ORL) ◊*

Sanchez Fausto *Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP **

Sternberg Jason D *Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan*

Strader Yolanda *Strader Paschal, PLLC (ORL) ◊*

Litigation: General Commercial: The Elite

Leading Firms

Band 1

Boies Schiller Flexner LLP

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Hogan Lovells US LLP

Holland & Knight LLP

Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton

Rivero Mestre LLP

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff

Band 2

Akerman LLP

Berger Singerman

Bilzin Sumberg

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Kenny Nachwalter PA

León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP

White & Case LLP

Band 3

Coffey Burlington

Gunster

Hill Ward Henderson

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

Litigation

General Commercial: Highly Regarded

Leading Firms

Band 1

Day Pitney LLP

Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine, P.L.

Mark Migdal & Hayden

Band 2

Baker McKenzie

Carlton Fields

Diaz Reus & Targ LLP

Gelber Schachter & Greenberg

Homer Bonner Jacobs Ortiz

Jones Day

Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider + Grossman LLP

Meland Budwick, P.A.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

Reed Smith LLP

Shutts & Bowen LLP

Winston & Strawn LLP

Band 3

Armstrong Teasdale LLP

Barakat + Bossa

Becker & Poliakoff PA

Bedell, Dittmar, DeVault, Pillans & Coxe

Clarke Silvergate, P.A.

Greenspoon Marder LLP

Heise Suarez Melville, P.A.

Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP

Salazar Law

Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP

Sidley Austin LLP

Squire Patton Boggs

Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC

Kim Vaughan Lerner LLP

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm

Litigation: Mainly Plaintiffs	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Colson Hicks Eidson	
Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton	
Podhurst Orseck P.A.	
Band 2	
Buckner + Miles	
Dimond Kaplan & Rothstein PA	
Grossman Roth Yaffa Cohen	
The Russo Law Firm	
Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, PA	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Edison Lewis S. Colson Hicks Eidson	
Martinez Roberto Colson Hicks Eidson	
Podhurst Aaron S. Podhurst Orseck P.A.	
Leading Individuals	
Star individuals	
Tropin Harley S. Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton	
Band 1	
Martinez-Cid Ricardo Podhurst Orseck P.A.	
Miner Curtis B. Colson Hicks Eidson	
Prieto Peter Podhurst Orseck P.A.	
Band 2	
Braman Kane Julie Colson Hicks Eidson	
Buckner David M. Buckner + Miles	
Dimond Scott M. Dimond Kaplan & Rothstein PA	
Furst Rachel Maderal Byrne & Furst PLLC (ORL) ◊	
Grossman Stuart Z. Grossman Roth Yaffa Cohen	
Kaplan Jeffrey B. Dimond Kaplan & Rothstein PA	
Marks Steven C. Podhurst Orseck P.A.	
Miles Seth Buckner + Miles	
Moskowitz Adam M. The Moskowitz Law Firm (ORL) ◊	
Rothstein David Dimond Kaplan & Rothstein PA	
Widlanski Benjamin Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton *	
Yaffa Andrew B. Grossman Roth Yaffa Cohen	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Arteaga-Gomez Alex Grossman Roth Yaffa Cohen	
Casey Stephanie Colson Hicks Eidson	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

name.

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP offers clients a wide range of expertise across commercial litigation and appellate matters. The firm's areas of particular expertise include insurance, securities and real estate litigation. The team also maintains a fine reputation for its class action defense work. It also excels in labor and employment disputes and environmental litigation. Its deep bench is augmented by the presence of four former appellate court judges. The team is experienced in representing clients within the financial services, leisure, healthcare and technological sectors and proficient in the handling of cross-border and international matters, especially those involving clients in Latin America.

Strengths

"Despite challenging circumstances and fact patterns, the lawyers all perform at high levels of competency."

"Akerman is focused on the full needs of the company and not just the need to complete the case."

Litigation: Securities	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Greenberg Traurig, LLP	
Holland & Knight LLP	
King & Spalding LLP	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Chase David David R Chase PA (ORL) ◊	
Coates III Joseph C. Greenberg Traurig, LLP	
Damian Melanie Damian Valori Culmo (ORL) ◊	
Erez Jeffrey Erez Law, PLLC (ORL) ◊	
Geller Paul Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP (ORL) ◊	
Gerber Tracy Greenberg Traurig, LLP	
Holston Wes Bressler, Amery & Ross, P.C. (ORL) ◊	
Kaufman Bradford D. Greenberg Traurig, LLP	
Kavanaugh Samantha King & Spalding LLP*	
Miller Brian P. King & Spalding LLP*	
Newman Daniel Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP	
Nichols Tracy A. Holland & Knight LLP	
Ross Ian M. Sidley Austin LLP*	
Soto Sara Bressler, Amery & Ross, P.C. (ORL) ◊	
Warren Stephen P. Holland & Knight LLP	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Linzer Ross E. King & Spalding LLP*	

"The lawyers are polite and sharp."

Work highlights Akerman represented Allstate Insurance Company in litigation brought by a former exclusive agent relating to the purchase of the agency and subsequent termination. The plaintiff brought claims against Allstate for conspiracy, breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, and tortious interference.

Notable practitioners

David Ackerman (see p.1456) maintains a wide-ranging practice spanning class actions, corporate and antitrust litigation. He is particularly adept at defending law firms in professional malpractice and legal ethics actions. **Strengths:** "David provides excellent customer service and is a knowledgeable specialist." "David is very sharp on complex legal issues. He drafts excellent briefs and stays calm under pressure." **Michael Marsh** (see p.1483) offers clients a breadth of commercial litigation and class action expertise spanning securities, antitrust and insurance matters, among others. **Strengths:** "Michael knows the law but he is also in our shoes to understand how the case impacts our business." "He is well regarded." "He consistently delivers outstanding results."

Valerie Greenberg (see p.1471) has substantial litigation experience and can tackle a variety of cases ranging from class actions to commercial disputes. She also has notable expertise in handling sophisticated insurance defense matters. **Strengths:** "She is a very good advocate, a great strategic thinker and a subject matter expert." "Valerie is an excellent litigator."

Armstrong Teasdale LLP

What the team is known for Armstrong Teasdale's Miami office provides significant expertise in representing both plaintiffs and defendants in sophisticated commercial and business disputes. The office has particular and notable strength in litigation concerning construction and real estate

issues. The lawyers are also regarded for their trial expertise.

Strengths

"The team is very good at handling complex litigation issues."

"Armstrong Teasdale shows very strong knowledge and expertise to handle all kinds of complex legal issues."

"The firm provides constant updated communications with clarification, explanations of issues and the process throughout."

Work highlights Armstrong Teasdale represented Savoy Hotel Partners (SHP) in a lawsuit brought by Property Strategies after SHP terminated its contract for the renovation and redevelopment of the Savoy Hotel in Miami Beach.

Notable practitioners

Glen Waldman handles a varied caseload, including contract disputes, construction litigation and real estate matters. He offers substantial experience acting for clients in jury and non-jury cases. **Strengths:** "Glen is open-minded, practical and fearless. He is superb in the courtroom in front of any judge or jury." "He is bright, energetic and an excellent trial attorney." "Glen is a tenacious attorney." **Eleanor Barnett** (see p.1458) is regarded for her ability to handle a range of complex litigation matters, including both real estate and employment-related disputes. **Strengths:** "She is a very good attorney."

Baker McKenzie

What the team is known for Baker McKenzie has a South Florida-based practice that leverages the firm's substantial international network to act for multinational clients in a broad range of commercial disputes, with considerable expertise in cases relating to Brazil. The team possesses impressive capabilities in banking and finance-related matters.

Strengths

"The lawyers are very knowledgeable and responsive."

"The lawyers are very adept at understanding, addressing and navigating complex nuances."

"Baker McKenzie's lawyers have very deep knowledge and ability to offer solutions based on need."

Work highlights Baker McKenzie continues to represent Phil Mickelson in a dispute with PGA TOUR, including antitrust, fiduciary duty and contract issues.

Notable practitioners

Daniela Fonseca Puggina stands out for her wealth of expertise in a range of cross-border disputes. She offers notable expertise in matters concerning the financial services sector. **Strengths:** "Daniela is an excellent and knowledgeable professional." "Daniela is approachable and pragmatic. She will not waste your time nor your money and will be extremely objective in her responses. She is a great lawyer." "Daniela is fantastic. She is very strong and has a very high knowledge of the laws. She uses this to give us strong support." **William Roppolo** stands out for his adept handling of commercial litigation and offers notable expertise in matters involving employment issues, bankruptcy and alleged fraud. **Strengths:** "William is incredible knowledgeable, client-oriented, highly adaptable, business-oriented and responsive." "He is

Litigation: Product Liability**Leading Firms****Band 1**

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

Band 2

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Fasi & DiBello, P.A.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Hill Ward Henderson

Kelley | Uustal

King & Spalding LLP

McDonald Tooel & Wiggins PA

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, PA

Leading Individuals**Band 1**

Fasi II Joseph M. Fasi & DiBello, P.A.

Gallo Sabrina Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Geller Paul Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP (ORL) ◊

Geraghty William P. Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

Reilly Kenneth J. Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

Sastre Hildy Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

Band 2

Bach Lagos Alexandra Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Bassett W Randall King & Spalding LLP *

Brenner Andrew Boies Schiller Flexner LLP

Fuhrman Troy A. Hill Ward Henderson *

Fulton Robert Hill Ward Henderson *

Henninger Ursula King & Spalding LLP *

Lunny Gregory Burr & Forman LLP (ORL) ◊

McClure Frederick H.L. Trenam (ORL) ◊

McLoone Jennifer Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

Vaughan Robert Kim Vaughan Lerner LLP

Band 3

Cox Andrea Luks, Santaniello, Petrillo & Jones (ORL) ◊

Guthrie Brian Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

Hill IV Benjamin H. Hill Ward Henderson *

Lundt Eric Jones Day

Mayfield Craig Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

McDonald Jr Francis M. McDonald Tooel & Wiggins PA

Searcy Christian D. Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart

Thompson Edward Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Up-and-coming individuals

Schroll Matthew Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Associates to watch

M Stevenson Allison Hill Ward Henderson *

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

technically proficient and knowledgeable." "William is a strong litigator."

Barakat + Bossa**What the team is known for** Barakat + Bossa offers clients strength in a wide array of complex business litigation, with experience spanning ownership, noncompete and contract-related disputes. The firm is sought after by both corporates and individuals, and possesses a wealth of trial expertise.**Notable practitioners**

Co-founders Brian Barakat and Giacomo Bossa are key contacts at the firm.

Becker & Poliakoff PA**What the team is known for** Becker & Poliakoff PA has a notable team offering expertise across a

wide variety of commercial litigation. It is particularly notable for its representation of insurance companies, banks and developers of all sizes.

Strengths*"Becker & Poliakoff's team is excellent at seeing the entire case, including what it would look like for the jury from the very beginning of a case."**"The lawyers are able to quickly analyze and break down the complexity of the case and various parties involved while articulating a clear and concise recommended plan that is easy to understand."**"The firm has many attorneys who have knowledge in specific areas and are experts in their field."***Work highlights** Becker & Poliakoff represented Francisco Javier Ospina Baraya, the former Colombian president's grandson, as plaintiff against book publishers, the author, writers and actors for defamation due to depicting him as a criminal in the book and movie version of *The Infiltrator*.**Notable practitioners****Jon Polenberg** (see p.1488) is an experienced litigator with capabilities across a broad range of commercial disputes. He is adept at representing clients in both state and federal courts.**Strengths:** *"Jon is dedicated, smart and brings a strong business perspective and understanding of our intended goal and outcome of the case. He is also available anytime to address questions or concerns and works well with other lawyers."* "Jon is a very strong litigator."**Bedell, Dittmar, DeVault, Pillans & Coxe****What the team is known for** Bedell, Dittmar, DeVault, Pillans & Coxe is an established litigation boutique with significant trial and alternative dispute resolution experience. The firm handles a range of commercial work from contentious environmental matters to real estate and banking disputes. It also possesses notable strengths in financial fraud cases.**Strengths***"Bedell is a very good litigation firm."***Notable practitioners****John DeVault** has a strong track record of assisting clients with high-stakes commercial litigation. He is notably experienced in handling legal malpractice cases.**Berger Singerman****What the team is known for** Berger Singerman offers clients a depth of expertise across a range of commercial litigation. The firm possesses experience in high-stakes litigation relating to bankruptcy, fraud and shareholder disputes, among other areas. It maintains a fine reputation for its work in real estate and environmental-related litigation. The team is also regularly called upon for its strengths in insurance and product liability suits. Berger Singerman has particular strength in its three southern Florida offices, with additional presence in the northern part of the state from its Tallahassee office, and clients range from household-name corporations to individuals.**Strengths***"The firm is great in commercial litigation."**"Berger Singerman is a good firm."**"Berger Singerman have good trial lawyers."***Work highlights** Berger Singerman represented

Coca-Cola in a putative class action alleging violations of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, violations of warranties under the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, and other consumer protection statutes in connection with marketing of Fanta brand products.

Notable practitioners**Mitchell Berger** enjoys an excellent reputation for his handling of commercial disputes. He cochairs Berger Singerman and represents clients at trial and appellate level. **Strengths:** *"He is a prominent lawyer."* "He is plugged in to the Florida courts."*"Mitchell is a good veteran litigator."* **James Gas-senheimer** (see p.1470) maintains a varied litigation practice, including commercial contract, real estate and insurance disputes. **Strengths:** *"James is an outstanding litigation attorney. He is an adept commercial lawyer who understands our issues. He is also an extremely hard worker."* "James is a tenacious litigator." **Leonard Samuels** (see p.1493) has notable experience handling a wide array of business litigation, including breach of contract and restrictive covenant disputes. **Strengths:** *"Leonard is a thorough professional."***Bilzin Sumberg****What the team is known for** Bilzin Sumberg is active in both the state and federal court systems, with expertise in mortgage issues. The firm possesses significant experience at the appellate level. It has a standout practice for partnership and shareholder disputes and is additionally noted for its strengths in antitrust, product liability, insurance and construction-related litigation. The team is experienced in handling matters for a wide array of clients, including those within the manufacturing, retail, financial and real estate sectors.**Strengths***"The lawyers are highly skilled in litigating cases involving complex legal subject matter."**"They are a full-service firm, so when our lead attorney is not sure about a particular issue they are able to get advice from other specialists."**"The lawyers handle cases not only intelligently but with sensitivity."***Work highlights** Bilzin Sumberg continued to represent Honda of America in a class action complaint filed by numerous recyclers of automobiles located throughout the USA. These recyclers claim that they would not have purchased the recycled vehicles or would have paid a lower amount had they known the vehicles contained a Takata airbag.**Notable practitioners****Melissa Pallett-Vasquez** handles a broad variety of commercial disputes. Her practice includes acting for defendants in consumer class actions as well as representing clients in contract disputes. **Strengths:** *"Melissa is a strong advocate and is the best trial lawyer I have worked with."* "She is a really strong, well-respected partner."*"Melissa is an excellent trial attorney who presents extremely well."* **Mitchell Widom** regularly represents clients in high-stakes trials and has significant experience in complex commercial disputes, multidistrict litigation and large class actions.**Strengths:** *"Mitchell displays sound judgment."* "Mitch has a good presence in the courtroom and

has a good strategic sense." **Philip Stein** heads the litigation group at Bilzin Sumberg and offers substantial experience representing financial institutions in high-value disputes. **Strengths:** "Phil is excellent to work with." "Philip is extremely knowledgeable." "He is efficient and gets to the point." **Lori Lustrin** represents defendants in complex class actions and commercial disputes. She offers additional expertise in antitrust litigation. **Strengths:** "Lori is a brilliant, fantastic lawyer."

Boies Schiller Flexner LLP

What the team is known for Boies Schiller Flexner LLP is a highly respected litigation boutique with a strong reputation for handling significant commercial disputes. The firm enjoys an excellent reputation in the market for its expertise in product liability and securities disputes, and is also noted for its proficiency in complex antitrust and IP cases. The team is equally adept in its representation of plaintiffs and defendants, and clients hail from a broad range of industry sectors, including energy and retail.

Strengths

"BSF's lawyers display high technical knowledge." "BSF is the real deal." "BSF is one of the standout firms."

Work highlights Boies Schiller Flexner obtained two settlements from financial institutions on behalf of a class of victims of Jeffrey Epstein for a total of \$365 million.

Notable practitioners

Stuart Singer possesses a wealth of experience in commercial litigation. He regularly handles large class actions as well as appellate matters, and acts for high-profile clients from a range of sectors. **Strengths:** "Stuart is just one of the most experienced lawyers you can find. He is a master of strategy." "Singer continues to be brilliant."

"He is fantastic." **Andrew Brenner** is an accomplished trial lawyer with experience handling a wide range of product liability suits, as part of a broader commercial litigation practice. He heads Boies Schiller Flexner's Miami litigation practice. **Strengths:** "Andrew is excellent as a first chair in trials." "Andrew is a strong lawyer. He does a nice job strategically thinking about matters." **Carlos**

Sires maintains a wide-ranging litigation practice, spanning commercial disputes, class actions and real estate cases. He offers notable expertise in matters concerning Latin American jurisdictions. **Strengths:** "Carlos is a consummate gentleman." "Carlos is a very good lawyer."

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

What the team is known for Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP's Tampa office represents pharmaceutical companies and manufacturers in complex product liability cases involving medical devices and consumer products.

Strengths

"Bradley is well known in product liability and is a competent firm."

Notable practitioners

Craig Mayfield handles significant product liability litigation as part of his broad practice. He is the managing partner of the Tampa office of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP.

Buckner + Miles

What the team is known for Buckner + Miles is a well-regarded firm particularly notable for its expertise across qui tam, wrongful death and class action litigation. The firm also capably handles high-stakes commercial and securities litigation.

Notable practitioners

Buckner + Miles co-founder **David Buckner** is highly regarded for his acumen as a litigator, regularly representing clients in complex cases. He deftly handles commercial, securities and class action litigation. **Seth Miles** is a noted plaintiff lawyer with experience handling cases involving personal injury, commercial tort and medical malpractice claims. He is a co-founding partner of Buckner + Miles.

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields offers wide-ranging litigation expertise across an array of commercial disputes, including alleged breaches of contract, fiduciary duty and restrictive covenants. The firm has experience acting for clients in the healthcare, finance and manufacturing sectors, among others.

Notable practitioners

Benjamine Reid has a varied practice, spanning trial work and appellate matters. He offers extensive experience in product liability cases and significant class actions. **Strengths:** "He is a calm and effective litigator." **Thomas Meeks** has extensive experience in an array of commercial disputes and is adept at representing clients in jury trials. His practice includes securities litigation and breach of contract cases, as well as trade secrets disputes.

Clarke Silvergate, P.A.

What the team is known for Clarke Silvergate, P.A. is regarded for its adept representation of clients in complex commercial litigation matters. The firm offers expertise across a range of issues and is particularly experienced at handling sophisticated class actions, breach of contract and product defect cases.

Strengths

"They are battle-tested in trial and skilled in litigation."

"Clarke Silvergate are very responsive, provide great communication and always keep me advised. Everything is timely."

"The firm has excellent litigation bona fides. Clarke Silvergate has versatile commercial litigators."

Work highlights Clarke Silvergate represented NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell in litigation alleging breach of trust, racial discrimination, wrongful termination, retaliation and civil rights violation.

Notable practitioners

Spencer Silvergate is a key contact at the firm.

Coffey Burlington

What the team is known for Coffey Burlington is a litigation boutique based in Miami which frequently represents clients in arbitrations and trials. The firm is highly respected for its ability to handle large-scale and sophisticated litigation across a wide range of areas.

Strengths

"Coffey Burlington has excellent lawyers." "The firm has good commercial litigators." "Coffey Burlington is a great firm."

Notable practitioners

Robert Burlington is a highly experienced trial lawyer who handles a variety of litigation, including contract disputes, real estate matters and class actions. He also serves as an arbitrator. **Strengths:** "Robert Burlington is excellent." **Kendall Coffey** offers extensive experience in complex commercial disputes, regularly acting for clients at trial and appellate levels. **Strengths:** "He is an outstanding lawyer." "Kendall is one of the most notable trial lawyers."

Colson Hicks Eidson

What the team is known for Colson Hicks Eidson is a premier practice for plaintiff representation, with a deep bench of attorneys with enormous trial experience. The firm possesses significant expertise in class action matters including personal injury and product liability cases, especially in connection with aviation disasters. The team has additional strengths in professional malpractice litigation.

Notable practitioners

Lewis Eidson specializes in complex product liability cases. He also handles medical malpractice claims and is noted for his experience acting for victims of aviation accidents. **Roberto Martinez** wins praise for his handling of complex criminal and civil disputes. He is regularly sought after to take a lead role in product liability and business litigation. **Curtis Miner** regularly represents clients in high-stakes commercial disputes, with notable experience in jury trials. **Julie Braman Kane** is noted for her expertise in multidistrict litigation and class actions, with experience handling personal injury, product liability and data breach claims. **Stephanie Casey** is a well-regarded litigator with experience spanning commercial disputes, consumer class actions and personal injury claims. **Strengths:** "Stephanie is smart and practical."

Day Pitney LLP

What the team is known for Day Pitney LLP handles a wide range of disputes including antitrust, real estate and professional malpractice cases. The firm possesses significant experience in handling consumer class actions on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants. It is also highly regarded for its accomplished work in product liability, IP and employment disputes, and maintains a fine track record for its work on behalf of clients in the healthcare and financial services sectors. The firm possesses additional strength in the election law space.

Strengths

"Day Pitney's team shows a high ability to understand the fundamentals of a complex case, a strong knowledge of applicable laws, as well as quick reaction times to manage special circumstances which require fast turnarounds."

"Day Pitney make us feel like we are their only client."

"The quality of work the lawyers provide is very high."

Work highlights Day Pitney represented Mojo Dialing Solutions in a class action alleging TCPA and California Unfair Competition Law violations.

Notable practitioners

Manuel Garcia Linares regularly handles a wide range of civil disputes. He represents clients in professional malpractice claims, real estate litigation and class actions. **Strengths:** "Manuel is super well organized and does great cases." "Manuel is an excellent legal team leader who develops sound case management strategy." **Mark Romance** has experience handling a range of commercial disputes, including complex product liability, financial services and insurance related litigation. **Strengths:** "Mark is a great, well-regarded litigator." "Mark is the man who gets things done. He is always very professional, knowledgeable, patient and eager to learn our business." "Mark remains determined and professional while doing an excellent job communicating to many parties."

Diaz Reus & Targ LLP

What the team is known for Diaz Reus & Targ LLP acts for domestic and international clients in a range of commercial disputes. The firm is held in high esteem for its experience dealing with cross-border disputes, with a focus on Latin American matters and cases with parallel proceedings. The team enjoys a fine reputation for its work in financial fraud cases, and is also noted for its strengths in shareholder and contract disputes.

Strengths

"Diaz Reus possesses a large presence of experienced attorneys in different areas of expertise."

"The firm's advice is spot on and the teamwork is second to none. They have both the depth of knowledge and expertise to manage complex matters."

"The highly competent team at Diaz Reus are master tacticians in managing a complex case. They are strong, highly competent, professional and unwavering in their support. I wouldn't want anyone else in my corner."

Work highlights Diaz Reus & Targ represented current and former members of the Board of Directors for Eastern National Bank in a derivative lawsuit initiated by the bank's minority shareholders, which sought \$23 million in connection with alleged breaches of fiduciary duties.

Notable practitioners

Marta Colomar Garcia (see p.1463) has a broad litigation practice and offers considerable expertise in cross-border disputes. **Strengths:** "Marta is very efficient and client-oriented. She is a pleasure to work with." "She is an excellent and responsive attorney." "She is available around the clock and is thorough in her work." **Michael Diaz** (see p.1465) maintains a wide-ranging commercial litigation practice and offers notable experience in matters with cross-border elements with Latin America. **Strengths:** "Michael is very sharp." "He is a tenacious litigator." "He is an excellent lawyer, especially in the courtroom. He is also thorough and quick to respond."

Dimond Kaplan & Rothstein PA

What the team is known for Diamond Kaplan & Rothstein PA has a renowned plaintiff-focused practice specializing in the representation of individual and institutional investors in claims of

securities fraud and stockbroker misconduct. The firm offers further expertise assisting with commercial disputes, personal injury claims and class actions.

Notable practitioners

Scott Dimond is praised for his plaintiff-side representation in a wide variety of litigation, including securities disputes and broker misconduct actions. **Jeffrey Kaplan** focuses his practice on plaintiff-side securities litigation and arbitration, with experience in fraud and broker misconduct claims. **David Rothstein** is commended for his work as a plaintiff litigator. He takes on commercial disputes and class actions. **Strengths:** "He is a smart lawyer." "David is just an outstanding trial lawyer. He is extremely analytical."

Fasi & DiBello, P.A.

What the team is known for Fasi & DiBello, P.A. is highlighted for its skilled representation of pharmaceutical companies and manufacturers in a variety of product liability cases. The lawyers routinely handle disputes concerning medical products and tobacco.

Notable practitioners

Fasi & DiBello co-founder **Joseph Fasi** is an experienced trial lawyer who is highly regarded for his work in product liability litigation. He is very knowledgeable of the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** "Joseph is a fantastic first-chair trial lawyer." "I think the world of Joseph. He is a terrific lawyer."

Gelber Schachter & Greenberg

What the team is known for Gelber Schachter & Greenberg is a well-regarded litigation shop with expertise across the full range of civil disputes. The firm is routinely called upon to represent both plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal courts. The team is adept at handling cases relating to healthcare fraud, as well as consumer claims and class actions.

Strengths

"Gelber Schachter are able to quickly marshal their resources in a complicated matter, combining legal work and using their network to resolve the matter." "The firm is very professional, very accessible and has a great reputation. The lawyers are quick to provide thoughts and next steps to move forward. Gelber Schachter's recommendations work out very well."

"Gelber Schachter is very sophisticated in a wide variety of litigation, especially commercial litigation. They are consummate team players, work efficiently and exercise consistently excellent judgment."

Work highlights Gelber Schachter & Greenberg represented UPS in multiple lawsuits relating to claims that it failed to deliver shipments.

Notable practitioners

Adam Schachter is a skilled appellate and trial lawyer, with a wealth of experience across a broad range of commercial disputes. He is also adept at handling matters concerning alleged frauds and Ponzi schemes. **Strengths:** "Adam is a savvy attorney who is able to quickly assess the quality of case documents while identifying legal argument gaps and leverage points." **Gerald Greenberg** represents both plaintiffs and defendants in complex

litigation, including product liability, commercial disputes and defamation. He is also experienced at handling white-collar criminal matters.

Strengths: "He is an extremely talented lawyer." "He is smart, extremely amiable and approachable."

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP offers impressive bench strength and state coverage to a wide array of clients across a range of commercial disputes. The firm is noted for its highly adept counsel in product liability, banking and securities litigation, and also comes recommended for its strengths in insurance and real estate disputes. The team maintains a fine track record in complex cross-border cases and is also sought after for its extensive capabilities in appellate cases. Its lawyers represent a wide array of clients, including those within the telecommunications, financial services and manufacturing sectors.

Strengths

"Greenberg Traurig do well in guiding a client into understanding the realistic scope of their concerns and goals in light of practical circumstances."

"The firm has a strong bench of talent across different domains with deep experience. Greenberg Traurig also has up-and-coming resources that can be leveraged below the partner level."

"They are always well prepared as their research is thoroughly conducted. The lawyers have a great court presence and knowledge base."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP successfully defended Black Dragon Capital against claims that the private equity fund was a Ponzi scheme.

Notable practitioners

Joseph Coates is highly regarded for his practice as a securities litigator. He is particularly noted for his broker-dealer defense work. **Strengths:** "Joe is a great trial lawyer. He will handle our more complex matters that require people to roll up their sleeves. Joe is someone who can dig in and handle it." **Sabrina Gallo** chairs Greenberg Traurig's product liability practice in Miami. She is a go-to lawyer for product manufacturers and has expertise in handling pharmaceutical and medical device-related litigation. **Tracy Gerber** is an expert in broker-dealer securities work. Her clients also benefit from her regulatory knowledge.

Strengths: "She is a well-known go-to lawyer. Tracy is great." **Bradford Kaufman** is co-president of Greenberg Traurig and cochair of the securities litigation group at the firm. He is well known for representing large clients in sophisticated court cases and arbitration proceedings. **Alexandra Bach Lagos** is a litigator with a broad practice covering tort and product liability actions. She is particularly accomplished in the representation of clients in the pharmaceutical and medical device sectors. **Strengths:** "She is an excellent lawyer." "Alexandra is excellent at managing mass torts. She is an up-and-coming trial lawyer."

Michael Kreitzer wins praise for his handling of complex commercial disputes. His work spans a range of sectors, including real estate, construction and financial services. **Strengths:** "He is a master. Michael is frank and direct. It is easy to understand his viewpoints, and more importantly, he listens to

his clients and explains why a different course of action is a better path. I cannot find the flaws, if he has any." "He is an extraordinary trial attorney."

Sheila Oretsky is commended for her acumen as a trial lawyer. She is particularly skilled in class action work. **Strengths:** "Sheila is an excellent litigator who excels in communication and strategy." **David Weinstein** possesses expertise spanning a wide array of commercial litigation and arbitrations, and is adept at handling matters involving environmental and real estate issues. He chairs the Tampa litigation practice at Greenberg Traurig. **Strengths:** "He is a real expert and a highly regarded commercial litigator." As cochair of Greenberg Traurig's consumer financial services litigation practice, **Michele Stocker** is regularly sought after by banks and other finance sector clients. She has experience across a wide range of commercial disputes and consumer claims. **Strengths:** "She is a strong litigator." "Michele is a spectacular lawyer." "She is well regarded." Based in Greenberg Traurig's Tampa office, **Christopher Torres** is noted for his expertise in handling both commercial litigation and securities-related disputes. **Strengths:** "Christopher is easy to work with and very knowledgeable." "He is well regarded." "He is a bright and solid lawyer."

Greenspoon Marder LLP

What the team is known for Greenspoon Marder LLP has a notable Florida team offering expertise in a broad array of commercial litigation, including contract, marketing and insurance-related disputes. The firm possesses considerable prowess in real estate matters of all kinds, with particular expertise in the timeshare sector. The team also handles litigation relating to the TCPA.

Strengths

"The lawyers always come up with creative ways to handle cases and prevail."

"Greenspoon Marder has talented lawyers."

Work highlights Greenspoon Marder represented Benenson Capital Company and W.P.R.F. in a dispute against the United Civic Organization in connection with unit owners' financial responsibility for repairs to HVAC systems in the Main Clubhouse at Century Village West Palm Beach.

Notable practitioners

Deborah Baker (see p.1457) has a broad-based commercial practice, with experience handling shareholder suits, contract disputes and real estate litigation. **Strengths:** "Deborah has a large presence in the market." "She is an excellent lawyer." **Beth-Ann Krimsky** (see p.1478) has notable expertise handling commercial disputes and class actions. She has particular experience in marketing-related class actions.

Grossman Roth Yaffa Cohen

What the team is known for Grossman Roth Yaffa Cohen is a well-respected Florida-based plaintiff firm with wide-ranging expertise. The firm's experience spans cases involving medical malpractice and catastrophic injury to consumer claims and business disputes.

Strengths

"Grossman Roth's lawyers are very thorough and diligent."

"The firm is widely recognized for providing high-

quality legal assistance to its clients. The firm possesses a deep and diverse pool of legal talent with expertise across a wide range of practice areas." "Grossman Roth has excellent trial lawyers and people skills."

Work highlights Grossman Roth Yaffa Cohen represented a class of plaintiffs in a constitutional challenge against a City of Miami Ordinance and related regulations over imposing a parking tax.

Notable practitioners

Co-founder **Stuart Grossman** is highly adept at representing plaintiffs in complex catastrophic injury and wrongful death cases. **Andrew Yaffa** is well regarded for his ability to handle personal injury and wrongful death cases. He has further experience in product liability and medical malpractice litigation. **Strengths:** "His focus and dedication show his commitment to delivering the highest-quality work. This emphasis on excellence underscores his professionalism and dedication to providing top legal services." "Andrew Yaffa is a brilliant legal mind." "Andrew is a relentless litigator who gets the best results he can for the clients."

Alex Arteaga-Gomez is recognized for his ability to represent plaintiffs in mass tort personal injury and wrongful death cases. **Strengths:** "Alex is a pleasure to work with. He demonstrates a strong understanding of the issues in cases." "Alex handles cases perfectly. He is tactful and very knowledgeable."

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster has a broad commercial litigation practice, noted for its strengths in financial services, insurance, real estate and product liability disputes. The team also enjoys a very strong reputation for professional malpractice defense work. It represents an array of clients including financial institutions and prominent accountancy and law firms. The firm draws upon impressive statewide presence, with 13 Florida office locations.

Strengths

"Gunster is spectacular. They are great and so very, very helpful during all proceedings."

"The firm has very solid knowledge of both the facts and the law."

"Gunster is a go-to."

Work highlights Gunster successfully defended CNN in defamation litigation brought by Alan Dershowitz concerning the broadcasting and commentary of his statements made in defense of President Donald Trump during his impeachment trial before the US Senate.

Notable practitioners

William Schifino maintains a broad practice, ranging from IP litigation to representing law firms in malpractice claims. **Strengths:** "William is smart, knowledgeable and hardworking." "He has very strong knowledge of the law. William's confidence displays a lot of strength, and clients feel comfortable because of that." "He is highly regarded." **David Wells** comes recommended for his vast experience representing individuals, corporations and financial institutions in commercial disputes. His practice spans the full range of dispute resolution, including trials and appeals. **Strengths:** "David's strength is focusing on the pressure points and recognizing them

early. He makes efficient arguments." "He is a tremendous lawyer." **Nicole Atkinson** is noted for her widespread litigation expertise, with experience handling professional liability, business and technology-related disputes, among others.

Strengths: "Nicole is a talented and strong lawyer." "Nicole is extremely knowledgeable. She adds more value with her billing rate and her efficiency." "She is one of the best young lawyers I know. Nicole is smart, assertive and gets us through tough times."

Michael Green handles a range of business and civil litigation matters, with a particular focus on real estate-related disputes. **Strengths:** "He is smart, measured and strategic. Michael is calm and doesn't get rattled." "Michael exceeds all expectations."

Heise Suarez Melville, P.A.

What the team is known for Heise Suarez Melville, P.A. is a boutique litigation firm with a wide range of commercial disputes expertise, including handling class actions, product liability claims, securities fraud and contractual matters.

Strengths

"I think highly of the firm."

Notable practitioners

Alvin Davis is greatly respected for the wealth of his experience across all forms of dispute resolution. **Strengths:** "Alvin is smart, sharp and a pleasure to work with." **Luis Suarez** has widespread business litigation experience, including contractual disputes, product liability claims and antitrust matters. **Strengths:** "Luis is a talented lawyer." "He is a well-liked, well-regarded and popular lawyer." "He is well respected by judges."

Hill Ward Henderson

What the team is known for Hill Ward Henderson has a Tampa-based team offering expertise across a wide range of commercial litigation, both statewide and beyond. The firm represents both individuals and corporations and is well known for its work in breach of contract, securities and IP disputes. The team also possesses notable expertise in antitrust, product liability and professional negligence cases. Clients hail from a broad range of industries, including the manufacturing, food and drink, construction and chemical sectors. The team brings additional expertise in healthcare-related litigation.

Strengths

"Hill Ward Henderson has a good depth of knowledge, especially in Florida courts and state law."

"It's an excellent firm for complex matters."

"Hill Ward Henderson have expertise and are excellent in terms of value. The customer service is spot on as well, as they will take my calls any day or night."

Notable practitioners

Troy Fuhrman (see p.1469) is skilled at representing manufacturers in complex tobacco-related product liability claims, among other mass tort litigation. He leads Hill Ward Henderson's tobacco litigation group. **Strengths:** "The virtue of experience gives Troy a level of wisdom, meaning he is able to give practical, diligent advice. If he is assigned a task, he is going to accomplish it at the most competent level and stay on top until the task is done." "We go to Troy because of his expertise in

Florida law and for his relationships with plaintiff counsel.” “Troy is very skilled and good in front of a jury.” **Robert Fulton** (see p.1469) is commended for his expertise in product liability litigation. He has notable experience working with clients in the automotive sector. **Strengths:** “Robert handles cases well. I know I can take really tricky stuff to him and he will handle it sensitively.” “Robert is well connected in Florida and has good relationships, which helps to get cases resolved. He is also a very talented trial lawyer.” “He is everything you want in a lead counsel.” **Benjamin Hill** (see p.1474) is noted

for his particular expertise representing tobacco companies in personal injury and wrongful death cases. He is the chair of Hill Ward Henderson’s product liability and personal injury litigation group. **Strengths:** “Ben is an excellent attorney.” “He is extremely professional and provides the highest-quality representation.” **Dennis Waggoner** maintains a wide-ranging practice, spanning contract disputes, class actions and antitrust litigation. He offers notable experience acting for law firms in professional liability cases. **Strengths:**

“Dennis is my go-to litigation counsel.” “He is an excellent lawyer. Dennis is efficient and achieves excellent results.” “Dennis is well regarded.”

Joshua Webb has a broad-based commercial litigation practice, with experience handling business torts, legal malpractice and product liability suits, among others. **Strengths:** “Joshua is very responsive and great at thinking through strategy.”

“He does an excellent job in providing good service and good practical recommendations about the handling of the case.” **Allison Stevenson** (see p.1483) is an associate recognized for her ability to defend product manufacturers against claims of wrongful death and personal injury. She is particularly experienced in handling tobacco-related cases. **Strengths:** “Allison is a very talented associate.” “She is very diligent and is always on top of matters.”

Hogan Lovells US LLP

What the team is known for Hogan Lovells has an excellent litigation group offering expertise at trial and appellate levels across a range of areas including construction, professional liability, and labor and employment disputes. The firm also excels in complex IP and antitrust litigation, and maintains a strong reputation for international arbitration work. The team is experienced in handling matters for a wide array of clients, including those within the banking, pharmaceutical and healthcare industries. It is regularly sought for representation in disputes involving government and state-owned entities.

Strengths

“They have a phenomenal group.”

“Hogan Lovells is a strong firm with talented lawyers.”

“Hogan Lovells is a standout firm.”

Work highlights Hogan Lovells represented Xinjiang Goldwind Science & Technology Company against allegations that Goldwind violated the Helms Burton Act by offloading wind turbine equipment at Cuban ports.

Notable practitioners

Marty Steinberg has breadth of experience handling significant commercial litigation mandates.

He possesses notable prowess in product liability cases and business disputes. **Strengths:** “He is a fantastic lawyer.” **Allen Pegg** has a broad range of litigation expertise, with particular strength handling financial services-related disputes. He offers further prowess in tackling both trials and arbitrations. **Strengths:** “Allen Pegg is a wonderful lawyer. He is extremely polished on his feet.” “He is a terrific and professional lawyer who handles sophisticated matters.”

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight LLP possesses highly respected expertise across a broad array of civil disputes, with significant appellate expertise. The firm is highlighted for its strengths in product liability, IP and professional malpractice cases. It is recognized for its fine track record in First Amendment litigation in the media and entertainment space. The firm draws upon a deep bench of national and international litigation experts.

Strengths

“Their level of efficiency is so much better than many others.”

“They are an excellent firm with a very broad reach. Holland & Knight is a go-to firm for our needs.”

Work highlights Holland & Knight represented Iberostar Hoteles y Apartamentos in a claim based on Title III of the Helms-Burton Act.

Notable practitioners

Tracy Nichols leads the class action defense and securities litigation teams at Holland & Knight and offers vast experience in large class actions.

Strengths: “She is a well-regarded and top-notch lawyer.” **Stephen Warren** is well regarded for his ability to represent clients in securities class actions, shareholder derivative actions and FINRA enforcement. **Joseph Varner** is an experienced litigator with a varied practice, which includes securities disputes, professional negligence matters and personal injury claims. He also acts as a mediator. **Strengths:** “Joseph is smooth. He is calm in his approach, thoughtful and measured.” “When we have litigation, he is our go-to. Everyone loves working with him because he solves whatever terrible problems clients have. He is very effective and good at being solution-oriented.”

“He has a calming presence, which goes a long way in dealing with other lawyers and judges. He commands a lot of respect.” **Adolfo Jimenez** represents a wide variety of clients in disputes. As head of the international arbitration practice, he possesses cross-sector and multijurisdictional expertise. **Strengths:**

“Adolfo is an excellent lawyer.” “He is able to effectively resolve disputes.” **Bradford Kimbro** has experience handling a range of commercial disputes, including business torts, employment and personal injury litigation. He also serves as a mediator. **Strengths:** “Bradford is an outstanding lawyer.” “He is highly regarded.”

Homer Bonner Jacobs Ortiz

What the team is known for Homer Bonner Jacobs Ortiz is a notable Miami litigation boutique focused primarily on commercial disputes and class actions. The team offers impressive capabilities across a range of contractual, securities and commodities matters on behalf of individual and

institutional clients.

Strengths

“The Homer Bonner lawyers are highly skilled. They are knowledgeable on applicable law, with efficient and effective development of the facts.”

“The Homer Bonner attorneys are among the finest I work with. Their understanding of the law, strategic capabilities, indefatigable diligence and clarity of expression evidence their combination of experience, intelligence and calculated risk taking. I highly value their advice.”

“Homer Bonner is a well-regarded group.”

“Homer Bonner is a strong firm.”

“The lawyers are always responsive.”

Work highlights Homer Bonner represented Century Gables View Multifamily in relation to broken deal litigation in connection with an \$84 million sale of a multifamily structure and adjoining parking structure.

Notable practitioners

Jose Ortiz wins praise for his commercial litigation practice. He offers notable experience representing financial institutions and is adept at appearing on behalf of clients in state and federal courts. **Strengths:** “He has a sophisticated practice.” “Jose is excellent. He is a well-liked and personable lawyer with a good way about him. He is practical and has a good business outlook.” **Kevin Jacobs** is an experienced litigator with capabilities spanning breach of contract claims, intellectual property disputes and employment litigation, among other matters. **Strengths:** “Kevin is extremely cerebral. He is a very thoughtful academic lawyer while also being good on his feet in a courtroom. He knows the law extremely well and is a super intellectual fellow who brings gravitas to a case.” “Kevin is a superb writer. He is extremely good at making a complex legal point understandable in a persuasive way.” “His ability to rationally and accurately calculate probable outcomes, even in highly variable environments with significant risk, is one of his most valuable skills. Kevin also balances the tension between risk and conservative interpretation of laws and regulations in a way that makes practical business sense and is extremely useful to decision makers.”

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

What the team is known for Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP has a Miami-based litigation team positioned within a global law firm with significant international resources. The firm excels in cross-border litigation, particularly with regard to Latin America and the Caribbean. The team is noted for its adept counsel in financial services disputes, as well as cases concerning product liability, IP, antitrust and real estate. The firm is an excellent choice of firm for class action defense work and particularly noted for its work on behalf of government clients. It also has sector-specific experience pertaining to the food and drink, transportation, financial and manufacturing industries, among others.

Strengths

“Hunton Andrews demonstrates an ability to put together the right teams based on the needs of the business. They are at the top of my list because the lawyers are a pleasure to work with and give incredibly client-oriented service. The firm takes all the

worries off your plate."

"The firm is very good at open communication. The lawyers brainstorm with me, which I often don't see with other outside counsel."

"You get the whole package with Hunton Andrews."

Work highlights Hunton Andrews Kurth continued to serve as the lead defense counsel for Yahoo! in over 40 consumer class actions in what was reported as the largest data breach in history.

Notable practitioners

Samuel Danon (see p.1464) is managing partner of Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP and is adept at handling a variety of commercial disputes for international corporates and financial institutions.

Strengths: "Sam provides great client service. He has a good understanding of our business." "Sam is a very experienced and senior litigation partner who I trust with very significant cases. He helps simplify these matters for judges, juries and clients. He really brings such a strong skill set to the table."

John Delionado (see p.1465) has a broad-based practice as a litigator with considerable expertise across a huge variety of cases. He regularly represents large corporate clients in high-stakes cases. **Strengths:** "John is extremely easy to work with, especially when you're doing complicated things where a lot of information is being pulled in."

"John provides excellent client service with significant expertise and a wealth of knowledge." "He is a pleasure to work with." **Jamie Isani** (see p.1475) is an experienced commercial litigator who focuses her practice on consumer class actions, business disputes and financial services-related litigation.

Jones Day

What the team is known for Jones Day is noted for expertise across a range of commercial litigation in Florida alongside strength in complex product liability cases. The team is able to call on the resources of the wider firm to support large clients.

Strengths

"Jones Day have a breadth of expertise and are very responsive. We really value them as the best in class."

"Their experience with cross-border work and knowledge of not only domestic but also Latin American legal markets is one of the biggest draws."

Work highlights Jones Day succeeded in obtaining two dismissals of a mass action by over 100 airline pilots against Atlas Air and additional co-defendants. The action sought redress against various policies adopted by Atlas Air in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in compliance with FAA regulations and advice.

Notable practitioners

Eric Lundt is an experienced litigator frequently sought after by pharmaceutical, medical device and other product manufacturers facing mass tort claims. **Strengths:** "He is well versed in the local practice and is really good on his feet in front of judges." "His thoughtfulness stands out. He examines issues from all angles and is very thoughtful about the goals in litigation. Eric is someone you would trust the scariest of cases with." "He is very diligent. Eric is familiar with the courts and judges, but he can also alert us to a trend he is seeing in the court system we need to be aware of." **Eliot Pedrosa** regularly handles complex commercial

litigation and product liability disputes. He possesses significant trial experience. **Strengths:** "Eliot has a careful, strategic mind for day-to-day litigation. He has not wavered through multi-year litigation, while also working innovative angles to resolve the matter." "Eliot is an excellent trial attorney. Not only does he show grit and determination, but he is always prepared and considers the case from every angle." "Eliot is sharp and incredibly responsive, and he has great instincts and a deep understanding of the law which allow him to provide practical legal advice within very tight time frames. He is very skilled at managing the interplay of potentially conflicting law across jurisdictions."

Kelley | Uustal

What the team is known for Kelley | Uustal excels in the representation of plaintiffs in major personal injury and wrongful death suits, with a wealth of trial experience. The firm has particular strength in handling cases arising in the product liability sphere.

Notable practitioners

Founding partners Robert Kelley and John Uustal are key contacts at the firm.

Kenny Nachwalter PA

What the team is known for Kenny Nachwalter PA is a distinguished litigation boutique with significant expertise in a range of dispute areas, including professional liability and securities fraud. The team is also regularly sought after for its expert counsel on antitrust, IP and D&O liability cases. The firm enjoys a market-leading reputation for both plaintiff and defense work.

Strengths

"The firm's technical expertise in complex matters is tremendous."

"Kenny Nachwalter has excellent lawyers."

Work highlights Kenny Nachwalter represented Rolex Watch, U.S.A. as plaintiff in a federal trademark infringement action against two individual realtors and their real estate company for their use of corporate names that allegedly capitalize on Rolex's registered trademarks and international reputation.

Notable practitioners

Stanley Wakshlag (see p.1499) is highly regarded for his significant experience in commercial litigation. He regularly represents clients in class actions and securities disputes. **Richard Critchlow** (see p.1464) offers experience in a variety of litigation, including contract disputes and shareholder derivative claims. He also serves as an arbitrator. **Strengths:** "He is so thorough. He has a knowledge of the law and procedures and knows how to handle cases. Richard is always consummately prepared." "Richard's approach and demeanor is excellent. He cares about his clients and delivers." "Richard is terrific. He is one of the best in the field and is an amazing lawyer. He knows how to try and win a case. He is sensational."

Elizabeth Honkonen (see p.1475) has a broad base of commercial litigation experience alongside further strength handling malpractice cases on behalf of law firms. **Strengths:** "Elizabeth is extremely intelligent, dedicated, diligent and reliable. She expresses herself with tact, grace, integrity and grit. I would absolutely work with her

again on any matter, and I would unreservedly recommend her to any client in any forum." "Elizabeth is smart, detail-oriented and has very good recall of the facts and circumstances. She is easy to work with because she is attentive and extremely effective." "She is an exceptional writer."

King & Spalding LLP

What the team is known for King & Spalding LLP is noted for its broad-based commercial litigation strength acting on behalf of a diverse client base including those in the manufacturing, healthcare and aviation sectors. The firm's areas of expertise span securities class actions and derivative suits, product liability claims and an array of contractual disputes.

Strengths

"The team is wonderful. The firm adds the talent to round out the team and ensure we have the resources we need to best support the case. They build the right team."

"The firm is well versed in sophisticated legal issues."

"I would choose them again. The lawyers are all fully briefed and speak from a shared understanding of the work."

Work highlights King & Spalding represented MapleWood Partners in Delaware District Court litigation involving breach of fiduciary duty claims brought by a large investor.

Notable practitioners

Samantha Kavanaugh (see p.1476) is an experienced litigator who represents corporates in securities class actions and contract disputes.

Strengths: "She is well liked and well regarded."

Brian Miller (see p.1485) is commended for his expertise in securities class actions, including defending clients against claims of fraud and breach of fiduciary duty. **Strengths:** "Brian in my opinion is one of the absolute best litigation attorneys in Florida." "He has a photographic memory."

"Brian has extensive knowledge of securities law and I would recommend him to handle the most sophisticated securities issues." **Randall Bassett** (see p.1458) represents clients as first chair in wrongful death and personal injury cases. He is noted for his ability in tobacco-related litigation.

Strengths: "Randall is a first-chair trial lawyer who has a personable, down-to-earth approach to communication." Cochair of King & Spalding's consumer product practice group **Ursula Henninger** (see p.1474) is recognized for her expertise representing pharmaceutical, tobacco and other clients in complex product liability cases.

Strengths: "Ursula has a deep understanding of our issues and is able to articulate and present them to juries in a digestible way." **Ross Linzer** (see p.1482) is noted for his commercial litigation experience, which includes representing corporates and their directors and officers in securities class and derivative actions. **Strengths:** "Ross is a great up-and-coming lawyer."

Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine, P.L.

What the team is known for Kluger, Kaplan, Silverman, Katzen & Levine, P.L. is a litigation boutique with extensive trial experience, acting for both plaintiffs and defendants. The firm is par-

ticularly renowned for its prowess in real estate and construction disputes. The team is also noted for its strengths in trade secrets and IP cases, as well as shareholder and partnership conflicts. Its clients hail from a broad range of industries, including mining, investment funds and real estate.

Strengths

"Kluger Kaplan is a premier bet-the-company litigation firm and provides top-notch, aggressive litigation services."

"The lawyers are always available and accessible." *"Kluger Kaplan demonstrate mastery of the subject matter, and the lawyers are tremendous advocates for us."*

Work highlights Kluger Kaplan represented Bentley Bay Condominium Association in a dispute concerning obligations to pay for the cost of valet parking services for the commercial uses and the location for such valet services. The case involves disputed interpretations of the parties' prior settlement agreement.

Notable practitioners

Alan Kluger is a highly experienced trial lawyer who is adept at representing both individuals and large corporations in litigation. He acts for clients from a range of sectors, including real estate, healthcare and private equity. **Strengths:** *"He is knowledgeable and patient."* *"Alan is exactly who you want representing you. He has a very strong grasp of the facts, excellent tactics and excellent delivery."* **Philippe Lieberman** focuses his practice on real estate litigation and commercial disputes, representing a range of corporates and individuals. **Strengths:** *"Philippe has substantial experience as litigation counsel. He is very practical and calm."* *"Besides being extremely knowledgeable, Philippe is very understanding and a great listener."*

Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton

What the team is known for Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton is highly regarded for its representation of both plaintiffs and defendants in significant commercial litigation. The firm is engaged by a wide range of clients from entrepreneurs to public companies and law firms due to experience handling securities fraud, antitrust, IP and partnership disputes. It is also a go-to practice for large-scale class actions and noted for its expert counsel in litigation concerning Ponzi schemes. The firm is headquartered in Coral Gables, lending it particular strength in the south of the state. The team is active across a range of sectors, including healthcare and real estate.

Strengths

"The firm is able to handle a variety of cases and areas of law."

"I get excellent service from the firm and I refer them to others."

"This firm has an excellent group of attorneys at both the partner and associate levels."

Work highlights Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton both defended and prosecuted counterclaims for Benworth in regard to lawsuits arising out of the Federal Government's Paycheck Protection Program.

Notable practitioners

Harley Tropin comes highly recommended for his handling of complex commercial disputes.

He offers notable expertise in representing plaintiffs and is an experienced trial lawyer. He is a founding partner of Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton. **Strengths:** *"Harley is extremely knowledgeable, skilled and responsive."* **Benjamin Widlanski** (see p.1500) is noted for his commercial disputes expertise and has experience handling a wide range of matters including large fraud claims and product liability suits. He has further prowess in handling multidistrict litigation.

Strengths: *"Benjamin is terrific. He is bright, practical and strategic."* *"Ben is an iron fist in a velvet glove. He is smooth and personable while also being a good strategic and tactical thinker. He is a formidable lawyer."* *"He is a creative and entrepreneurial lawyer."* **Detra Shaw-Wilder** (see p.1495) maintains a well-regarded practice covering a broad array of commercial cases, including shareholder disputes and breach of contract litigation.

Strengths: *"She is an excellent lawyer and a leader in the community."* *"She has a brilliant mind."* **Javier Lopez** (see p.1482) cochairs the complex and commercial litigation practice at Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton. He offers experienced handling of a wide array of commercial matters, including breach of contract claims and intellectual property disputes.

Strengths: *"Javier really thinks out of the box in how to approach issues when we have legal challenges. He comes up with innovative ideas on how to address something."* *"He is super efficient and practical."* **Tal Lifshitz** (see p.1482) is able to adroitly represent both plaintiffs and defendants across a range of disputes, including consumer class actions, deceptive trade cases and securities litigation. **Strengths:** *"He is a very impressive lawyer with the greatest of character."* *"Tal has an excellent grasp of the strategic reality of the litigation at hand."*

León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP

What the team is known for León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP has a flourishing practice offering expertise in high-stakes commercial litigation, particularly in the financial services space. The firm regularly handles work in insurance recovery disputes and is skilled in cases concerning lender liability and bankruptcy. It also excels in IP and labor and employment litigation.

Strengths

"I could not be more pleased with the representation I receive from the firm. When I am faced with the need to hire an attorney, León Cosgrove Jimenez continues to be my first choice."

"They prove themselves to be very thoughtful and deliberate in assessing relevant information and presenting it in an easy-to-understand presentation for decision-making. They are extremely intelligent."

"León Cosgrove has a highly experienced veteran team."

Work highlights León Cosgrove Jiménez represented the Bancor Gorup as plaintiffs in a \$25 million shareholder derivative action. The plaintiffs filed a lawsuit against the current and former members of the board of directors of Eastern National Bank for breaches of their fiduciary duties.

Notable practitioners

Scott Cosgrove handles complex commercial

litigation and offers experience in class actions, as well as IP matters. **Strengths:** *"Scott is smart, capable and efficient."* *"Scott is an extremely accomplished trial lawyer and writer. He has a terrific knowledge of the law and takes a very strategic approach to handling litigation."* *"Scott handles very sophisticated litigation and is well regarded by judges."* **Marcos Daniel Jiménez** regularly handles a wide range of commercial disputes for clients, including class actions, contractual litigation and fraud claims. **Strengths:** *"His knowledge of the law is extremely impressive. His vision and ability to maneuver any situation has been more than I could have ever imagined. His ability to advocate on my behalf is over and above anything I ever expected."* *"Marcos is an outstanding attorney and litigator."* *"He is an excellent attorney and seasoned litigator."* **Derek León** comes recommended for his vast experience acting for clients in trials and arbitrations. He handles a variety of litigation, including IP matters and insurance disputes. **Strengths:** *"Derek is extremely intelligent, thoughtful and responsive."* *"Derek is a standout litigator. He is a smart attorney who is insightful, intelligent and has a superb strategic mind. Derek writes well, has the ability to translate strategy into clear and actionable tactical plans, and is extremely persuasive at trial."*

Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider + Grossman LLP

What the team is known for Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider + Grossman LLP offers an impressive depth of expertise spanning commercial litigation, bankruptcy and receivership matters. The firm is frequently sought to act as or represent receivers in cases of alleged fraud and Ponzi schemes. It offers further expertise in a range of class actions and commercial disputes.

Strengths

"The firm is balanced and practical."

"Levine Kellogg's lawyers are professional and trustworthy. They provide competent advocacy for all types of complex business litigation needs."

"Levine Kellogg's strength is the ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters. The lawyers focus on long-range goals and client needs."

Work highlights Levine Kellogg continued to represent certain investors of Stocket in litigation arising from the offering of fraudulent common stock in the company.

Notable practitioners

Jason Kellogg is noted for his adept representation of corporates and individuals in class actions and contract and business tort disputes, among other matters. **Strengths:** *"Jason is a good lawyer."*

"He is the best attorney I have worked with." **Jeffrey Schneider** is an experienced litigator who particularly stands out for his expertise acting for receivers in recovering funds from major frauds and Ponzi schemes. **Strengths:** *"Jeffrey is an extremely skilled advocate."* *"Jeffrey is a tremendous litigator who is extremely practical in his approach."* *"He is terrific."* **Lawrence Kellogg** is a founding partner of Levine Kellogg Lehman Schneider + Grossman. He is noted for his strong commercial practice encompassing a huge variety of litigation. **Strengths:** *"He is a well-regarded lawyer."* *"We employ him because of his excellence."*

Mark Migdal & Hayden

What the team is known for Mark Migdal & Hayden is a boutique litigation shop with a growing reputation in the Florida market and beyond for its adept handling of an array of commercial disputes. Building on its strong track record acting for real estate developers and venture capital investors, the firm is capable of assisting with high-value disputes spanning construction, real estate and a breadth of corporate litigation.

Strengths

"The firm turns documents around very quickly and is very thorough."

"The lawyers provide excellent legal assistance on complex matters."

"I am impressed by their professionalism, expertise and deep understanding of the legal issues at hand."

Work highlights Mark Migdal & Hayden represented The Gateway at Wynwood in a suit against Plaza Construction Group Florida in which Gateway sought relief for Plaza's alleged failure to prevent data breach and construction defects.

Notable practitioners

Etan Mark maintains a varied practice, regularly representing clients in business torts and RICO matters. He offers particular expertise in the real estate and construction sectors. **Strengths:** *"I am continually impressed by Etan. He is a super lawyer who does a great job while carefully managing my interests and costs." "Etan is one of the smartest and hardest-working people I know. He genuinely enjoys the practice of law and is a tireless advocate for his clients." "He is professional, smart, articulate and committed to winning a case."*

José Ferrer is capable of assisting clients in a wide array of commercial disputes, both domestic and cross-border. **Strengths:** *"José is great. He is always on point and extremely well prepared." "José is very detail-oriented. He is a strong writer and a good oral advocate. He is effective in how he present arguments and is very methodical in his approach." "José is an extraordinary trial attorney who is able to distill extremely difficult legal issues and make them easily digestible for a jury. He has a real calmness under pressure which is exceptional."*

Donald Hayden represents both individuals and companies in a broad range of commercial disputes, and offers notable experience handling cross-border cases. **Strengths:** *"Donald is a very experienced lawyer." "Don possesses exceptional legal skills, but he also exhibits a genuine care for my well-being and the outcome of my case. He is attentive, responsive and keeps me well informed about progress and developments at every step of the way." "He is responsive, smart and practical."*

Josh Migdal possesses expertise in a wide range of commercial litigation, including real estate disputes and class actions. **Strengths:** *"He is a well-known lawyer with a strong practice and a good reputation." "He is a responsive, practical and smart lawyer." "I truly love working with Josh because he is reasonable but knows how to dig in on the really important issues. He is also very knowledgeable in many different fields of the law."* **Maia Aron** has experience handling a range of commercial matters, including business, construction and real estate related disputes. **Strengths:** *"Maia has*

strong attention to detail and a creative legal mind." "She does a superb job. I am always impressed with her opinions and always follow her advice."

McDonald Toole & Wiggins PA

What the team is known for McDonald Toole & Wiggins PA is able to adroitly handle mass tort and product liability cases. The firm is particularly experienced in defending manufacturers in medical device cases.

Strengths

"McDonald Toole is a really good firm which handles sophisticated mass claims and mass torts."

Notable practitioners

Francis McDonald offers broad expertise in product liability matters, ranging from medical device to toxic tort-related cases.

Meland Budwick, P.A.

What the team is known for Meland Budwick, P.A. is a boutique Miami firm offering clients significant experience in the full range of commercial disputes, with a strong track record of success in state and federal courts. Other areas of expertise include intellectual property and real estate litigation.

Strengths

"Meland Budwick understand our business issues clearly and articulate them well in any negotiations or legal proceedings."

"They have the capacity and proficiency to effectively manage and navigate intricate, multifaceted and intellectually demanding situations or tasks."

"The lawyers possess very grounded business experience."

Work highlights Meland Budwick represented IRA Financial Trust as lead counsel in a number of matters around the country arising from the criminal theft of \$37 million in crypto-assets from IRA's customer. This included defending IRA in a nationwide class action and in ten arbitrations.

Notable practitioners

Eric Ostroff (see p.1486) wins praise for his extensive experience in commercial disputes, with a notable expertise in trade secrets cases.

Strengths: *"I am highly impressed with the exceptional legal services provided by Eric. His expertise, unwavering dedication and thorough understanding of the intricacies of the law truly stand out. He has exhibited a remarkable ability to handle complex legal matters with poise and precision." "He is extremely credible and sharp."* **Michael Budwick** (see p.1461) is noted in the market for his expertise in bankruptcy litigation. He also handles a range of commercial disputes, including breach of fiduciary duty cases and breach of contract claims.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

What the team is known for Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP offers clients expertise in a range of commercial litigation areas. It frequently handles class action defense on behalf of a variety of clients, including financial institutions. The firm has additional areas of expertise including IP and real estate contractual disputes. It has noted experience acting as national defense counsel for corporate clients, with a strong track record in complex multidistrict litigation, and it retains a

standout client base among the energy, transportation and technology sectors.

Notable practitioners

Robert Brochin's practice spans a wide array of commercial litigation matters. He is sought after by a broad client base, with particular expertise acting for organizations in the real estate and financial service sectors.

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

What the team is known for Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP handles a broad array of commercial litigation, with particular expertise in product liability and securities matters, among others. The firm has an established and broad Florida presence with noteworthy strength in trusts and estate litigation and real estate disputes.

Strengths

"Nelson Mullins' budgeting is strong and their rates are excellent."

"They consistently find solutions for issues as they arise."

"We have several complicated matters, and the firm always handles everything flawlessly, timely and in our best interest."

Work highlights Nelson Mullins represented CFT Solutions, who sued FxWinning, a Hong Kong-based online foreign brokerage, in Florida state court in May 2023 to recoup \$80 million.

Notable practitioners

Daniel Newman is a noted securities litigator with considerable experience in court and in arbitration. **Strengths:** *"Newman is a top-notch lawyer." "He is smart as hell and a fierce advocate."*

Mark Raymond routinely handles an array of complex commercial disputes and class actions, and acts for clients in state and federal courts, as well as in arbitrations. **Strengths:** *"He is a great lawyer who is pleasant to work with. Mark zealously represents clients."* **Edward Thompson** ably defends a wide range of manufacturers in litigation alleging product defects and negligence. **Matthew Schroll** focuses his product liability practice on defending notable manufacturers in medical device and talc-related litigation. **Strengths:** *"He really digs into the material and understands cases which are heavy on facts and science. Matthew has great leadership skills and can work with in-house lawyers and other law firms effortlessly."*

Podhurst Orseck P.A.

What the team is known for Podhurst Orseck P.A. has an outstanding practice acting for plaintiffs across complex and high-profile commercial and appellate litigation. The firm possesses notable expertise in aviation disaster cases and is also active in the healthcare, financial services and automotive arenas. The team is highly regarded for its strengths in product liability and medical malpractice disputes, and is a go-to firm for high-value multidistrict class action litigation.

Strengths

"Podhurst Orseck is a superior firm."

Work highlights Podhurst Orseck represented Carlyle Aviation Partners in an insurance coverage dispute against 29 individual insurers involving claims for coverage for the loss of 23 aircraft

leased to various Russian airlines.

Notable practitioners

Aaron Podhurst is a highly accomplished commercial litigator with over 50 years of experience representing clients in trials. He is noted in the market for his practice acting for plaintiffs in aviation cases. **Ricardo Martinez-Cid** is routinely called upon to represent clients in cases concerning product liability and personal injury claims and is noted for his expertise in aviation litigation. **Peter Prieto** wins praise for his representation of plaintiffs and defendants in a diverse array of disputes, spanning antitrust, product liability and class action litigation. **Strengths:** “Peter is a strong leader. He is a lawyer who can put together a disparate team in multidistrict litigation and can manage complex litigation working with multiple firms.” **Steven Marks** has a varied practice, regularly handling disputes ranging from product liability cases to personal injury claims. He offers notable expertise in litigation related to airline crashes. **Strengths:** “Steven is a successful and hardworking lawyer.”

Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP

What the team is known for Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan’s Miami office offers broad experience in representing both individuals and corporates in complex disputes. The team handles litigation across a variety of sectors including technology, sports and energy.

Strengths

“Quinn Emanuel is very good at project-managing complex projects.”

Work highlights Quinn Emanuel represented Fenix in three related actions alleging that Fenix bribed certain executives at Meta so that they would change the algorithms on Meta’s social media platforms to adversely affect competitors of OnlyFans.

Notable practitioners

John O’Sullivan is an experienced commercial litigator with notable skill representing clients at trial. His clients hail from a broad range of sectors, including finance and technology.

Strengths: “John is the best Florida lawyer money can buy. When I walk into any dispute with John by my side, everyone thinks twice.” “He is a brilliant legal strategist who is fantastic on his feet.” “John is a well-prepared and articulate lawyer.” **Jason Sternberg** handles complex business and commercial disputes in a range of sectors including technology, energy and sports. **Strengths:** “Jason is my go-to. He is the type of lawyer you talk to who really breaks things down into layman terms. He is my first contact when I want to understand the details and intricacies of a lawsuit.” “He is a wonderful lawyer.”

Reed Smith LLP

What the team is known for Reed Smith LLP has a notable commercial litigation practice with significant experience in domestic and multijurisdictional cases. The firm is particularly sought after by financial institutions as part of a broader corporate client base. It offers expertise in a wide range of matters including alleged frauds and contractual disputes.

Strengths

“I am impressed with their capacity to work on cross-border issues in multiple jurisdictions.”

“Reed Smith has a very capable and focused team.”

Notable practitioners

Edward Mullins focuses his practice on complex commercial disputes arising from a broad range of sectors. He also provides considerable expertise in international arbitration. **Strengths:** “Edward is very talented and is a hard worker.”

Rivero Mestre LLP

What the team is known for Rivero Mestre LLP has experienced business litigators well versed in complex disputes covering a range of matters, including securities, bankruptcy, IP and antitrust. The firm possesses notable expertise in significant insurance coverage disputes. It is also highlighted for its strengths in cross-border litigation and arbitration, particularly in cases relating to Latin America. The team is experienced in handling matters for a wide array of clients, including those within the real estate, manufacturing, financial and telecommunications industries.

Strengths

“It is a firm with amazing experience. The cases I entrust to them are extremely complex and they are able to resolve them with very favorable results.”

“Rivero Mestre handles extremely complex matters. The lawyers always bring a different and unique perspective to any case they handle.”

“Rivero Mestre has experienced lawyers who look for thoughtful resolutions of their clients’ matters but have the knowledge and comfort to litigate when required. They approach matters with a credibility and experience that generates productive results for clients.”

Work highlights Rivero Mestre represented a putative class of third-party payers in a lawsuit relating to Pfizer’s manufacture and sale of Chantix drug products that were contaminated with NDMA.

Notable practitioners

Jorge Mestre is a highly skilled litigator with significant expertise acting in cross-border disputes. He also offers experience in arbitrations.

Strengths: “Jorge brings an unerring focus and a clear strategic vision to cases.” “Jorge is a lawyer’s lawyer. When he digs into an issue, there is no one more knowledgeable about that issue.” “Jorge is a

personable lawyer who has the ability to connect with people to present his client’s position credibly and effectively. His experience makes him a savvy litigator who obtains results while maintaining his professional demeanor and reputation.” **Andrés Rivero** maintains a broad commercial litigation practice, with notable cross-border expertise. He advises clients on breach of contract disputes, bankruptcy issues and gross negligence claims, among others. **Strengths:** “He is an exceptional lawyer.” “Andrés is unique because he is as comfortable with a client as he is in a courtroom. The way he handles very complex issues is simply masterful. He is unflappable.” “Andrés is a sophisticated litigator who uses his experience in commercial matters to drive an effective court strategy.”

The Russo Law Firm

What the team is known for The Russo Law Firm possesses a broad range of experience in litigation, ranging from individual personal injury claims to mass torts as well as false advertising cases.

Notable practitioners

Anthony Russo is the founding partner and a key contact at the firm.

Salazar Law

What the team is known for Salazar Law is a Miami-based boutique offering deep expertise as both plaintiff and defense counsel in commercial litigation matters. The firm is especially experienced in real estate and bankruptcy-related disputes.

Strengths

“The firm has tough negotiators and litigators who are very prepared and know how to execute a good plan.”

“Salazar Law is a top-performance law firm that guides its client through cross-border litigation and international complexities. They can definitely go against the best.”

“Salazar Law has excellent lawyers with strong litigation credentials.”

Work highlights Salazar Law represented members of the Mahecha family in a \$45 million suit brought by the Chapter 7 trustee of Bal Harbour Quarzo. The trustee asserted numerous claims including breach of fiduciary duty, failure to file bankruptcy, defrauding investors and fraudulently transferring assets.

Notable practitioners

Luis Salazar is a key contact.

Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP

What the team is known for Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP is a well-regarded boutique and focuses its practice on representing corporates and individuals in complex business disputes, with capabilities in litigation and arbitration. The firm has experience handling contract, fraud and antitrust-related claims.

Strengths

“All the partners and associates are very well versed, diligent and hardworking.”

“The partnership group is great. Everyone on the team is committed.”

“Engaging with Sanchez Fischer Levine is like engaging Big Law but with greater value.”

Work highlights Sanchez Fischer Levine represented Kerns Capital Management and other high net worth investors in an \$84 million RICO action in Florida associated with forex trading platform FxWinnings.

Notable practitioners

David Levine is a well-regarded commercial litigator with experience handling class actions, contract disputes and intellectual property suits. He heads the Miami office of Sanchez Fischer Levine.

Strengths: “David is an exceptional lawyer. His client counsel and communication skills are stellar.” “He is an amazing litigator and smart attorney. David can read the room well and so is able to adapt the situation to his need.” “David is highly capable and particularly skilled with managing difficult personality types commonly associated with attorneys

in high-stakes litigation. He is effective because he is reasonable and strikes the right balance of pursuing his clients' interest while respecting his opposing counsel." **Fausto Sanchez** (see p.1493) is the managing partner of Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP. He is noted for his wide-ranging experience in handling complex commercial litigation, such as false advertising claims and fraud. **Strengths:** "Fausto is an excellent litigator. He has an extensive prosecution background and is a fierce advocate for clients. He is skilled when he does deposition and he fights for his clients until the end." "He is a strong up-and-coming lawyer." "Fausto is very hands-on and knowledgeable."

Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, PA

What the team is known for Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, PA is commended for its capabilities representing plaintiffs in wrongful death and personal injury litigation, with notable strength in product liability claims.

Strengths

"Searcy has phenomenal lawyers. It is a very good plaintiff firm."

Notable practitioners

Christian Searcy is a well-known litigator who is highly regarded for his trial capabilities. He regularly handles complex personal injury and wrongful death cases. **Strengths:** "He is a legendary plaintiff lawyer." "Christian is a prominent plaintiff lawyer."

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

What the team is known for Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP is highly regarded for its extensive expertise in product liability multidistrict and class action litigation. The firm maintains a fine track record for its work in disputes concerning tobacco, pharmaceutical and medical device products. The team is also well regarded for its counsel in complex IP and employment litigation and acts for an impressive roster of blue-chip corporate clients, including airlines, tobacco companies and medical device companies.

Strengths

"The team is able to take complicated things, decipher them and understand it all in the frame of litigation."

"The lawyers are able to quickly get up to speed on complex commercial disputes, including quickly absorbing the facts. They put together a realistic and legally sound strategy for moving forward, taking into account not only legal strengths and weaknesses but also business practicalities."

"Shook Hardy are known for their product liability defense practice and for being preeminent in the tobacco space."

Work highlights Shook, Hardy & Bacon defended Allstate Insurance Company in a putative class action regarding alleged unfair business practices during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notable practitioners

William Geraghty is an experienced trial lawyer who regularly handles a wide range of cases, including accusations of malpractice and product liability disputes. He offers notable expertise in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors.

Strengths: "When our company has a trial that

we have to win, we call him. William is charismatic, smart and has a complete understanding of the facts and legal issues involved. He also has a unique ability to build a connection with the jury even when examining a witness." **Kenneth Reilly** is a renowned product liability litigator recognized for his practice defending cigarette manufacturers against class actions. **Hildy Sastre** is commended for her skills as a product liability litigator. She is particularly expert in medical device-related cases. **Strengths:** "Hildy I would put among the top trial lawyers. She is one of the most eminent trial lawyers in the country and is go-to person.

She is very smart, has great instincts and provides exceptional client service." **Jennifer McLoone** has experience handling a range of products-related disputes and is frequently sought after by manufacturers of medical devices, pharmaceuticals and household products. **Strengths:** "Jennifer has real strength in litigation strategy and in complicated cases." **Brian Guthrie** regularly represents pharmaceutical companies and manufacturers in complex medical device and drug-related product liability cases.

Shutts & Bowen LLP

What the team is known for Shutts & Bowen LLP has a respected litigation team representing major foreign and domestic corporate clients, individuals and financial institutions in the full range of complex commercial cases. It is well equipped to provide high-quality advice on the full spectrum of disputes, ranging from real estate and construction claims to product liability suits.

Strengths

"The service they provide is of excellent quality and our queries are always answered quickly."

"Shutts & Bowen's lawyers provide very astute analysis."

"Shutts & Bowen has great communication and exceptional service."

Work highlights Shutts & Bowen represented Travel + Leisure Co in a \$50 million suit against Timeshare Compliance and its affiliates alleging tortious interference and false advertising.

Notable practitioners

Aliette DelPozo Rodz (see p.1465) offers expertise spanning a wide array of commercial litigation and arbitration, with particular strength in cross-border cases. She cochairs the international dispute resolution practice at Shutts & Bowen.

Strengths: "Aliette is an outstanding advocate. She is extremely convincing and is very balanced, measured and thorough." "She has the ability to be a fierce advocate but retain collegial relationships with her adversaries. She is a great lawyer and a tenacious advocate."

Sidley Austin LLP

What the team is known for Sidley Austin LLP's Miami office represents individuals and businesses in a range of sophisticated commercial litigation matters in both state and federal court.

The firm routinely handles complex class actions, product defect claims and contract disputes. The lawyers are experienced in handling litigation across numerous sectors, including manufacturing, sports and insurance.

Strengths

"Sidley Austin takes a strategic and well-informed approach."

"The firm's advice is timely and thorough."

"Sidley Austin's professional and knowledgeable attorneys provide exceptional service."

"The lawyers have a deep understanding of complex issues."

Work highlights Sidley Austin LLP represented AssuredPartners and its affiliates in four putative class actions brought under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and Florida Telephone Solicitation Act.

Notable practitioners

Ian Ross (see p.1492) has a broad practice which includes considerable capabilities in securities litigation, with particular strength in handling class actions. He is a partner in Sidley Austin's Miami office. **Strengths:** "Ian provides exceptional legal services. He is professional and very knowledgeable." "Ian has broad knowledge, high IQ and excellent customer awareness." "He is very creative and logical in his thinking. He comes up with reasonable outcomes and solutions." **Dianne Fischer** (see p.1468) has a broad commercial litigation practice that sees her expertly handling breach of contract, class actions and tortious interference cases. She has further expertise in antitrust matters. **Strengths:** "There are two keys that are instrumental to Dianne's success. The first is her exhaustive preparation. By the time we are ready to go, she knows everything and has an instant recall of it all. She is in command of every piece of the voluminous documentation. The second key is her confident, aggressive and masterful preparation and execution of our strategy." "Dianne is a creative thinker."

Squire Patton Boggs

What the team is known for Squire Patton Boggs is well known for its broad commercial litigation offering in Florida. The team has particular experience in the medical devices space. It offers expertise in representing international clients in cross-border disputes.

Strengths

"Squire Patton Boggs' lawyers are thoughtful and thorough in handling complicated and unusual situations."

"The quality of their work matches the highest-paid firms I work with."

"The firm is extremely client-oriented, with a high degree of competence and responsiveness."

"The firm has teams of professionals with a lot of experience and knowledge in different branches, so they can handle any matter that is required."

"Squire Patton Boggs handles complex and unique litigation matters very well."

Work highlights Squire Patton Boggs continued to represent the Republic of Ecuador against the owners and administrators of an Ecuadorian bank, Filanbanco, to recover hundreds of millions of dollars in embezzled money.

Notable practitioners

Patricia Lowry offers experience in a wide range of litigation, including product liability claims and employment disputes. She has notable expertise in the life sciences sector, frequently appearing in cases concerning medical devices and prescription medications. **Strengths:** "Patricia has extensive

sive knowledge and is a great professional to work with. The way she tackles an issue is great." **Digna French** represents both domestic and international clients in complex litigation, including class actions, embezzlement and breach of contract. She is the chair of the litigation practice group in Florida. **Strengths:** "Digna is a professional with a lot of experience and knowledge in litigation matters in Florida. She has a very good attitude and willingness to assist the client in any matter." "Digna has a good strategic approach to cases. She quickly delves into the detail and helps us to work out a strategy. She is also a calm individual." "She is an excellent, thorough litigator and a quick thinker."

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson is an excellent group offering clients a wide range of expertise across real estate, IP, antitrust and construction disputes. The firm is experienced in significant trial work and class actions. It is adept at handling cases for a wide array of clients, including companies in the food and drink, transportation and healthcare industries. The team is also recognized as a good choice for municipalities and local government entities. It is also called upon by clients for representation in alternative dispute resolution proceedings, including mediations and arbitrations.

Strengths

"Stearns Weaver's lawyers are very intelligent and possess a complex understanding of the law. They are tireless and never give up. Losing is not in their DNA."

"This is a law firm with quality lawyers from the top of the chain of command to the associate level. We have worked with them on a wide variety of matters and are always satisfied with their work."

"The team is able to guide us in a prompt and professional manner. Whenever we have questions or comments, they come back very promptly."

"Stearns Weaver is by far the most professional, attentive and most successful law firm in achieving all goals for our company."

Work highlights Stearns Weaver represented Miami-Dade County Expressway Authority in long-running litigation against the State of Florida for enacting a bill which dissolved and replaced the toll board that operates five of Miami-Dade's busiest toll roads.

Notable practitioners

Eugene Stearns (see p.1497) offers decades of experience representing clients in trial and appellate courts. He continues to be a go-to choice for high-stakes multiparty disputes. **Strengths:** "Gene is the most professional, intelligent and straight-to-the-point attorney." "He is a genius and the top of his field." "There is no one better. Gene has a photographic mind and is always on point."

Grace Mead (see p.1484) offers expertise across a broad array of commercial disputes and class actions, with capabilities in real estate and marketing-related matters, among others. **Strengths:** "Grace is exceptional in every regard. She's a deep thinker and knows her cases very well. It is a pleasure to work with her. She is extremely attentive and responsive." "Grace is a brilliant lawyer. She

is incredible." **Jay Shapiro** has substantial experience acting for clients in a range of commercial disputes, including antitrust, IP and insurance coverage litigation. **Strengths:** "He is a fountain of knowledge of local practice and custom."

Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC

What the team is known for Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC is a litigation boutique with a broad range of experience in complex commercial disputes. The firm represents a range of clients from corporates to business executives and defrauded plaintiffs in a variety of areas.

Strengths

"Stumphauzer has extremely competent staff who provide great work."

"The team are extremely strong regarding their ability to maintain support and achieve deadlines."

"Stumphauzer is excellent and is a well-regarded firm."

Work highlights Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman represents plaintiffs in a putative class action against venture capital firms, banks, accountants and law firms that aided and abetted FTX.

Notable practitioners

Timothy Kolaya (see p.1477) is a highly regarded litigator who is skilled in both representing defendants and plaintiffs in complex business and commercial disputes. **Strengths:** "Timothy is a phenomenal lawyer. He is an excellent litigator." "He is an outstanding lawyer." "Timothy is a strong commercial litigator and an excellent attorney."

Kim Vaughan Lerner LLP

What the team is known for Kim Vaughan Lerner LLP offers expertise in a raft of domestic commercial disputes across a range of sectors, including real estate and insurance. The firm possesses further strength in handling product liability and employment disputes. It is equally adept at representing defendants and individual and institutional plaintiffs.

Strengths

"The firm has excellent lawyers."

Notable practitioners

Robert Vaughan is regularly sought after to handle complex commercial litigation and product liability disputes, representing clients in state and federal courts. **Strengths:** "Robert's acumen in terms of the legal strategy and approach stand out. He is a superb litigator who is not only tenacious but thoughtful and measured." "He is very adept."

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

What the team is known for Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP provides representation to high-profile clients across a range of complex disputes and is esteemed for its strengths in product liability, securities, contract and bankruptcy litigation, among other matters. The firm maintains particular expertise in class action and multidistrict litigation and possesses broad-ranging sector experience, including energy, manufacturing and life sciences.

Strengths

"Weil provides high-quality service while being cognizant on how to maximize efficiency."

"The firm has excellent litigators who are ready to strategize around complex, evolving contexts in and outside the courtroom."

"Weil has extensive technical prowess and ability to synthesize complex issues with a commercial lens."

"They inspire confidence due to performing as a cohesive and cooperative team."

Work highlights Weil represented Burger King in a class action alleging the failure to disclose the use of an allegedly dangerous chemical in food packaging, such as the packaging for the Whopper.

Notable practitioners

Pravin Patel (see p.1487) is a commercial litigator with experience spanning product liability, business torts and environmental cases. He has particular strength handling class actions.

Strengths: "Pravin is ready to adapt strategy to changing conditions. He works hard for clients."

"He has in-depth technical knowledge. Pravin is both a truly strategic thinker and a creative, solution-minded practitioner who is able to stay in lockstep with the client." "Pravin is savvy, nimble and provides prompt advice in response to complex legal issues at any time of the day or night."

White & Case LLP

What the team is known for White & Case LLP's Miami office has a strong reputation for national and cross-border work. It handles a wide range of issues with an emphasis on commercial litigation at both trial and appellate levels. The team is particularly sought after for its expertise in product liability cases and disputes in the financial services sector.

Strengths

"The team are extremely sensitive to the issues at stake and which elements are worth more than others and, as such, pick the battles accordingly."

"The service is great."

"White & Case has a strong group."

Work highlights White & Case represented Daimler AG and Mercedes-Benz USA in the Takata airbag multidistrict litigation.

Notable practitioners

Jaime Bianchi offers significant experience in commercial litigation, including acting for large corporations in class action disputes. He possesses notable expertise in the telecommunications sector. **Strengths:** "Jaime has a strategic vision and a very sharp understanding of the relevant issues in a case." "He is excellent as class action defense. Jaime is outstanding." **Jim Robinson** maintains a broad practice in commercial litigation, ranging from legal malpractice claims to disputes concerning the financial services sector.

Strengths: "He is a very good trial lawyer." "Jim's ability to speak to the jury is his strongest attribute. He makes complex issues understandable."

Winston & Strawn LLP

What the team is known for Winston & Strawn LLP has a broad base of commercial disputes expertise across state and federal courts. The firm is equally adept in handling business litigation and arbitrations as well as class actions involving securities and product liability. The team offers further capabilities in international disputes, particularly involving Latin American

jurisdictions.

Strengths

"The firm illustrates comprehensiveness, responsiveness and conscientiousness."

"Winston & Strawn's lawyers are among the elite in the profession that are capable of handling basically anything with a strong bench that yields meaningful engagement at every level of experience."

"Winston & Strawn has extremely strong litigators."

Work highlights Winston & Strawn represented Binance.US in a class action lawsuit alleging violations of securities regulations, deceptive and unfair trade practices, unfair competition and civil conspiracy in connection with Binance.US's cryptocurrency trading platform.

Notable practitioners

David Coulson regularly appears on behalf of clients in state and federal courts. He handles a broad range of commercial disputes as well as significant product liability cases. **Strengths:** *"David is extremely talented."* *"David is a very effective litigator who always keeps his eye on the ball."* *"David is pragmatic. He is direct and doesn't equivocate about likelihoods or merits of given cases."*

Adam Foslid is praised for his adept handling of complex commercial litigation, including class actions and product liability disputes. **Strengths:** *"He is my go-to lawyer. Adam deals with things like a chess match and figures out how to be 20 steps ahead."* *"He is extremely responsive and commercial. He tries to think about issues from outside of the box."* **Gustavo Membiela** assists clients with the full range of complex commercial disputes, including domestic and cross-border litigation and arbitrations. He has particular expertise in Latin American jurisdictions. **Strengths:** *"Gustavo's knowledge of complex issues that come up in litigation as well as his knowledge of international arbitration is another key strength."* *"He is very even-tempered and measured."* *"Gustavo is very good with clients. He is patient and knows how to explain things in a simple manner."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Sivyer Barlow Watson & Haughey co-founder **Mahlon "Tripp" Barlow** represents individuals and corporations in a diverse array of commercial disputes. His practice encompasses construction litigation, breach of contract claims and IP matters. **Strengths:** *"Tripp is a good lawyer with a highly regarded practice."*

David Chase is sought after for his SEC background, which he leverages to support clients in civil litigation and regulatory defense work. **Strengths:** *"He is highly regarded."* *"David is a top-notch and very good lawyer."*

Andrea Cox of Luks, Santaniello, Petrillo & Jones has an impressive depth of expertise handling product liability disputes across the medical device, pharmaceutical and construction industries.

Damian | Valori | Culmo co-founder **Melanie Damian** is noted for her considerable expertise in securities litigation. She is particularly commended for her receivership work. **Strengths:** *"Melanie is a great lawyer."*

Joseph DeMaria (see p.1465) is noted for his representation of finance, construction and public sector clients in complex litigation. He is a partner in Fox Rothschild's Miami office. **Strengths:** *"Joseph is an experienced and sophisticated lawyer."* *"He provides the best value in complex business litigation."* *"Joseph is a brilliant strategist and tactician. He is very effective in communicating in a courtroom. His acumen is outstanding."*

Victor Diaz (see p.1466) offers experience in a variety of commercial disputes, including product liability claims and mass torts. He is founder and managing partner of VM Diaz & Partners, LLC. **Strengths:** *"Victor is brilliant."* *"He is a very bright lawyer."*

Jeffrey Erez is the founder of Erez Law, PLLC. He specializes in representing investors in securities litigation and FINRA arbitrations. **Strengths:** *"He is a smart lawyer."*

Rachel Furst has notable expertise handling matters involving personal injury, wrongful death and product liability claims. She represents plaintiffs in state and federal courts and is a name partner at Maderal Byrne & Furst PLLC. **Strengths:** *"Rachel is smart and hardworking."* *"Rachel is wonderful. She is a well-regarded and well-liked lawyer."*

Paul Geller is a highly regarded attorney commended for his extensive experience taking on complex securities and product liability matters. He is equally at home representing plaintiffs and defendants in cases turning on cutting-edge issues. He is a co-founder of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP. **Strengths:** *"Paul Geller is a prominent and top-notch plaintiff class action lawyer."* *"He is one of the key securities plaintiff lawyers in Florida."*

Harvey Gurland has particular experience handling business torts, intellectual property and other commercial disputes, often in the banking, energy and real estate sectors. He is managing partner of the Miami office of Duane Morris LLP. **Strengths:** *"He is a talented lawyer who knows his area of practice well."* *"Harvey's attention to detail as well as his ability to distill down the issues allows clients to make informed decisions."*

Wes Holston is well regarded for his ability to tackle sophisticated securities litigation, with particular experience in FINRA. He is managing principal in the Fort Lauderdale office of Bressler, Amery & Ross. **Strengths:** *"Wes is a very good lawyer."* *"He is a solid and experienced lawyer."*

Michael Hooker of Phelps Dunbar LLP offers a range of commercial litigation expertise. He has noted capabilities defending clients involved in cybersecurity-related disputes. **Strengths:** *"Michael has tremendous attention to detail. He is extremely diligent and is highly respected."*

Fox Rothschild partner **Adam Lamb** (see p.1479) has a broad litigation practice with experience representing clients from a wide variety of industries.

Gregory Lunny is recommended for his experience handling product liability cases and has particular knowledge of the medical products industry. He is managing partner of Burr & Forman's Jacksonville office. **Strengths:** *"Greg is a master of everything. He is a phenomenal litigator and business confidant."* *"He is responsive, insightful and knowledgeable."*

David Mandel takes on a varied caseload, covering securities litigation, antitrust matters and commercial disputes. He is a co-founder of Mandel & Mandel LLP. **Strengths:** *"David is a fine trial lawyer. He is very polished and professional."*

Frederick McClure is an expert in product liability litigation and regularly represents household-name clients at trial. He is a shareholder in the Tampa office of Trenam. **Strengths:** *"Frederick is a great guy and talented trial lawyer."*

Adam Moskowitz is a highly experienced trial lawyer, with notable expertise acting for plaintiffs in class action suits. He is managing partner of The Moskowitz Law Firm.

Louis Mrachek is an experienced commercial litigator with notable experience in bankruptcy-related cases. He also handles class actions and issues pertaining to creditors' rights. He is a co-founder of Mrachek, Fitzgerald, Rose, Konopka, Thomas & Weiss, P.A.

Michael Pineiro (see p.1488) is a commercial litigator with experience spanning business disputes, securities and trust and estate litigation. He is a partner at Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro LLP. **Strengths:** *"Michael is a highly skilled litigator. He is extremely analytical and is thorough in his work product."* *"Michael is always looking for a creative angle to achieve best outcomes for clients. He is a multifaceted litigator."* *"He is aggressive and tough but also very practical. He has got a full package when litigating commercial and business cases."*

Stephanie Reed Traband of McCarter & English is commended for her broad commercial litigation practice. She is a notable expert in creditors' rights matters. **Strengths:** *"Stephanie Reed is an outstanding lawyer."* *"Stephanie is a professional and diligent lawyer."*

Jennifer Ruiz of Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA frequently handles employment, real estate and malpractice suits as part of a broad-based commercial disputes practice. **Strengths:** *"She is an excellent lawyer."*

Sara Soto is an expert in securities litigation who regularly represents clients before state and federal courts. She is a partner in the Miami office of Bressler, Amery & Ross. **Strengths:** *"She is well regarded."* *"Sara is great."*

Christopher Spuches of Agentis PLLC is well regarded for his experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants in complex commercial disputes. **Strengths:** *"Christopher is extremely professional and knowledgeable. His demeanor allows him to navigate difficult cases."* *"He works very hard all the time. Chris is substantively strong and gets things done in negotiations because of his attitude and rapport."* *"He is extremely knowledgeable and capable as a litigator but also extremely practical and pragmatic in his approach."*

Yolanda Strader is commended for her broad commercial litigation practice, with particular experience handling franchise and bankruptcy-related disputes. She is co-founder and co-managing partner of Strader Paschal, PLLC.

Nicolas Swerdluff (see p.1497) of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP regularly acts as counsel in complex commercial litigation and offers significant experience in cases with cross-border elements. He also represents clients in arbitrations, as well

as serving as an arbitrator.

Brian Toth, co-founder of Toth Funes PA, is a well-regarded commercial litigator. He possesses additional expertise in tackling cross-border cases, especially for Latin American clients. **Strengths:** “Brian is a talented lawyer and someone who is extremely good at writing.” “He is a phenomenal lawyer.” “Brian is both knowledgeable and insightful.”

Litigation Appellate

Litigation: Appellate	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Akerman LLP	
Brannock Berman & Seider	
Carlton Fields	
Greenberg Traurig, LLP	
Holland & Knight LLP	
Kreusler-Walsh Vargas & Serafin, P.A.	
Podhurst Orseck P.A.	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman LLP maintains an excellent reputation for its strong appellate practice, composed of former judges and highly experienced attorneys. The firm routinely represents clients at both federal and state levels and offers expertise in a wide range of commercial disputes, including shareholder derivative actions.

Strengths

“Akerman is our go-to firm for complex matters.”

Work highlights Akerman represented Massage Envy Franchising before the Fifth District Court of Appeal concerning whether the plaintiff and appellee entered into a binding contract in which she agreed to submit all disputes against Massage Envy to an arbitrator rather than a court.

Notable practitioners

Gerald Cope has a wide-ranging practice, which includes acting as an arbitrator and consultant as well as representing individuals and large organizations in local and federal appeals. **Strengths:** “Gerald is absolutely brilliant. He has a very distinct way of homing in on issues by being succinct but also saying something that resonates with judges. He is so incredibly bright and insightful. He is a pleasure.” “Cope is amazing.” “Gerald is a smart

Litigation: Appellate	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	Rogow Bruce S <i>Bruce S. Rogow, P.A. (ORL)</i> ◊
Eaton Joel D <i>Podhurst Orseck P.A.</i>	Walbott Sylvia H <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Elligett Raymond <i>Buell & Elligett (ORL)</i> ◊	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	Mills John S <i>The Mills Firm (ORL)</i> ◊
Altenbernd Chris W. <i>Banker Lopez Gassler PA (ORL)</i> ◊	Reiter Jack <i>GrayRobinson, PA (ORL)</i> ◊ *
Brannock Steven L <i>Brannock Berman & Seider</i>	Rogers Daniel B. <i>Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP (ORL)</i> ◊ *
Cantero Raoul <i>White & Case LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	Sandridge Hala A <i>Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney (ORL)</i> ◊
Conigliaro Matthew J <i>Carlton Fields</i>	Band 3
Cope Gerald <i>Akerman LLP</i>	Bell Kenneth <i>Gunster (ORL)</i> ◊
Kreusler-Walsh Jane <i>Kreusler-Walsh Vargas & Serafin</i>	Cortinas Angel <i>Dentons (ORL)</i> ◊
Perwin Joel <i>Joel S. Perwin, P.A. (ORL)</i> ◊	Fiore Kristen <i>Akerman LLP</i> *
Rosenthal Stephen F <i>Podhurst Orseck P.A.</i>	Gowdy Bryan <i>Creed & Gowdy, PA (ORL)</i> ◊
Ross Lauri Waldman <i>Ross & Girten (ORL)</i> ◊	Leppert Val <i>King & Spalding LLP (ORL)</i> *
Scherker Elliot H <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>	Mercier Vargas Rebecca <i>Kreusler-Walsh Vargas</i>
Band 2	Nordby Daniel <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP (ORL)</i> ◊ *
Burlington Philip M <i>Burlington & Rockenbach (ORL)</i> ◊	Padovano Philip <i>Brannock Berman & Seider</i>
Cech Samole Brigid <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>	Rodriguez Julissa <i>Shutts & Bowen LLP (ORL)</i> *
Culpepper Berman Ceci <i>Brannock Berman & Seider</i>	Up-and-coming individuals
Donovan Chris <i>Donovan Appellate Law (ORL)</i> ◊	DeWolf Diane <i>Akerman LLP</i> *
Guedes Edward <i>Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + (ORL)</i> ◊	Purdy Lauren <i>Gunster (ORL)</i> ◊
Kula Elliot B <i>Kula & Associates, P.A. (ORL)</i> ◊	Seider Thomas <i>Brannock Berman & Seider</i>
Lumish Wendy F <i>Bowman and Brooke LLP (ORL)</i> ◊	

and well-respected advocate.” **Kristen Fiore** (see p.1468) is an experienced appellate attorney who handles a wide range of appeals, including bankruptcy, insurance and real estate-related disputes. **Diane DeWolf** (see p.1465) adeptly handles civil and administrative appeals before both the Florida Supreme Court and district courts.

Brannock Berman & Seider

What the team is known for Brannock Berman & Seider is a highly respected boutique with vast experience representing clients in both major state and federal appellate courts. The firm regularly handles a wide range of civil and criminal litigation, with notable expertise in commercial disputes.

Strengths

“Brannock Berman & Seider is well regarded and extremely capable.”

“The whole team is excellent.”

“They are very impressive.”

Work highlights Brannock Berman & Seider represented The Board of Trustees of the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in an appeal in relation to the disputed ownership of ten acres of contiguous land worth between \$13 million and \$19 million.

Notable practitioners

Steven Brannock is well respected for his representation of clients in a broad array of commercial appeals. **Strengths:** “Steven has a clarity of thought such that he can distill cases to their essence in a way that is very impressive. He is a creative thinker who knows the rules and knows how

to make them work to your advantage." "Steven has excellent judgment. He is measured in his approach and has an impressive grasp of the legal landscape of different issues and appellate procedure." "Brannock is in my opinion one of the most well-respected, knowledgeable and experienced attorneys in all of Florida." **Ceci Culpepper Berman** focuses her practice on representing clients in commercial disputes and offers extensive experience acting for clients in appeals. **Strengths:** "Ceci Culpepper is a go-to for appellate work in Florida." "She is a fantastic appellate lawyer." "Ceci is unsurpassed in her interest and insight into my case." **Philip Padovano** possesses a wealth of experience handling both civil and criminal appeals. He is a retired judge and the author of a treatise on Florida appellate law. **Strengths:** "Philip Padovano provides well-written and well-respected treatises which are frequently cited in appellate opinions. He is a guru of the practice." "Philip is excellent." **Thomas Seider** has notable experience handling appeals involving personal injury and complex commercial issues, with particular strength in product liability cases. **Strengths:** "Thomas is excellent."

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields has a strong appellate practice with notable capabilities in a range of disputes, including product liability, personal injury and breach of contract claims. The firm also handles cases relating to privacy and data security issues. The team is regularly engaged to represent clients in both state and federal appeals.

Notable practitioners

Sylvia Walbolt has a wealth of experience in appellate matters. She handles a diverse array of cases, including construction disputes, securities litigation and employment claims. **Matthew Conigliaro** comes highly recommended for his experience representing clients in appeals. He handles a wide range of matters, including insurance, healthcare and product liability disputes. **Strengths:** "Matthew is an incredibly intelligent lawyer who is insightful on complex issues."

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP has an impressive appellate practice with substantial experience representing clients in federal and state courts, including the Florida Supreme Court. The firm offers significant capabilities in cases relating to environmental, real estate and constitutional issues, among others.

Strengths

"Greenberg has experienced and thoughtful litigators with extensive Florida court experience." "The team on our matters is at the top of its areas of expertise, but at the same time is very client-oriented and tries to meet our needs at every stage of the litigation."

"The lawyers are excellent at preparation and analysis."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP acted for Celsius on the appeal of an \$82 million verdict in relation to a contract dispute with a musical artist who served as brand ambassador.

Notable practitioners

Elliot Scherker serves as cochair of the national appellate practice at Greenberg Traurig and has vast experience acting for clients in state and federal courts. **Strengths:** "Elliot is an absolutely top-notch Florida appellate attorney who continuously impresses with his responsiveness, shrewdness and resourcefulness." "Elliot is an outstanding advocate." "Elliot is absolutely brilliant. He is so intelligent about how to approach the brief and the judges." **Brigid Cech Samole** serves as chair of Greenberg Traurig's appellate practice in Miami. Her widespread experience includes handling appeals involving product-related disputes and she acts for clients in both state and federal courts. **Strengths:** "Brigid is a very strong lawyer who is easy to work with."

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight LLP is experienced at handling a broad array of national and international appeals and trials, including breach of contract and construction matters. The firm represents a variety of clients, ranging from governments to large organizations in the healthcare and telecommunications sectors.

Strengths

"Holland & Knight's lawyers are collaborative and helpful."

"The firm has well-experienced attorneys, with a good mix between older, experienced and younger, more aggressive attorneys."

"They have excellent appellate attorneys."

Work highlights Holland & Knight successfully represented United Auto Credit before the Fourth Circuit in a case concerning the issue of whether the Military Lending Act applies to bundled car loans.

Notable practitioners

Stacy Blank is a key contact.

Kreusler-Walsh Vargas & Serafin, P.A.

What the team is known for Kreusler-Walsh Vargas & Serafin, P.A. is a highly regarded boutique with vast experience representing clients in all Florida state and federal appellate courts. The firm regularly handles a wide range of matters, including employment disputes, business litigation, insurance issues and class actions.

Notable practitioners

Jane Kreusler-Walsh wins praise from all corners of the market for her impressive appellate practice. She handles cases relating to family law and product liability matters, as well as class actions and securities disputes.

Strengths: "Jane is a well-respected appellate lawyer." "Jane Kreusler-Walsh is one of the best appellate lawyers in Florida." **Rebecca Mercier Vargas** is a respected appellate attorney, with experience appearing on behalf of clients in both state and federal courts. She is adept at handling a variety of matters, ranging from probate and trust law to product liability disputes.

Podhurst Orseck P.A.

What the team is known for Podhurst Orseck, P.A. is a Florida firm with strong trial and appellate experience. The firm acts for national and international clients, ranging from individuals to

large corporations. The team is noted for its highly regarded aviation practice and offers additional expertise in product liability disputes and mass torts.

Work highlights Podhurst Orseck, P.A. represented TelevisaUnivision in the appeal of a defamation case brought by a prominent pastor of a 25,000-member church in Guatemala, Carlos Enrique Luna Lam.

Notable practitioners

Joel Eaton is regarded as a stalwart of the Florida market, with extensive experience representing clients in both state and federal appellate courts.

Strengths: "Joel is extremely capable and experienced." **Stephen Rosenthal** is a well-respected appellate attorney. He takes on a varied case-load, including commercial disputes and personal injury matters. **Strengths:** "Stephen Rosenthal is top-notch, well prepared and goes the extra mile. His answer to every question is always thought out. He is a fantastic lawyer and an excellent writer."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Chris Altenbernd of Bunker Lopez Gassler PA is a highly regarded figure in the market for his vast experience in appellate matters. A former appellate judge in Florida's Second District Court of Appeal, he handles a wide range of civil disputes.

Strengths: "Chris is one of the brightest people you would meet. He is the best." "I highly respect him. He is kind and smart."

Former Florida Supreme Court Justice **Kenneth Bell** has a broad base of experience in appellate litigation, including those involving insurance claims. **Strengths:** "He is a well-regarded and experienced lawyer."

Philip Burlington of Burlington & Rockenbach, PA brings nearly three decades of trial and appellate experience to his cases.

Raoul Cantero of White & Case LLP maintains an excellent reputation for his handling of complex trials and appeals. He also offers notable experience in international matters involving Latin American jurisdictions. **Strengths:** "His legal work is always spot-on." "His ability to distill complex factual situations and circumstances into a brief that is both very understandable and easy to read is his best quality." "Raoul is a terrific appellate lawyer. He is one of the top appellate lawyers in Florida if not in the US. He is surgical in his practice."

Dentons' Miami office managing partner **Angel Cortinas** is well regarded in the market for his extensive experience in complex disputes. He handles a broad range of matters, including False Claims Act cases, real estate litigation and insurance claims.

Chris Donovan of Donovan Appellate Law offers a wealth of commercial and business disputes experience, alongside particular strength in trust and probate cases. **Strengths:** "Chris is a true expert in the field of appellate law. He combines legal expertise, strategic insight and persuasive advocacy in a way that is truly exceptional. He possesses a remarkable ability to dissect intricate trial court decisions and identifies potential grounds for appeal that others might overlook." "Chris is incredibly intelligent. He is an honest, diligent pro-

fessional who values the profession above all else." "He is thoughtful, engaging, creative and focused."

Raymond Elligett of Buell & Elligett has represented clients for over 40 years in trials and appeals. He has experience in a wide range of matters, including insurance disputes, commercial litigation and personal injury claims.

Bryan Gowdy of Creed & Gowdy, PA offers a broad base of appellate experience and has handled product liability claims, commercial disputes and criminal cases.

Edward Guedes of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, P.L. is experienced across a wide variety of complex appeals and disputes, including IP matters, land use and zoning issues, election law and medical malpractice claims. **Strengths:** "Edward is a well-respected and well-regarded practitioner."

Elliot Kula of Kula & Associates, P.A. is skilled in a broad array of appeals and disputes, including business litigation and personal injury claims.

Val Leppert (see p.1480) of King & Spalding LLP is an accomplished appellate litigator recognized for his vast experience in consumer product cases, with noteworthy expertise in tobacco-related cases. **Strengths:** "Val Leppert has a strong appellate practice."

Wendy Lumish of Bowman and Brooke LLP is an experienced appellate practitioner who specializes in product liability disputes, as well as handling cases involving medical malpractice and personal injury claims. **Strengths:** "Wendy is an excellent, well-respected appellate attorney."

John Mills of The Mills Firm wins praise for his extensive experience handling appellate mat-

ters. He acts for clients in a wide range of cases, including those relating to personal injury, family law and commercial disputes.

Daniel Nordby (see p.1486) is chair of Shutts & Bowen LLP's appellate practice. He offers deep appellate experience in matters concerning constitutional, administrative and insurance law.

Strengths: "Daniel is an excellent lawyer."

Joel Perwin is a highly respected attorney whose practice covers a wide range of civil disputes. He acts for both national and international clients.

Strengths: "Joel is specialized in appeals." "He is a fine advocate."

Lauren Purdy is cochair of Gunster's appellate practice. She has experience representing clients in a variety of cases of first impression, including governmental challenges, First Amendment and wrongful death cases. **Strengths:** "Lauren's experience as clerk gives her exceptionally practical judgment. Her judgment is great and she is highly efficient." "She is very experienced and knowledgeable. Lauren is extremely responsive and a pleasure to work with."

Jack Reiter (see p.1490) of GrayRobinson, PA focuses his practice on complex appeals and trials. He handles a wide range of matters, including product liability disputes, insurance coverage claims and commercial litigation. **Strengths:** "Jack is a great appellate lawyer with excellent judgment and writing ability." "His services are excellent. He is a very good writer in terms of appellate briefings. Jack does well in oral arguments and he can assist trial lawyers to make the appropriate objections and preserve objections in the record for appeals." "Jack is an excellent lawyer

who provides great service and communicates well with the client."

Julissa Rodriguez (see p.1491) of Shutts & Bowen LLP is well regarded for her handling of appeals stemming from product liability and tort litigation.

Strengths: "Julissa is a very good appellate lawyer."

Daniel Rogers (see p.1491) is the managing partner of Shook Hardy & Bacon LLP's Miami office. He regularly handles appeals involving medical device and product liability disputes.

Strengths: "Dan is a very good trial attorney and has a ton of experience. He is a pleasure to work with." "Daniel's briefs and oral arguments are just spectacular. He has a good sense about what to argue and what not to." "He is the smartest guy in the room. Daniel is very good at dealing with people and is able to resolve matters."

Bruce Rogow has an excellent reputation in the market for his years of experience handling complex appeals and litigation.

Lauri Waldman Ross of Ross & Girten is highly regarded in the market for her work on a broad range of appeals. She is particularly skilled in healthcare and personal injury cases. **Strengths:** "Lauri is one of the best advocates before the Third District Court."

Hala Sandridge of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC has a varied caseload, with particular experience acting on land use matters. She is regularly called upon to represent clients in both state and federal appellate courts. **Strengths:** "Hala is a great lawyer who provides an extremely hard-fought defense for her clients."

Litigation Medical Malpractice Defense

Litigation: Medical Malpractice Defense	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Chimpoulis & Hunter	
Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA	
Falk, Waas, Hernandez, Cortina, Solomon & Bonner	
Fowler White Burnett PA	
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadef	
Wicker Smith	

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Banker Lopez Gassler PA

What the team is known for Banker Lopez Gassler PA is regarded for its ability to defend clients against a variety of medical malpractice claims. The team is also experienced in areas including pharmacy malpractice and professional liability.

Notable practitioners

Bradley Powers has notable experience in medical malpractice litigation alongside professional liability and general insurance litigation. **Tracy Falkowitz** defends clients in litigation concerning medical and pharmacy malpractice. She has further experience in arbitration contracts.

Strengths: "Tracy is a brilliant and smart lawyer."

Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin, O'Hara, Kinman & Bocchino, PA

What the team is known for Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin, O'Hara, Kinman & Bocchino, PA has a renowned medical malpractice and general liability practice serving doctors, physicians and nurse practitioners, as well as hospitals and other healthcare providers. With offices based in Tampa and Orlando, the firm provides broad Central Florida coverage.

Notable practitioners

John Bocchino has deep experience in medical negligence trial work, representing providers and institutions throughout the state of Florida.

Mark McLaughlin offers a wealth of expertise in the defense of claims of medical malpractice and negligence. He is noted for his experience acting on behalf of physicians. **Mindy McLaughlin** is an experienced practitioner in medical malpractice and professional liability claims with a strong

Litigation: Medical Malpractice Defense	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Antonacci-Pollock Rosemarie	<i>Falk, Waas, Hernandez</i>
Aubin Thomas G.	<i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler</i> *
Cabanas Oscar	<i>Wicker Smith</i>
Chimpoulis Jay P.	<i>Chimpoulis & Hunter</i>
DeChurch James	<i>Fowler White Burnett PA</i>
Goran John	<i>Hall Booth Smith, P.C.</i>
Hunter Katherine	<i>Chimpoulis & Hunter</i>
Hurley Claire	<i>Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA</i>
Iacono Tullio	<i>Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA</i>
Knight Christopher E.	<i>Fowler White Burnett PA</i> *
Koone George	<i>Fowler White Burnett PA</i>
Podolnick Matthew	<i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler</i>
Schleier Marc	<i>Fowler White Burnett PA</i>
Smillova Antonia	<i>Wicker Smith</i>
Solomon Scott	<i>Falk, Waas, Hernandez, Cortina, Solomon</i>
Up-and-coming individuals	
Saperstein Paige	<i>Falk, Waas, Hernandez, Cortina</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.	
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

track record of representing both individual practitioners and institutions. **Kevin O'Hara** is noted for his expert representation of doctors as well as other healthcare providers and facilities across Central Florida.

Chimpoulis & Hunter

What the team is known for Chimpoulis & Hunter is a well-respected South Florida practice with deep expertise and a strong reputation for physician representation. The firm is noted for its extensive trial expertise.

Notable practitioners

Jay Chimpoulis, a co-founder of Chimpoulis & Hunter, is well respected for his work primarily representing physicians, particularly as a trial lawyer. **Strengths:** "Jay Chimpoulis is a fantastic lawyer." **Katherine Hunter**, a co-founder of Chimpoulis & Hunter, has a well-known South Florida practice offering expertise in catastrophic injury representation as well as malpractice defense for private healthcare clients. **Strengths:** "Katherine Hunter is a fantastic lawyer."

Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA

What the team is known for Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA is a well-established medical malpractice defense firm with a number of offices located across southern Florida. Its practice areas include professional, nursing and physicians' malpractice as well as pharmaceutical and medical device litigation.

Notable practitioners

Claire Hurley is noted for her effective representation of physicians, nurses and healthcare providers across a considerable range of medical malpractice matters. **Strengths:** "She is well prepared." **Tullio Iacono** is a highly experienced attorney noted for his defense of healthcare providers in complex medical malpractice litigation. He has a strong track record in the defense of emergency room physicians, urgent care practitioners and medical assistants in healthcare delivery claims. **Strengths:** "He is a good and effective trial lawyer." **Daniel Shapiro**, managing

Litigation: Medical Malpractice Defense

Leading Firms

Band 1

Banker Lopez Gassler PA

Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin, O'Hara, Kinman

Estes, Ingram, Foels & Gibbs, PA

GrayRobinson, PA

Hall Booth Smith, P.C.

La Cava, Jacobson & Goodis, PA

McEwan, Martinez, Dukes & Hall, PA

Pearson, Doyle, Mohre & Pastis LLP

Rissman, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue, McLain

Smith Hulsey & Busey

Weekley, Schulte, Valdes, Murman, Tonelli

Wicker Smith

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Barbour Jeptha Marks Gray PA (ORL) ◊

Barry Richard GrayRobinson, PA *

Bocchino John Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin, O'Hara

Crotts Troy Bush Ross, PA (ORL) ◊

Doyle David Pearson, Doyle, Mohre & Pastis LLP

Dukes Thomas McEwan, Martinez, Dukes & Hall, PA

Ford Richards Wicker Smith

Goodis Jeffrey La Cava, Jacobson & Goodis, PA

Googe Earl Smith Hulsey & Busey

Hall Mary Jaye McEwan, Martinez, Dukes & Hall, PA

Hurt Jennings Rissman, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue, McLain

Ingram Charles Estes, Ingram, Foels & Gibbs, PA

La Cava Louis La Cava, Jacobson & Goodis, PA

Mangan, Jr Richard B. Rissman, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue

Martinez Rafael McEwan, Martinez, Dukes & Hall, PA

McLaughlin Mark Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin

McLaughlin Mindy Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin

Powers Bradley Banker Lopez Gassler PA

Schulte Christopher Weekley, Schulte, Valdes, Murman

Womble Richard Rissman, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue, McLain

Band 2

Allen Brent Hall Booth Smith, P.C.

Black Robin Pearson, Doyle, Mohre & Pastis LLP

Bolin Andy Bolin Law Group (ORL) ◊

Evangelista James Bush Ross, PA (ORL) ◊

Falkowitz Tracy M. Banker Lopez Gassler PA

Gibbs Eric Estes, Ingram, Foels & Gibbs, PA

Harmon Michael Smith Hulsey & Busey

Love Davis Childs, Hester & Love, PA. (ORL) ◊

Nelson David La Cava, Jacobson & Goodis, PA

O'Hara Kevin Beytin, McLaughlin, McLaughlin, O'Hara

Obringer Michael Orr | Cook (ORL) ◊

Platter Holly Bush Graziano Rice & Platter PA. (ORL) ◊

Shapiro Daniel Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA

Shapiro Ethen Hill Ward Henderson (ORL) ◊ *

Up-and-coming individuals

Williams Clayton Estes, Ingram, Foels & Gibbs, PA

expertise representing hospitals.

Notable practitioners

Charles Ingram is an experienced trial lawyer with a strong track record in medical malpractice defense. **Eric Gibbs** focuses on the defense and trial of medical malpractice cases and is particularly sought after by hospitals and physicians, as well as a range of other medical providers. **Clayton Williams'** primary focus involves the defense of healthcare providers and hospitals in medical malpractice claims, as well as a range of other areas such as premises liability claims and healthcare facility credentialing.

Falk, Waas, Hernandez, Cortina, Solomon & Bonner P.A.

What the team is known for Falk, Waas, Hernandez, Cortina, Solomon & Bonner P.A. specializes in insurance defense and medical malpractice matters. It acts primarily for hospitals and physicians. It provides strong South Florida coverage through its Tampa and Miami offices.

Notable practitioners

Rosemarie Antonacci-Pollock is noted for her strong track record as a defense lawyer. Her practice focuses exclusively on the representation of healthcare providers in medical malpractice cases and administrative matters. **Strengths:** "Rosemarie is a good lawyer." **Scott Solomon** is a highly regarded lawyer who handles cases across a wide range of professional negligence and malpractice areas. He is noted for his work in complex, high-exposure cases involving brain-damaged infants. **Strengths:** "Scott is a fantastic and top-notch trial lawyer." **Paige Saperstein**'s practice focuses primarily on the defense of medical malpractice cases. She is noted for her effective instruction of clients on Seventh Amendment issues, and has considerable experience as a trial lawyer. **Strengths:** "Paige is a good lawyer."

Fowler White Burnett PA

What the team is known for Fowler White Burnett PA is a renowned South Florida-based practice offering a wealth of expertise across the full life-cycle of malpractice suits, including a strong track record at trial and appellate levels. The team is capable of advising individual practitioners and healthcare institutions, as well as insurers.

Notable practitioners

James DeChurch represents doctors, hospitals and other healthcare providers in medical malpractice claims as part of a broader civil litigation practice. **Strengths:** "James DeChurch is an excellent lawyer." **Christopher Knight** (see p.1477) is a top choice for medical malpractice defense. He works with a range of clients, including healthcare systems. **Strengths:** "He is excellent." **George Koone** is a civil litigator whose practice involves a range of medical malpractice defense cases. His primary clients are healthcare facilities and medical practitioners. **Marc Schleier** is an experienced attorney whose practice focuses on a range of medical malpractice and product liability claims. He has expertise in the handling of post-mortem motions and preparation of appellate briefs. **Strengths:** "Marc is a bright lawyer."

Cole, Scott & Kissane, PA

partner of Cole, Scott & Kissane's Tampa office, is an experienced trial lawyer known for his expert defense of healthcare providers and medical professionals. He is further equipped to tackle litigation involving product liability claims. **Strengths:** "Daniel is a good lawyer."

Estes, Ingram, Foels & Gibbs, PA

What the team is known for Estes, Ingram, Foels & Gibbs, PA is a longstanding Orlando-based player specializing primarily in the defense of healthcare professionals in civil litigation, as well as administrative actions. The firm offers further

GrayRobinson, PA

What the team is known for GrayRobinson, PA leverages its wide expertise in a range of healthcare and insurance matters to defend hospitals and other facilities against medical malpractice claims. The firm offers niche expertise in cases involving long-term care facilities.

Notable practitioners

Richard Barry (see p.1458) has considerable experience handling the defense of medical malpractice claims, primarily representing hospitals. He acts for clients in both trials and administrative proceedings.

Hall Booth Smith, P.C.

What the team is known for Hall Booth Smith, P.C. is experienced in the defense of healthcare institutions and professionals in medical malpractice cases, including through jury trials, arbitrations and mediations. It adeptly serves North and Central Florida through its strong Jacksonville and Tallahassee teams.

Notable practitioners

John Goran focuses on medical malpractice claims, with experience representing hospitals, physicians and other healthcare professionals. He is managing partner of Hall Booth Smith's Miami office. **Brent Allen** is noted for his extensive experience as a civil trial lawyer, whose practice focuses on medical malpractice, alongside matters such as commercial litigation.

La Cava, Jacobson & Goodis, PA

What the team is known for La Cava, Jacobson & Goodis, PA is a prominent Tampa-based group offering considerable expertise in medical malpractice defense as part of a broader professional negligence practice. Its lawyers are capable of representing physicians, nurse practitioners, hospitals and others in navigating litigation, trials and administrative proceedings.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Goodis is noted for his representation of hospitals and other medical providers in state and federal courts. Clients benefit from his cross-sector expertise, which includes defending professional negligence claims. **Louis La Cava** has extensive expertise in defending medical malpractice claims. His clients include physicians and hospitals. **David Nelson**'s practice is largely focused on the representation of healthcare providers, including hospitals, physicians, dentists, nurses, nursing homes and assisted living facilities. He has defended clients against negligence claims at both trial and appellate levels.

McEwan, Martinez, Dukes & Hall, PA

What the team is known for McEwan, Martinez, Dukes & Hall, PA is an Orlando-based medical malpractice defense powerhouse with deep experience representing hospitals, health systems and a wide array of individual healthcare practitioners. It boasts a strong track record at both trial and appellate levels.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Dukes focuses his trial practice primarily on medical malpractice defense. He remains a popular choice for both individual and institutional clients facing high-stakes litigation. **Mary**

Jaye Hall has an impressive breadth of expertise defending individual practitioners, hospitals and healthcare systems against claims of malpractice and negligence. She handles both trials and appeals. **Rafael Martinez** is an experienced practitioner in the field of medical malpractice defense. He has successfully represented a wide variety of healthcare sector clients at trial and appellate levels.

Pearson, Doyle, Mohre & Pastis LLP

What the team is known for Pearson, Doyle, Mohre & Pastis LLP possesses an impressive Orlando-based team capable of assisting hospitals, physicians and nurses in complex medical malpractice suits. The firm adeptly counsels clients on risk management as well as boasting a strong track record at trial.

Notable practitioners

David Doyle represents hospitals and a variety of healthcare practitioners in medical malpractice claims. He also handles matters relating to healthcare law and insurance litigation. **Robin Black** represents healthcare providers and insurance carriers in a range of malpractice cases. She is an experienced litigator with experience advising on civil and administrative issues.

Rissman, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue, McLain & Mangan, PA

What the team is known for Rissman, Barrett, Hurt, Donahue, McLain & Mangan, PA draws on its considerable insurance sector experience to assist in the defense of medical malpractice claims. The firm primarily represents individual practitioners but offers wider strength advising hospitals and other providers.

Notable practitioners

Jennings Hurt has a wealth of expertise advising hospitals and physicians on medical malpractice claims. He is a highly experienced trial lawyer.

Richard Mangan is a well-regarded civil trial lawyer who practices in the areas of medical malpractice and insurance defense. **Richard Womble** is an experienced trial lawyer who offers significant capabilities in the defense of individuals and institutions in medical malpractice suits.

Smith Hulsey & Busey

What the team is known for Smith Hulsey & Busey is a well-regarded Jacksonville-based defense group that leverages its considerable prowess in all manner of healthcare matters to provide expert representation in medical malpractice cases. The team focuses primarily on representing hospitals and other institutional clients, and offers additional strength in risk management counseling.

Strengths

"Smith Hulsey & Busey's responsiveness, thoroughness and expertise makes them stand out."

Notable practitioners

Earl Googe offers a wealth of healthcare sector expertise and a strong track record in medical malpractice defense. He is capable of assisting clients throughout litigation and at trial, as well as advising on regulatory matters. **Strengths:** *"Earl is easy to work with and hears our needs. He looks at a situation from all aspects and gives honest legal opinions for any question we ask."* *"He is always*

available to assist us and is valuable in helping us navigate state laws. He is proactive in developing practices and protocols to minimize our risk. He is collaborative and reliable." **Michael Harmon** is a trial lawyer noted for his representation of hospitals and healthcare providers in the defense of medical malpractice claims, particularly involving matters of catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death. **Strengths:** *"He is smart, respectful, professional and clients like him."*

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. has extensive expertise in defending medical malpractice claims. Its lawyers work with a host of clients, including hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and physician practices.

Strengths

"The team provides excellent service for value."

"The firm has very strong service levels and responsiveness."

"The team is first-rate."

Notable practitioners

Thomas Aubin (see p.1457) focuses a significant amount of his litigation practice on the defense of hospitals and healthcare practitioners in medical malpractice claims. He is noted for his considerable experience at both trial and appellate levels. **Strengths:** *"Tom goes above and beyond in keeping clients happy and informing them about case law that affects the area of business. They appreciate the assistance and counsel he gives them."* *"Thomas is responsive, so knowledgeable and a complete professional."* *"Tom's knowledge and experience in the field of medical malpractice is unmatched. He is client-oriented and results-driven."* **Matthew Podolnick** is noted for his extensive experience representing healthcare institutions and practitioners in claims of medical malpractice in both state and federal courts. He also has experience in commercial litigation. **Strengths:** *"Matthew is very responsive in tackling my issues and cases."* *"Matthew is our go-to lawyer for difficult general liability and malpractice claims. He is extremely effective and consistently obtains the best results."*

Weekley, Schulte, Valdes, Murman, Tonelli

What the team is known for Weekley, Schulte, Valdes, Murman, Tonelli has a recognized Tampa-based practice noted for its considerable experience in medical malpractice matters. It is particularly sought after by healthcare providers and other institutions.

Notable practitioners

Christopher Schulte is noted for his considerable trial experience, with a strong track record in medical malpractice defense.

Wicker Smith

What the team is known for Wicker Smith is sought after for its expert defense of medical malpractice claims as part of its broader strength in professional liability and commercial litigation. The team frequently represents physicians and healthcare providers, as well as insurance com-

panies, in state and federal court. It has a strong bench across both northern and southern Florida.

Notable practitioners

Oscar Cabanas is noted for his experience handling complex malpractice suits alongside wider strength in professional liability and commercial litigation. He is a managing partner of Wicker Smith. **Strengths:** "Oscar is a very effective lawyer."

"He is a top lawyer." **Richards Ford** often works on complex medical malpractice claims, as part of a broader civil litigation practice. He is highlighted for his work with hospitals. **Strengths:** "Richards is a go-to lawyer." **Antonia Smillova**'s practice is centered on a range of medical malpractice and broader healthcare sector issues. Clients benefit from her considerable professional experience in the healthcare industry. **Strengths:** "Antonia is a fantastic lawyer."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Marks Gray PA partner **Jeptha Barbour** is a leading attorney based in Jacksonville. He works on a host of medical malpractice claims.

Andy Bolin is known for his representation of doctors and hospitals. He is a partner at Bolin Law Group.

Troy Crotts is noted for his defense of a broad range of medical malpractice claims. He has considerable experience as a trial lawyer, representing physicians, nurses and healthcare providers. He is a partner at Bush Ross, PA.

James Evangelista is an experienced civil trial lawyer noted for his representation of clients across the healthcare sector, including hospitals and physicians, as part of a wider expertise in professional liability and malpractice. He chairs the healthcare and casualty & insurance defense practice groups at Bush Ross, PA.

Davis Love is a partner at Childs, Hester & Love who is noted for his strength in civil litigation and trials, with experience spanning medical malpractice and insurance claims.

Michael Obringer of Orr | Cook is an experienced trial lawyer whose primary experience lies in civil litigation. He has experience defending a range of healthcare professionals in malpractice suits.

Holly Platter of Bush Graziano Rice & Platter P.A. represents hospitals, healthcare providers and medical professionals. She is experienced in alternative dispute resolution and offers expertise in settling claims through arbitration and mediation. **Strengths:** "Holly is a good lawyer."

Ethen Shapiro (see p.1494) defends individuals as well as healthcare and long-term care providers against a variety of liability and personal injury claims. He is a partner in Hill Ward Henderson's Tampa office. **Strengths:** "Ethen is a smart lawyer."

Litigation White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations

Litigation White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations

Leading Firms

Band 1

Black Srebnick

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Kobre & Kim

Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro LLP

Markus/Moss

Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC

Band 2

Gelber Schachter & Greenberg

Holland & Knight LLP

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

Band 3

Bozorgi Law, PLLC

Carlton Fields

Foley & Lardner LLP

Fridman Fels & Soto, PLLC

Raskin & Raskin PA

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Black Srebnick

What the team is known for Black Srebnick is a Miami shop with an outstanding reputation in the white-collar criminal defense space. It excels in trial work, with a hugely successful track record in a broad range of cases, including those involving allegations of fraud and money laundering. Its

high-profile clients have included multinational corporations, corporate executives and individuals from the sport and entertainment industries.

Notable practitioners

Roy Black offers impressive experience in a wide range of criminal cases, including those relating to allegations of fraud, money laundering and tax evasion. **Howard Srebnick** undertakes a varied caseload, including significant criminal cases, as well as complex commercial disputes. **Strengths:** "Howard Srebnick is well regarded throughout the nation as being a premier white-collar crime practitioner." **Jackie Perczek** is regularly called upon to represent clients facing investigation by the DOJ and other governmental agencies. She acts for corporations and their senior executives, as well as individuals and offers notable experience in cases concerning fraud allegations. **Strengths:** "Jackie is a great person to work with." "She is fantastic."

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP offers impressive bench strength and state coverage to a wide array of clients across a range of commercial disputes as well as white-collar matters. It is noted for its highly adept counsel in product liability, banking and securities litigation. It maintains a fine track record in complex cross-border mandates and is also sought after for its capabilities in appellate cases. The firm represents a wide array of clients, including those within the telecommunications, financial services

and manufacturing sectors.

Strengths

"Greenberg is great to work with."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP defended 1st Global Capital in connection with federal investigations conducted by the US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida and the SEC.

Notable practitioners

Jared Dwyer is an experienced trial lawyer with a varied practice spanning complex civil and criminal disputes. He is adept at representing clients facing allegations of fraud, corruption and money laundering. **Strengths:** "He is just fantastic and is delightful to work with." **Gregory Kehoe** is highly regarded for his handling of domestic and international white-collar disputes on behalf of corporations, individuals and financial institutions.

Benjamin Greenberg brings his experience as a former US Attorney to his notable practice in white-collar defense. He is a strong choice for individuals facing fraud charges, as well as corporations requiring representation in internal and federal investigations. **Strengths:** "Ben is amazing." **David Weinstein** possesses expertise spanning white-collar criminal litigation and investigations as well as commercial disputes, and is adept at handling matters with cross-border elements. He is particularly noted for his expertise in environmental matters. **Strengths:** "David is great."

Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations

Senior Statespeople and Eminent Practitioners

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Black Roy *Black Srebnick*

Martinez Roberto *Colson Hicks Eidson (ORL)* ◊

Pasano Michael S *Carlton Fields*

Quiñon Jose M *Jose M Quiñon PA (ORL)* ◊

Schnapp Mark P *The Law Office Mark P. (ORL)* ◊

Zimet Bruce A *Bruce A Zimet PA (ORL)* ◊

Eminent Practitioners

Gelber Dan *Gelber Schachter & Greenberg*

Leading Individuals

Star individuals

Markus David *Markus/Moss*

Menchel Matthew I. *Kobre & Kim*

Srebnick Howard M *Black Srebnick*

Band 1

Bozorgi Susan *Bozorgi Law, PLLC* *

Fridman Daniel *Fridman Fels & Soto, PLLC* *

Lauro John *Lauro & Singer (ORL)* ◊ *

Marcus Jeffrey *Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro* *

Neiman Jeffrey *Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro* *

Rashbaum Daniel L *Marcus Neiman Rashbaum* *

Sale Jon A *Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP*

Shohat Edward R *Jones Walker LLP (ORL)* ◊

Stumphauzer Ryan *Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler*

Weinberg Jr Morris 'Sandy' *Zuckerman Spaeder LLP*

Band 2

Binhak Stephen J *The Law Office of Stephen (ORL)* ◊

Coxe Henry M *Bedell, Dittmar, DeVault, Pillans (ORL)* ◊

Curtis O. Benton *McDermott Will & Emery LLP (ORL)* ◊ *

Descalzo Marissel *Tache, Bronis, and Descalzo (ORL)* ◊ *

Dwyer Jared E. *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Etra Jonathan *Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP*

Ferrer Wifredo *Holland & Knight LLP*

Greenberg Gerald *Gelber Schachter & Greenberg*

Jiménez Marcos Daniel *León Cosgrove Jiménez (ORL)* ◊

Kehoe Gregory W *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Lourie Andrew *Kobre & Kim*

Moss Margot *Markus/Moss*

Riviere-Badell Adriana *Kobre & Kim*

Sheehan Evelyn *Kobre & Kim*

Shepherd Bill *Holland & Knight LLP*

Band 3

Calli Paul *Calli Law, LLC (ORL)* ◊

Fels Adam *Fridman Fels & Soto, PLLC* *

Fernandez Jack E. *Zuckerman Spaeder LLP*

Greenberg Benjamin *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Kuehne Benedict P *Law Offices of Benedict (ORL)* ◊

Mehta Jason *Foley & Lardner LLP*

Nadler Michael *Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman*

Perczek Jackie *Black Srebnick*

Raskin Jane S. *Raskin & Raskin PA*

Raskin Martin R *Raskin & Raskin PA*

Sanchez Lilly Ann *The LS Law Firm (ORL)* ◊

Schwartz Adam *Vedder Price PC (ORL)* ◊ *

Shapiro Hy *Hy Shapiro, P.A. (ORL)* ◊

Sloman Jeffrey *Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman*

Weinstein David B *Greenberg Traurig, LLP*

Band 4

Albritton A Brian *Phelps Dunbar LLP (ORL)* ◊

Beguiristain Maria *White & Case LLP (ORL)* ◊

Bentley Lee *Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP (ORL)* ◊

Cavallo Christopher *Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough*

Citro Vincent *Losey PLLC (ORL)* ◊

Feldman Andrew *Feldman Firm PLLC (ORL)* ◊

Higgins Celeste *Celeste S. Higgins (ORL)* ◊ *

Kudman Tama *Kudman Trachten Aloe Posner (ORL)* ◊ *

Llanes Barbara *Gelber Schachter & Greenberg*

Martinez Barbara *Holland & Knight LLP*

Meyers Kathryn *Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro* *

Schwartz Adam P *Carlton Fields*

Tanchyk Alison *Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP (ORL)* ◊

Van Dusen Susan *Bozorgi Law, PLLC* *

Weintraub Jayne *Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough*

boutique with significant pedigree. It was founded by former federal prosecutors and focuses on a range of white-collar criminal defense and government investigation work. The firm maintains a strong roster of clients in the pharmaceutical, healthcare and medical devices arenas, and possesses particular expertise in tax work and complex securities fraud issues. It has particular strength in the southern part of the state, with offices in Miami and Fort Lauderdale.

Work highlights Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro advised Matthew Pisoni on an indictment count for conspiracy to commit mail fraud in relation to the operation of a global lottery sweepstakes magazine business in which customers were shipped monthly newsletters featuring a variety of eligible contests they could enter.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Marcus (see p.1483) remains a popular choice for corporates and individuals seeking representation in criminal investigations and trials.

He also has significant experience in matters concerning the False Claims Act. **Jeffrey Neiman** (see p.1486) maintains a varied practice, including advising on compliance issues and regulatory enforcement matters as well as representing individuals and corporations in litigation. He is singled out for his considerable tax expertise. **Strengths:** "Jeff is thoughtful and strategic." "He is easy to work with, is well respected and gets results for his clients."

Daniel Rashbaum (see p.1489) represents clients facing a variety of allegations, including money laundering, FCPA violations and healthcare fraud. **Strengths:** "He is an incredible trial lawyer." "Daniel is a thoughtful lawyer able to get to the best possible outcomes. He is willing to fight for clients and is a great collaborator."

Kathryn Meyer (see p.1485) is recommended for advising clients on fraud allegations including those related to investment schemes and false tax returns. She is an expert in internal and government investigations, as well as litigation.

* Indicates individual with profile.

◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Kobre & Kim

What the team is known for Kobre & Kim is a premier white-collar defense firm possessing significant trial experience. It offers clients a broad array of expertise across issues including healthcare fraud, accounting fraud and public corruption, enjoying a fine reputation for its work on behalf of clients in the financial services sector. The firm is also noted for its strengths in both internal and governmental investigations, including those with a cross-border component, notably those involving Latin America, the UK and Hong Kong.

Strengths

"The firm houses excellent professionals whose abilities, reach and level of sophisticated prowess are second to none."

"The team are a pleasure to work with."

Notable practitioners

Matthew Menchel continues to win praise from all corners of the market for his representation of clients facing investigation by the DOJ and SEC. He is also an experienced trial lawyer. **Strengths:**

"He is a very impressive attorney." "Matthew is an extremely effective advocate and clients feel com-

fortable with him." **Andrew Lourie** is a go-to for senior executives facing allegations of misconduct brought by various governmental bodies. He is experienced in handling cross-border investigations. **Adriana Riviere-Badell** focuses her practice on representing senior executives in government investigations, as well as conducting internal investigations. She is an excellent choice for a wide range of issues, including corruption and money-laundering charges with cross-border aspects. **Strengths:** "Adriana is incredible. She is a diligent and zealous advocate for clients." "She is a very hard worker and a master of complex facts." "She is sharp and guards her clients' interests and reputation." **Evelyn Sheehan** has a strong track record of advising high net worth individuals, institutional clients and their executives in cross-border investigations, enforcement actions and asset forfeiture matters.

Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro LLP

What the team is known for Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro is a well-regarded litigation

Markus/Moss

What the team is known for Markus/Moss is a boutique litigation firm specializing in white-collar criminal defense issues and frequently involved in trial and appellate work. It handles criminal cases across the spectrum and particularly excels in antitrust, securities and fraud.

Work highlights Markus/Moss represented Dr. William Harwin in a criminal antitrust lawsuit concerning alleged conspiracy to divide up the market in the radiation oncology space.

Notable practitioners

David Markus offers extensive experience representing clients in a variety of white-collar criminal defense cases. He garners praise for his trial capabilities. **Strengths:** "David Markus is incredible. He is successful in high-profile cases and is a team player." **Margot Moss** handles a wide range of white-collar matters, including allegations of criminal antitrust offences and fraud. She also represents clients in securities litigation.

Strengths: "She has deep experience."

Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC

What the team is known for Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC is a white-collar crime litigation boutique, specializing in complex fraud disputes and government regulatory enforcement matters. It also excels in high-profile foreign corruption investigations. The firm's clients hail from the healthcare, financial and technological sectors, among others.

Strengths

"The firm is fantastic."

Work highlights Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC defended Bryan Berkman in connection with allegations of a foreign bribery conspiracy and money laundering.

Notable practitioners

Ryan Stumphauzer brings his prior experience as a federal prosecutor to bear in his impressive white-collar practice, with particular expertise in healthcare fraud, as well as bribery. **Strengths:** *"Ryan is our go-to. He has an amazing reputation and a depth and breadth of experience."* **Michael Nadler** is well regarded for his white-collar defense work, particularly in the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and cross-border space. He also brings his experience as a former federal prosecutor to a variety of other issues, including money laundering, sanctions and fraud schemes. **Strengths:** *"He is focused, diligent and takes a very creative approach."* **Michael handles multijurisdictional and complex matters delicately, and he looks out for clients' interests."** A former US Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, **Jeffrey Sloman** regularly handles a wide range of white-collar criminal defense matters, including representing clients facing allegations of fraud and corruption.

Band 2

Gelber Schacter & Greenberg

What the team is known for Gelber Schacter & Greenberg is a well-regarded litigation shop with expertise across the full range of civil and criminal disputes. It is routinely called upon to represent both plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal courts. The firm is adept at handling cases relating to healthcare fraud and public corruption, as well as consumer claims and class actions.

Strengths

"The team are very accurate in their advice."

Work highlights Gelber Schacter & Greenberg served as local co-counsel for FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried in multidistrict litigation relating to the collapse of FTX.

Notable practitioners

Former federal prosecutor **Dan Gelber** wins market-wide recognition for his impressive white-collar practice. He is also the current Mayor of Miami Beach. **Strengths:** *"He is among the best."*

"He is extremely well connected, has a strong reputation and is a good strategist." **Gerald Greenberg** is a respected figure in the market with vast experience in both white-collar litigation and complex commercial disputes. His recent work includes representing a whistleblower in an international tax fraud matter and handling healthcare fraud allegations. **Strengths:** *"Gerald is an excellent stra-*

tegic thinker. He is extremely able to get the best result for clients under difficult circumstances."

"He has got a very sharp command of the facts of the case." *"He knows everyone, which is super valuable."* **Barbara Llanes** specializes in cross-border matters, with over a decade of experience as a federal prosecutor working in the USA and in Latin America. She has transitioned seamlessly into defense work with recent involvement in money laundering and fraud matters. **Strengths:** *"Barbara is extremely approachable, anticipates things down the line and is proactive."*

"The firm performs extraordinarily well in highly complex and sensitive matters."

"The attorneys are very communicative and on top of things."

Notable practitioners

Jon Sale enjoys an outstanding reputation for his extensive experience in high-profile white-collar criminal matters, including allegations of money laundering, fraud and FCPA violations. **Strengths:** *"Jon Sale is the go-to lawyer in difficult white-collar matters. He has extraordinary credibility with prosecutors and gets excellent results for his clients."* *"Jon is a brilliant strategist with a great reputation."*

Jonathan Etra is an experienced white-collar practitioner who routinely represents clients facing allegations of fraud and FCPA violations, among others. **Strengths:** *"He is a zealous advocate."* *"He is measured, strategic, well balanced and smart, with an ability to think outside the box."*

Christopher Cavallo focuses his practice on the representation of individuals and companies in regulatory proceedings and government investigations. **Strengths:** *"He is an extremely reliable attorney, unfailingly responsive and very insightful."* *"Christopher is a very talented lawyer."* **Jayne Weintraub** is a distinguished trial lawyer with a strong track record representing defendants in criminal matters, including in fraud cases. She notably assists clients in the healthcare and real estate space. **Strengths:** *"She is a very talented trial lawyer who is totally devoted to her clients and their cases."*

Zuckerman Spaeder LLP

What the team is known for Zuckerman Spaeder LLP is a litigation boutique with a strong reputation for its work concerning white-collar crime and government investigations. It offers clients particular expertise in healthcare, securities fraud and False Claims Act cases. The firm acts for clients from a wide range of industries and sectors, including gaming, education and shipping.

Strengths

"Zuckerman Spaeder provides excellent client service. The team is very attentive and forward-thinking."

Notable practitioners

Morris Weinberg has an outstanding reputation for his broad white-collar practice and is regularly engaged to represent senior executives facing allegations of fraud. He also offers notable expertise in the healthcare sector. **Jack Fernandez** maintains a broad criminal defense practice, with significant experience representing clients in state and federal trials. He is noted for his expertise in matters relating to the healthcare sector, including False Claims Act investigations.

Strengths: *"He is calm, cool and collected under pressure."* *"Jack's great strength is his ability to look beyond the immediate crisis and to offer advice that could avoid unexpected pitfalls."*

Band 3

Bozorgi Law, PLLC

What the team is known for Bozorgi Law, PLLC is a well-regarded boutique with notable capabilities in complex white-collar criminal defense

matters. It is routinely called upon to represent corporations and their executives as well as individuals in government investigations and enforcement proceedings. The firm also offers significant strength in trial work.

Notable practitioners

Susan Bozorgi (see p.1460) is well regarded for her skill in representing individuals and corporations facing investigation by the DOJ and SEC. She offers experience in complex cross-border matters, including alleged FCPA violations. **Susan Van Dusen** (see p.1498) comes recommended for her experience acting for individuals under investigation for a wide variety of white-collar crimes. She regularly handles fraud, money laundering and federal conspiracy allegations, as well as SEC proceedings.

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields offers clients wide-ranging litigation expertise across both civil and white-collar crime issues. It is held in high regard for its criminal defense and government investigations work and excels in an array of areas including healthcare, tax and securities fraud cases.

Notable practitioners

Michael Pasano enjoys a stellar reputation for his white-collar defense practice, where he regularly represents clients facing a wide variety of allegations, including money laundering and fraud. **Adam Schwartz** maintains a broad and well-respected white-collar practice, which encompasses qui tam cases, internal investigations and allegations of securities fraud. He also provides compliance advice.

Foley & Lardner LLP

What the team is known for Foley & Lardner LLP houses a solid team with significant capability representing clients in complex white-collar investigations and litigation. The group frequently advise individuals and companies in FCA cases, with a particular focus in the healthcare industry. The firm also enjoys a reputation for handling public corruption, antitrust and compliance matters.

Strengths

"The Foley team is extremely knowledgeable and offers well-written advice."

"The team are great communicators."

"Foley & Lardner always provides quick and informative responses."

Work highlights Foley & Lardner LLP represented Chris White, a healthcare executive in connection with his companies alleged potential violation of the Anti-Kickback Statute.

Notable practitioners

Jason Mehta frequently counsels clients in regulated industries such as pharmaceuticals and healthcare. He advises on investigations and other proceedings, with a particular focus on False Claims Act cases. **Strengths:** *"Jason is informative and diligent."* *"Jason brings the perspective of both the government and defense counsel to every case. He's efficient, creative and calm under pressure."*

Fridman Fels & Soto, PLLC

What the team is known for Fridman Fels & Soto, PLLC is a notable litigation boutique offering particular strengths in healthcare litigation and government and internal investigations. Its bench includes former federal prosecutors and has strong cross-border capabilities, making it an excellent choice for clients facing Foreign Corrupt Practices Act charges. It also has expertise in handling money laundering cases.

Strengths

"The team is very diligent."

"The firm's team is so extremely thorough in their research, knowledge base, understanding and awareness of the topics presented. They also explain items in a way that is very easy for a client to comprehend."

Work highlights Fridman Fels & Soto PLLC represented The Movie Studio in an SEC enforcement action concerning alleged fraud.

Notable practitioners

Daniel Fridman (see p.1469) is well regarded in the market for his impressive white-collar practice. He is especially skilled in cross-border matters with Latin American jurisdictions, including FCPA investigations. **Adam Fels** (see p.1467) is a former Assistant United States Attorney who specializes in handling money laundering cases alongside a varied white-collar practice that includes qui tam actions. He also has experience handling internal investigations. **Strengths:** *"Adam is very responsive and always available for questions or updates."* *"Adam's background and experience speaks for itself. His understanding of legal precedents and issues at hand is top notch."*

Raskin & Raskin PA

What the team is known for Raskin & Raskin PA is a robust white-collar litigation boutique noted for its deft counsel at trial and appellate level. It maintains a fine reputation for its work in securities, healthcare and mortgage fraud.

Notable practitioners

Jane Raskin is recognized for her extensive expertise in white-collar criminal defense. She represents clients facing allegations of fraud, as well as conducting internal investigations. **Martin Raskin** is called upon for his broad expertise in white-collar matters. He represents public officials, individuals and corporations from a wide range of sectors, including healthcare and financial services.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Brian Albritton of Phelps Dunbar LLP is noted for his experienced white-collar practice, with particular expertise in wire fraud and kickback cases. **Strengths:** *"Brian is absolutely great. He did a wonderful job and achieved a very great result."* *"He is a sound strategic thinker, a meticulous researcher and a good legal theorist too."*

Maria Beguiristain of White & Case LLP is a strong choice for multinational clients needing assistance with internal and governmental investigations, including by the DOJ and SEC, as well as substantial cross-border matters. **Strengths:** *"Maria is fantastic to work with."*

Lee Bentley of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP is noted for his experience defending clients accused of white-collar crimes in the healthcare and pharmaceuticals sectors. **Strengths:** *"Lee is amazing."*

Stephen Binhak acts for clients in a wide range of criminal cases, including those relating to money laundering, fraud and public corruption. He also maintains a respected practice in civil litigation.

Paul Calli of Calli Law, LLC is frequently sought out for his expertise representing clients in white-collar trials and investigations. He acts for corporations and their executives, as well as lawyers, public officials and high-profile individuals. His experience covers FCPA violations, fraud allegations and internal investigations. **Strengths:** *"Paul is a pleasure to work with."* *"Paul is an eminently qualified and seasoned trial attorney."*

Vincent Citro of Losey PLLC leverages his deep experience as a former federal prosecutor to assist clients in complex tax evasions, healthcare and securities fraud matters. **Strengths:** *"He is an excellent trial lawyer."* *"He is a strong advocate for his clients and provides an excellent service."*

Henry Coxe of Bedell, Dittmar, DeVault, Pillans & Coxe possesses significant experience in white-collar criminal defense matters. He is adept at representing clients in federal and state courts.

Benton Curtis (see p.1464) of McDermott Will & Emery LLP is an experienced trial and investigations attorney and regularly represents clients facing allegations of healthcare fraud, money laundering and kickback violations, among other matters. **Strengths:** *"Ben goes above and beyond to help."* *"He is great to work with and is really persuasive and diligent."* *"Ben consistently provides excellent and timely responses."*

Marissel Descalzo (see p.1465) of Tache, Bronis, and Descalzo offers impressive experience in a broad range of white-collar litigation and investigations. She regularly acts for clients facing allegations of healthcare and financial fraud, FCPA violations and bribery. **Strengths:** *"She is a superstar."*

Andrew Feldman of Feldman Firm PLLC has a varied white-collar practice representing a variety of corporate and individual clients in investigations and criminal matters. He offers particular strength in healthcare issues, including Anti-Kickback and False Claims Act violations, as well as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. **Strengths:** *"Andrew is an excellent attorney and a very effective communicator with judges."* *"He is a great defender of his clients."*

Celeste Higgins (see p.1474) is commended for her considerable expertise in white-collar criminal defense. She is sought after for her experience as a former public defender. **Strengths:** *"Celeste is a great trial lawyer."*

Marcos Daniel Jiménez of León Cosgrove Jiménez, LLP regularly handles a wide range of disputes for clients, including commercial litigation and white-collar matters. **Strengths:** *"Marc is an incredibly bright and skilled practitioner. He is also an exceptional writer and a talented advocate."*

Tama Kudman (see p.1479) of Kudman Trachten Aloe Posner LLP offers a varied white-collar defense practice, representing individuals in criminal actions and government investigations. She is

cochair of Pietragallo's government enforcement, compliance and white-collar litigation practice group. **Strengths:** "She is an exceptional lawyer." **Benedict Kuehne** is an experienced trial and appellate lawyer who is routinely engaged to represent clients in high-stakes white-collar criminal cases. **Strengths:** "Ben is really terrific and a great litigator."

John Lauro (see p.1480) of Lauro & Singer is a highly regarded trial lawyer with vast experience representing clients facing allegations of fraud. He handles matters relating to the healthcare sector, as well as offering significant expertise in securities violations. **Strengths:** "John Lauro is a preeminent lawyer in the country."

Roberto Martinez of Colson Hicks Eidson wins praise for his handling of complex criminal and civil disputes. He is regularly sought after to take a lead role in product liability and business litigation. **Strengths:** "Bob is a fantastic attorney."

Jose Quiñon focuses his practice on criminal defense and offers a wealth of experience in white-collar matters, ranging from fraud to money laundering.

Lilly Ann Sanchez of The LS Law Firm remains a go-to for individuals facing allegations of fraud, money laundering and public corruption. She has considerable trial experience and brings her expertise as a former federal prosecutor as well as her track record of successful defense work.

Mark Schnapp is highly regarded for his work advising large companies on a broad array of complex white-collar trials and investigations. He offers significant experience representing clients before the DOJ and SEC, as well as handling qui tam cases.

Adam Schwartz (see p.1494) of Vedder Price PC offers expertise in a variety of white-collar spaces with particular experience in government investigations into securities matters. **Strengths:** "Adam

is an excellent attorney. He is very diligent, creative and easy to work with."

Hy Shapiro is respected in the market for his wealth of experience in white-collar matters.

Edward Shohat of Jones Walker LLP continues to enjoy an excellent reputation for his handling of white-collar matters. Clients benefit from his extensive experience in civil and criminal proceedings, as well as his compliance advice.

Alison Tanchyk of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP wins praise for her work defending against government investigations, including significant expertise in FCPA matters. **Strengths:** "She is a wonderful advocate for her clients." "Alison is incredible."

Bruce Zimet maintains a stellar reputation for his representation of clients facing criminal charges and investigations by various government agencies.

Media & Entertainment

Media & Entertainment

Leading Firms

Band 1

Shullman Fugate

Band 2

Thomas & LoCicero, PL

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Fugate Rachel Shullman Fugate

LoCicero Carol Jean Thomas & LoCicero, PL

Shullman Deanna K Shullman Fugate

Band 2

Sammataro James Pryor Cashman LLP (ORL) ♦ *

* Indicates individual with profile.

♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Shullman Fugate

What the team is known for Shullman Fugate is a boutique litigation firm known for representing a wide range of media clients in defamation as well as access claims. The group has further experience handling intellectual property and contract disputes. With offices in Tampa, West Palm Beach, Jacksonville and Miami, it offers wide-reaching coverage in Florida.

Notable practitioners

Rachel Fugate frequently acts on behalf of clients in the media and entertainment sector, publishers, streaming services and film producers. Her varied practice encompasses First Amendment defense, contract disputes and privacy claims. **Strengths:** "Rachel is a solid and top-notch lawyer."

Deanna Shullman is a strong choice to advise media clients on complex First Amendment litigation and prepublication review. She demonstrates further prowess in disputes involving intellectual property enforcement. **Strengths:** "Deanna is an excellent lawyer."

Band 2

Thomas & LoCicero, PL

What the team is known for Thomas & LoCicero, PL is renowned in the market for its impressive media and entertainment practice. The team is routinely called upon for defamation defence as well as access work and prepublication review. Furthermore, it fields expertise in negotiating development and production contracts and in licensing matters. The law firm has offices in Tampa and Fort Lauderdale.

Notable practitioners

Managing partner of the firm's Tampa office **Carol**

Jean LoCicero focuses her practice on media law and has an impressive track record defending news organizations and publishing companies against defamation claims. She is also an impressive performer on intellectual property disputes.

Other Ranked Lawyers

James Sammataro (see p.1493) leads Pryor Cashman's media and entertainment department in Florida, boasting an impressive client roster in the music industry representing both major entertainment studios and musicians. **Strengths:** "James possesses a remarkable commercial awareness, always considering the broader commercial implications while providing astute legal counsel."

"James can best be likened to a seasoned ship captain. Regardless of how turbulent or uncharted the waters may be, he navigates them with unparalleled precision and expertise. He's not just a beacon of guidance in uncertain times but also my steadfast safety net."

"James consistently delivers impeccable client service, marked by promptness and thorough communication. His approach demonstrates a high level of sophistication, particularly in navigating intricate legal matters within the entertainment industry."

Public Finance

Public Finance
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bryant Miller Olive
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Locke Lord LLP
Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A.
Squire Patton Boggs
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bloom Warren S Greenberg Traurig, LLP
del Castillo Albert A Greenberg Traurig, LLP
MacLennan Alexandra M Squire Patton Boggs
Reiter Luis Squire Patton Boggs
Band 2
Adams Mark-David Locke Lord LLP *
Magee Emily Butler Snow LLP (ORL) ◊
Stanton Joseph B. Nelson Mullins Riley (ORL) ◊
Band 3
Draper Duane D Bryant Miller Olive
Fender Brian GrayRobinson, PA (ORL) *
Herring JoLinda Bryant Miller Olive
Wiener Michael Holland & Knight LLP (ORL) ◊

* Indicates individual with profile.
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Bryant Miller Olive

What the team is known for Bryant Miller Olive has a strong practice in the Florida public finance space undertaking work for an array of public entities as well as financial institutions. The team are often called upon to advise on tax-exempt financings in sectors such as affordable housing.

Notable practitioners

Duane Draper's public finance practice sees him represent an array of municipalities, government entities and nonprofit organizations, including as bond and disclosure counsel. **Strengths:** "Duane is a very good technical lawyer." JoLinda Herring frequently acts as bond counsel to various Florida cities and government bodies on tax-exempt financings.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP is a go-to in the space for municipalities and public authorities seeking expert representation in taxable and tax-exempt bond issuances. The firm is regularly engaged as bond counsel on

financings in the affordable housing, transport and utility sectors. It possesses further capabilities acting as underwriters' and purchasers' counsel.

Strengths

"Greenberg Traurig are the gold standard of bond counsel from our perspective."

"We are absolutely thrilled with the firm; the team are highly professional, very attentive and always there when we need them."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP served as bond counsel to the Housing Finance Authority of Palm Beach County, Florida, in connection to the issuance of Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds.

Notable practitioners

Warren Bloom routinely acts for government entities on municipal bond issuances including relating to financings in the healthcare and utilities sectors. Albert del Castillo serves as bond counsel and underwriters' counsel in a range of transactions including line of credit facilities and bond issuance. **Strengths:** "Albert is one of the most experienced and knowledgeable attorneys I have worked with. He provides very thoughtful counsel and is diligent in everything he pursues." "He is very knowledgeable on complex transactions and very responsive."

Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A.

What the team is known for Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. has a strong public finance offering and counts Florida local governments as clients as well as healthcare providers, universities and financial institutions. The firm is adept at acting as bond, disclosure and underwriters' counsel, and does so on an array of tax-exempt financings.

Notable practitioners

Steven Miller is head of the firm's public finance practice and is a key contact.

Squire Patton Boggs

What the team is known for Squire Patton Boggs is experienced across a range of municipal financings including those involving healthcare facilities, housing and higher education developments. The firm regularly acts as bond and disclosure counsel to public entities addition to regularly being engaged as underwriters' counsel.

Notable practitioners

Alexandra MacLennan's well-regarded practice sees her serve as bond, disclosure and underwriters' counsel on various municipal matters. Luis Reiter is an expert public finance attorney with experience across a broad range of lending and refinancing mandates.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Brian Fender (see p.1467) of GrayRobinson, PA routinely acts as disclosure counsel to a range of municipalities, advising on bond issuances and federal securities laws. **Strengths:** "Brian Fender is always timely and always professional, striving for the utmost in customer service." "Brian is a great lawyer and counselor."

Emily Magee of Butler Snow LLP has a well-regarded practice which sees her advise on various public finance matters involving hospitals, residential housing and government municipalities.

Joseph Stanton of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP has substantial experience in public finance, which sees him work as bond counsel on various government financings and public-private partnerships. He frequently advises on large-scale infrastructure projects.

Michael Wiener of Holland & Knight LLP is well regarded for his skill in handling public finance matters, particularly for local governments.

Real Estate

Real Estate
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bilzin Sumberg
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Band 2
Akerman LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Shutts & Bowen LLP
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff
Band 3
Berger Singerman
Greenspoon Marder LLP
Gunster
Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Bilzin Brian L. Bilzin Sumberg
Gorson Matthew B. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Smulian Andrew Akerman LLP
Eminent Practitioners
Sumberg John C. Bilzin Sumberg
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Amaducci Suzanne Bilzin Sumberg
Bruton Burt Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Deutch Jeffrey A. Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Halula John F. Holland & Knight LLP
Lash Nancy B. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Rapkin Eric D. Akerman LLP*
Saul Gary A. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Band 2
Bedke Mike DLA Piper LLP (US) (ORL) *
Fernandez Manuel A. McCarter & English, LLP (ORL) *
Giusto Richard Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Lustig Adam D. Bilzin Sumberg
Rolando Margaret A. Shutts & Bowen LLP*
Schwartz Martin Bilzin Sumberg
Shindell James W. Bilzin Sumberg
Somerstein Barry Greenspoon Marder LLP*
Band 3
Berger James L. Berger Singerman
de las Cuevas-Diaz Vivian Holland & Knight LLP
Desiderio Peter Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff
Farach Manuel Mracheck, Fitzgerald, Rose (ORL) *
Hernandez Joseph Bilzin Sumberg
LeCompte Kimberly Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Lopez Peter D. Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff*
McDonough Brian Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler *
Menor Arthur J. Shutts & Bowen LLP*
Sklar William Carlton Fields
Teicher Ira Hogan Lovells US LLP (ORL) *
Band 4
DeVito-Hurley Danielle Gunster
Ferrer Barbara Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff*
Meland Mark Meland Budwick, P.A. (ORL) *
Pincus George Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff
Shuster Marc S. Berger Singerman
Singer Meredith Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Zelkowitz Steven Taylor English Duma LLP (ORL) *
Up-and-coming individuals
Girnun Ryan Jones Day (ORL) *
* Indicates individual with profile.
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Real Estate
Leading Firms
Band 1
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Band 2
Foley & Lardner LLP
Hill Ward Henderson
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Band 3
Akerman LLP
BakerHostetler LLP
Carlton Fields
Lowndes
Shutts & Bowen LLP
Trenam
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Brown II C. David Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Eckhard Richard D. Holland & Knight LLP
Band 2
Bernard Sara Holland & Knight LLP
Frazier S Katherine Hill Ward Henderson *
Freedman Robert S Carlton Fields
Henderson III Thomas N. Hill Ward Henderson *
Band 3
Brittain David R. Trenam
Cook David Foley & Lardner LLP
Little Thomas M. Foley & Lardner LLP
Robbins Jr R James Hill Ward Henderson *
Stern Robert G. Trenam
Sullivan Michael J. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Tobin Jennifer Slone Shutts & Bowen LLP*
Band 4
Evans David L. BakerHostetler LLP*
Evora Orlando L. Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Putnal Bryan L. Smith Hulsey & Busey (ORL) *
Ridley Fred S. Foley & Lardner LLP
Shaw Angela D. Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Slater James E. Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Szabo Stephen Foley & Lardner LLP
Thanner Christopher J. McGuireWoods LLP (ORL) *
Turra Melissa S. Holland & Knight LLP
The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.
Akerman LLP
What the team is known for Akerman LLP has a deep bench of attorneys experienced in guiding clients through all aspects of real estate law, including purchases and sales, financing and land use matters. Other areas of strength include loan restructuring, the foreclosing of distressed real estate assets as well as expertise in all aspects of leasing. An impressive network of offices across the state allows the team to advise on matters throughout Florida. Capable of advising a diverse array of clients, ranging broadly from real estate investors, lenders and owners to retailers and end user businesses.
Strengths
"All the members of our Akerman team are very

Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bercow Radell Fernandez Larkin & Tapanes
Bilzin Sumberg
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Band 2
Akerman LLP
Gunster
Shubin Law Group, P.A.
Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Price Stanley B. Bilzin Sumberg
Schulman Clifford Weiss Serota Helfman Cole + (ORL) *
Eminent Practitioners
Dotson Jr Albert E. Bilzin Sumberg
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bercow Jeffrey Bercow Radell Fernandez Larkin
Escarra Iris Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Goldstein Joseph Holland & Knight LLP
Mayol Juan J. Holland & Knight LLP
Shubin John K. Shubin Law Group, P.A.
Band 2
Aviñó Javier Bilzin Sumberg
Bass Jeffrey S. Bass Law (ORL) *
Crowley Spencer Akerman LLP
Hertz Clifford I. Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Kasdin Neisen Akerman LLP
McDowell Carter N. Bilzin Sumberg
Mele Dennis Greenspoon Marder LLP *
Seymour Brian Gunster
Band 3
Adler Brian Bilzin Sumberg
Garcia-Serra Mario Gunster
Larkin Michael Bercow Radell Fernandez Larkin
Mehta Eileen B. Bilzin Sumberg
Miskel Bonnie Dunay, Miskel and Backman, LLP (ORL) *
Tapanes Llahues Melissa Bercow Radell Fernandez

experienced. Akerman has such a deep bench that we can always pull in an expert."

"Akerman are consistently capable, prepared and professional."

"Akerman's lawyers are always very attentive. We can reach the team at any time."

"The firm is very strong on land use and entitlement work."

Work highlights Akerman LLP supported MDDA in amending the Regulating Plan and Development Agreement for the Miami Design District Special Area Plan to facilitate further developments.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Smulian has a strong industry reputation and is known for his extensive experience, which includes a lengthy stint as the firm's chair and CEO. **Eric Rapkin** (see p.1489) is an expert in leasing and attracts praise from market sources for his abilities in that area. **Strengths:** "Eric is a super smart guy, he really knows his stuff." "He is exceptionally experienced at resolving issues in the most expeditious and efficient way possible."

Spencer Crowley advises clients on a variety

Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A. Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff	
Band 2	
Akerman LLP Hill Ward Henderson	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Grindstaff Michael J Shutts & Bowen LLP *	
Kantor Hal Lowndes	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Bouthillier Reggie L Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler *	
Lee Gregory D BakerHostetler LLP *	
Band 2	
Cremer Jacob Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff *	
Wilson Rebecca Furman Lowndes	
Band 3	
Armstrong Ed Hill Ward Henderson *	
Corbett Kamala E Hill Ward Henderson *	
Hunter Jr Gary K Holtzman Vogel Baran (ORL) ♦ *	
McNeil James Akerman LLP	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Tilton Erin Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadoff *	
Associates to watch	
Neugebauer MacInnes Nicole Stearns Weaver Miller *	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

of land use matters, including urban development, zoning and marina permitting. **Strengths:** "Spencer Crowley is a great lawyer and extremely proficient." **Neisen Kasdin's** practice includes handling development agreements, zoning approvals and land use plans. **Strengths:** "Neisen Kasdin is extremely effective in the City of Miami and Miami Beach." "Neisen is very highly regarded by his peers and by the municipalities and local governments." **James McNeil** represents national homebuilders and developers in the development of land for sale, handling due diligence, land use approvals and entitlements, as well as obtaining environmental permits. **Strengths:** "James is very professional and a good lawyer."

BakerHostetler LLP

What the team is known for BakerHostetler LLP is a respected choice for an array of sizable real estate transactions, including property acquisition, disposition and lending. It is especially adept at transactions involving industrial and hospitality assets. The team is also noted for its activity in connection with sports facility projects and off-campus student housing. It has a particular strength in the Orlando market.

Strengths

"The team is always prompt in its responses, quick in its drafting and will push on its response time in instances where we need a speedy turnaround."

"BakerHostetler provides excellent counsel no matter the situation."

Work highlights BakerHostetler LLP represented JMA Ventures in its redevelopment and recapitalization of the Homewood Mountain Resort in Lake Tahoe, CA.

Notable practitioners

Gregory Lee (see p.1480)'s experience centers around large industrial and mixed-use developments. He regularly advises on plan approvals and zoning issues. **Strengths:** "He is a very great lawyer." **David Evans** (see p.1467) has an excellent track record in transactional matters, particularly in acquisitions for development projects. He provides further assistance in land use law. **Strengths:** "David always provides stellar service, quick responses and has an inherent knowledge of the business and its top players. We enjoy working with him and trust his insights and guidance." "David Evans is very hard-working."

Bercow Radell Fernandez Larkin & Tapanes

What the team is known for Bercow Radell Fernandez Larkin & Tapanes has a highly respected presence in the Miami region. The firm regularly represents developers and owners of real estate in securing a range of zoning, land use and environmental permits. It assists clients through matters such as addressing county regulatory issues, creating comprehensive plan amendments and the modifications of approvals and recorded restrictions.

Strengths

"The firm is very adept at handling complex and sophisticated matters of all scales. The attorneys are smart, strategic and also a pleasure to work with."

"They think outside the box and seek collaborative ways to find a win-win outcome."

Work highlights Bercow Radell Fernandez Larkin & Tapanes represented The Ritz Carlton in extensive renovations and restorations of the Sagamore Hotel.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Bercow centers his practice on land use issues, primarily acting for residential and mixed-use developers. **Strengths:** "Jeffrey's knowledge, relationships and ability to navigate through the period of regulatory requirements of various levels of government are excellent." "He is extremely well rounded. If I had to pick a top lawyer in town he would have to be one." "Jeffrey is really good, smart and well liked. He's very respected too."

Michael Larkin is particularly known for his work in Miami Beach. He handles the full remit of land use and zoning matters for developers. **Strengths:** "Michael has a strong reputation from a client, staff and peer perspective."

"He's an extremely effective lawyer." **Melissa Tapanes Llahues** handles land use and zoning matters for clients looking to create a range of hospitality and mixed-use developments. **Strengths:** "Melissa is a pleasure to work with and someone to admire; she is tough, but fair and extremely knowledgeable."

Berger Singerman

What the team is known for Berger Singerman demonstrates strengths in real estate acquisition, disposition and development. It is capable of counseling clients in the formation of joint ventures and the negotiation of real estate loans. The team has noted strength in acting on behalf of international developers and investors in the Florida real estate market. It has recognized experience

pertaining to the hospitality sector, while also impressing in connection with residential, commercial and mixed-use developments. The firm is also noted for its representation of private equity funds, hedge funds and REITs in domestic and cross-border transactions.

Strengths

"The Berger Singerman team is able to work together to take advantage of each other's strengths."

"These guys know their stuff and their various areas of expertise."

Work highlights Berger Singerman represented JPMorgan Chase Bank in a nine figure loan secured by the construction of the Naples Beach Club in Naples, Florida.

Notable practitioners

James Berger routinely handles real estate acquisitions and sales as well as joint ventures and financing matters. **Strengths:** "James is interested and always attentive to our business and real estate projects. He has a strong technical skill set that pairs with an ability to advocate completion of transactions." "James is a seasoned pro. He knows how to protect a client without killing a business deal." "James knows his stuff and is on really complex transactions." **Marc Shuster** advises clients on transactions and development projects concerning commercial and residential properties.

Strengths: "He's a great resource in the Florida area."

Bilzin Sumberg

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg provides a wide range of real estate services to property developers, owners and investors. Its areas of particular prowess include complex financings, developments, land use and zoning, while the team is also able to advise on joint venture formations, construction matters, debt restructuring and bankruptcies. The team offers strength in all aspects of real estate, including office, retail, industrial and commercial developments. The firm has particular strength in South Florida.

Strengths

"Bilzin Sumberg's team is knowledgeable and has key relationships allowing lawyers to handle complex matters effectively and efficiently."

"They can handle any and all aspects of real estate deals including zoning, environmental, tax structuring, litigation and more."

"We have total confidence in Bilzin to handle any matter, regardless of how sophisticated it may be."

"The Bilzin team is highly responsive and provides excellent service."

Work highlights Bilzin Sumberg represented Ugo Colombo in negotiating and closing a \$235 million condominium construction loan.

Notable practitioners

Brian Bilzin, a founding partner, handles all aspects of real estate transactions, including financing and leasing. **Stanley Price**'s vast experience includes handling zoning and land use matters concerning transport, residential and retail development projects. **Strengths:** "Stanley is a good lawyer with an excellent reputation." **Albert Dotson**, the firm's managing partner, is particularly active in the area of transit development projects, which includes advising clients on permit

matters. He also acts for clients in the residential sector and nonprofit organizations. **Strengths:** "Albert is a leader in the South Florida law community and is very respected by all of his peers." "Albert is someone who in the land use world people look up to." **John Sumberg** is the chairman of the firm and advises clients on construction financing and real estate transactions, including hotel sales and acquisitions of ownership interest. **Strengths:** "John is an excellent lawyer." **Suzanne Amaducci-Adams** acts for clients on redevelopment projects, with a focus on the transit and leisure sectors. She also advises on ground lease agreements, investments and acquisitions, as well as refinancing matters. **Strengths:** "Suzanne is excellent." "She has a wealth of knowledge, is very practical and has this skill of being very direct." **Javier Aviñó** regularly handles land use and zoning issues arising from projects in the residential, hospitality, transit and leisure sectors. He also advises on public-private partnerships and air rights issues. **Strengths:** "Javier is exceptional and knows how to get things done the right way in Miami." "Javier, is always thinking of ways to streamline the regulatory process and achieves creative milestones for us." **Adam Lustig** advises on local and multistate real estate acquisitions and financing mandates, with particular strength acting for developers. **Strengths:** "Adam is extremely detail-oriented and well versed in this geography, with a very broad range of talent and skills." "What makes Adam stand out is a great combination of being efficient and getting to the really specific issues to turn things around." **Carter McDowell**'s practice covers entitlement matters, easement negotiations and development projects, including those relating to mixed-use waterfront developments, such as marinas and hospitality projects. **Strengths:** "Carter is an excellent attorney in zoning-related matters. He has a very good relationship with city officials and is able to navigate those waters very well." "Carter is involved in complex and impactful matters." **Martin Schwartz**'s practice covers the acquisition, sale and financing aspects of real estate deals, with further strength handling development projects. **Strengths:** "Martin is an authority in the area of real estate law and has been for decades." "We trust Martin's advice completely in this space and rely on him greatly for his advice when complex issues arise." **James Shindell** handles a variety of property acquisitions and development projects, with further strength in financing matters such as construction loan transactions and wider real estate finance work. **Brian Adler** advises on zoning, permitting and land use issues in connection with a range of development projects, including those in the healthcare and retail sectors. **Strengths:** "Brian has strong relationships with relevant governmental leaders and staff." **Joseph Hernandez** handles all manner of real estate transactions, including purchases and financings, for developers, investors and public entities. Also enjoys a particular niche in condominium matters. **Strengths:** "Joseph is always available any time and any day. I can't say enough good things about him." **Eileen Mehta**'s practice encompasses zoning approvals and entitlement matters. She offers further experience in disputes

concerning use of historic buildings. **Strengths:** "Eileen greatly helps us navigate through legal issues and identify the best-suited legal support option. I have peace of mind knowing she is always there."

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields demonstrates strength in real estate financings, acquisitions and development. It is also adept at advising on the leasing and construction aspects of real estate.

Notable practitioners

Robert Freedman is a well-regarded lawyer and is particularly recognized for his strong condominium practice. He advises on mixed-use and commercial transactions and development projects. **Strengths:** "He's a condominium expert well known in the state." "Rob is very bright and a great lawyer." **William Sklar** is well regarded by commentators, with particular mention of his condominium practice. He also advises on transactions and regulatory issues for developer and lender clients.

Foley & Lardner LLP

What the team is known for Foley & Lardner LLP provides high-quality advice to a wide range of clients in the real estate industry. It is particularly strong in the purchase and sale of timberland and the development of golf courses and other hospitality and leisure projects, while also impressing in the development of high-end single-family and multifamily residential projects, including some of the most recognizable waterfront condominium developments in Florida. Clients include REITs, insurance companies, developers, resort owners and private equity firms.

Strengths

"Foley & Lardner has good quality lawyers acting on great deals."

"It's a well-respected firm."

Notable practitioners

David Cook has a national practice and frequently acts for funds, developers and other clients in the real estate world on purchases and sales of portfolios. He is an expert in transactions involving timberlands. **Strengths:** "David has a longstanding great reputation; he is a really strong technician."

Thomas Little acts for a wide range of clients, including landlords, lenders and developers, on high-value real estate transactions. **Strengths:** "Thomas Little has great expertise in the condo field." "He has a broad real estate practice." **Fred Ridley** has experience acting on acquisitions and projects for real estate developers and investment groups. **Strengths:** "Fred's practice is well known in the area and he does a lot with high-profile clients." **Stephen Szabo**'s transactional practice sees him handling complex real estate acquisitions and dispositions across the state and nationally for his clients. **Strengths:** "Stephen is a very good lawyer."

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP houses significant capabilities across all aspects of real estate, including the acquisition, disposition, construction and financing of all

property classes, including shopping centers, hotels, residential developments and office facilities. Also adept in land use and zoning. Clients include developers, lenders, owners and REITs. Six offices in Florida give the team close access to all major markets in the state.

Strengths

"Greenberg Traurig is a go-to firm for builders and developers; the team is very experienced and well regarded."

"I appreciate their ability to work with multiple stakeholders and liaise on our behalf with other parties, alongside their attentiveness and responsiveness to our needs. I feel that our priorities are their priorities."

"They are fantastic - they jump on the plane and they are up in the middle of the night."

Work highlights Greenberg Traurig, LLP represented ROVR Development with regard to a two-phase mixed-use development project.

Notable practitioners

Matthew Gorson offers considerable experience handling a range of local and international real estate projects, particularly for developers. **Burt Bruton** is known for handling the tax aspects of real estate transactions. He offers further experience in financing mandates. **Iris Escarrá** handles zoning and development approvals for residential, transit and mixed-use projects, often acting for developers. **Strengths:** "Iris knows where to take risks and where not to, and I think she has an unbelievable understanding for code and city persona."

"She is fantastic if you have a land use matter in city of Miami, she is a go-to person." **Nancy Lash**'s practice covers acquisition, sales and leasing as well as the finance aspects of transactions.

She is active on major residential and mixed-use development mandates. **Strengths:** "Nancy is fantastic. I don't know any real estate lawyer who is better. She is just on it; she's the perfect lawyer. She knows her stuff, she drafts incredibly, she has business acumen, she knows the market and she has such great exposure."

Gary Saul acts for REITs and developers on residential and mixed-use projects. He is held in considerably high regard for his in-depth expertise in condominium matters. **Strengths:** "Gary is an excellent attorney; he's the condo king in Miami." **Richard Giusto**, who cochairs the firm's global real estate practice, handles complex real estate transactions both in and out of state. **Strengths:** "Richard is an excellent leasing attorney."

Kimberly LeCompte represents her developer and owner clients in acquisition, development and leasing matters, as well as real estate financing. **Michael Sullivan** has a strong real estate development practice. He also handles complex property sales and financing transactions, with particular activity in mixed-use and hospitality projects. **Strengths:** "Michael Sullivan is a good lawyer. He has a strong practice, with tremendous and great expertise."

Orlando Evora handles a range of sales and acquisitions for his clients, including major distribution centers and shopping malls. **Strengths:** "Orlando is considerate and has a great depth of experience; he comes to the table with suggestions and is not overbearing."

"Orlando Evora is extremely knowledgeable about the subject matter we are dealing with." **Meredith Singer** assists developers through the creation

and operation of residential and hospitality projects, with notable skills in condominium matters.

Greenspoon Marder LLP

What the team is known for Greenspoon Marder LLP is a full-service firm with notable presence throughout the Miami market. It offers experience in transactional real estate matters including the sale, lease and redevelopment of assets. The firm is noted for deep expertise in relation to the light industrial, leisure and hospitality industries.

Strengths

"They are very knowledgeable about the land use process in this county and very well known to the local authorities."

Work highlights Greenspoon Marder LLP represented Time Equities on the acquisition of two residential/mixed-use development sites.

Notable practitioners

Dennis Mele (see p.1484) acts on land use and zoning matters concerning residential, retail and industrial development and renovation projects.

Strengths: *"Dennis Mele is very practical and responsible."* **Barry Somerstein** (see p.1496) handles land and property transactions for his clients, with further experience in financing mandates.

Strengths: *"Barry Somerstein is smart and dedicated to his clients."*

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster is noted for its representation of clients in land use proceedings. It also advises on zoning, land use approvals and plan amendment matters. Clients include owners, developers, investors and public bodies.

Strengths

"Gunster is an excellent firm."

"There are great lawyers at Gunster."

Notable practitioners

Brian Seymour, cochair of Gunster's real property practice, advises on land use and zoning matters of both development and redevelopment projects, with experience in related disputes. He regularly acts for clients in the construction and retail sectors. **Strengths:** *"He's doing a great job at being visible and making the effort to meet local government, county and city staff."* *"I have a lot of respect for Brian."* **Mario Garcia-Serra** focuses his practice on land use and zoning issues regarding mixed-use development projects. He is well known for his work in the City of Coral Gables.

Strengths: *"Mario is continuing to develop a really nice practice; he is a good attorney and a smart guy."* *"He is very good, proficient and has a very active practice."* **Danielle DeVito-Hurley** acts on acquisitions, leasing and financing matters for her clients, with particular capabilities in condominium, hospitality and mixed-use.

Hill Ward Henderson

What the team is known for Hill Ward Henderson provides high-quality representation of real estate investors, owners and developers. It is especially proficient at real estate acquisition, disposition, leasing and lending. Also offers a highly respected land use and zoning practice, regularly guiding clients through the state's regulatory landscape in order to obtain all necessary permits and approvals.

Strengths

"They excel in completing transactions and tasks with a very high degree of professionalism and they understand my business goals."

"They have been very consistent in providing very excellent prompt council. They don't get bogged down with complexity and are able to distill what we need to give us answers."

Work highlights Hill Ward Henderson represented Ally Urban Centre in due diligence and closing a \$75 million acquisition loan.

Notable practitioners

Katherine Frazier (see p.1468) handles all aspects of real estate projects, including acquisitions and financings for healthcare and developer clients.

Strengths: *"Katherine is a well-rounded subject matter expert."* *"Katherine has a sophisticated practice."* **Thomas Henderson** (see p.1474) handles a range of real estate transactions for clients active in sectors such as clinical research and senior and affordable housing. **Strengths:** *"Tom performs fantastic work, pays fastidious attention to detail and is well respected in the industry."* *"Tom is an elite lawyer who is regarded as one of the best real estate attorneys in Tampa Bay."* **Ed Armstrong** (see p.1456) advises on land use and zoning permits and amendments, including those relating to industrial, healthcare and residential developments. **Strengths:** *"Ed has a long history of providing outstanding counsel."* **Kamala Corbett** (see p.1463) represents developers and construction companies through a range of land use matters, including contested rezonings, obtaining site plan approvals and wider permitting work. **Strengths:**

"Kamala is a great problem solver and negotiates well with governmental entities." *"Kami understands the issues well and provides sophisticated representation to her clients."* *"Kamala is a known expert in her field of land use."* **James Robbins** (see p.1491) acts on land and property transactions, including those in relation to large-scale development projects. **Strengths:** *"Jim Robbins consistently exceeds expectations in every way and delivers the highest level of legal advice. He treats his client's issues as his own."* *"He is excellent commercial counsel."*

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight LLP has extensive expertise advising across all aspects of real estate law, with noted excellence in handling leasing and sophisticated real estate financings for both borrower and lender-side clients. It is also highly recommended for its handling of land use and zoning matters. Frequently acts for major financial institutions. Seven Florida offices give it an impressive geographical coverage of the state.

Strengths

"Holland & Knight always finds a way to solve complex issues."

"They are expert, extremely competent and very responsive."

"Holland & Knight has a well-balanced team with a wide range of experiences."

Work highlights Holland & Knight LLP represented Lennar Homes in handling the zoning approvals for the redevelopment of a 104-acre golf course.

Notable practitioners

Richard Eckhard handles a range of large real estate projects for his clients, with particular expertise in office and mixed-use developments, alongside recognized strengths in leasing work.

Strengths: *"Richard has very sophisticated leasing expertise and is great to work with."* *"Richard Eckhard has a terrific practice and is known for real estate leasing."* **Joseph Goldstein** regularly handles planning approval, entitlement and zoning issues. His client base includes those active in the transport, manufacturing, hospitality and residential sectors.

Strengths: *"Joe is a trusted adviser and friend."* *"Joseph is exactly what you want an attorney to be."* **John Halula** has long-standing experience handling complex real estate financing matters for his lender clients, with experience in both local and international mandates.

Juan Mayol's well-respected practice includes zoning approvals, permitting issues and related environmental matters, with a focus on the residential and industrial sectors.

Strengths: *"Juan is very detail-oriented, available for calls and well connected in Miami."* **Sara Bernard** has a strong practice representing major clients in large projects, including complex mixed-use multi-asset developments.

Strengths: *"She is a very good attorney."* **Vivian de las Cuevas-Diaz**'s practice includes matters in South Florida, and she regularly works with national and international clients.

She is active on development projects including retail, residential and industrial real estate assets, among others.

Strengths: *"She is one of the best lawyers we work with. She always puts our best interests at heart."* **Melissa Turra** leads the firm's Southeast real estate practice group. She represents major projects for developers, lenders and owners in the residential sector, with a well-regarded condominium specialty.

Strengths: *"She is knowledgeable on condo law."*

Lowndes

What the team is known for Lowndes provides a comprehensive service to clients active in the real estate industry. Widely recognized as one of the state's leading firms in the land use and zoning sphere. Other areas of focus include portfolio and single-asset acquisitions, dispositions, development and leasing. Particular strength in the Orlando market.

Strengths

"Lowndes is a very highly regarded firm."

Notable practitioners

Hal Kantor has a longstanding reputation in the Florida market. He draws on his vast experience to counsel clients on land use, zoning and environmental matters.

Strengths: *"Hal Kantor is well respected."* **Rebecca Furman Wilson** cochairs Lowndes' land use, zoning and environmental group, covering both the land use and environmental issues concerned with development projects, regularly advising owners, developers and lenders.

Strengths: *"Rebecca has a good reputation and a good practice."*

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

What the team is known for Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP is well versed in real estate

atters including sophisticated transactional work. It is particularly renowned for its expertise in real estate joint venture formation and financing. Clients include owners, developers and lenders. It cultivates a wide-reaching portfolio of work in the affordable housing domain, working with clients such as local, state and federal government agencies, asset and property managers, and for-profit and nonprofit developers across 35 states.

Strengths

"The team at Nelson Mullins is very diligent and very knowledgeable."

"Nelson Mullins is able to provide a varied expertise by bringing various attorneys from the team when necessary."

Work highlights Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP advised Aventon Companies in acquiring four vacant land sites for the ground-up development and related construction financing of Class A multi-family units.

Notable practitioners

David Brown offers experience advising on large-scale and complex developments, handling land use, transactional and financing matters for his clients. **Strengths:** *"David is an icon in the market."*

"He is very active and has done some big projects in the area." **Jeffrey Deutch** regularly advises on real estate developments and acquisitions for his developer clients, with additional strength handling financing and joint venture matters.

Strengths: *"He is smart and very good lawyer."* *"Jeffrey Deutch is the best."* **Clifford Hertz** routinely handles land use disputes and zoning issues arising from projects in the education, agriculture and affordable housing sectors. **Strengths:** *"He is a natural leader of development teams in complex situations."* *"Mr. Hertz is responsive to our requests, thoughtful in his deliberation on issues and clear on his advice and recommendations."* **Angela Shaw** frequently represents lenders, buyers, sellers and developers in high-value real estate deals.

James Slater offers longstanding experience in a wide variety of real estate transactions. His practice primarily focuses on residential projects, including luxury apartment developments. **Strengths:** *"James has a substantial practice and is respected in the state."* *"He's an excellent lawyer."*

Shubin Law Group, P.A.

What the team is known for Shubin Law Group P.A. is a boutique firm that counsels commercial and individual clients as well as government authorities in disputes concerning land use and zoning. It is capable of acting both in opposition and in defense of contentious real estate projects.

Strengths

"The firm has great lawyers with a unique focus on litigation."

Notable practitioners

John Shubin primarily focuses his practice on handling real estate litigation, with a focus on entitlement matters. He offers experience representing his clients in both state and federal courts.

Shutts & Bowen LLP

What the team is known for Shutts & Bowen LLP represents local and national clients in sophisticated real estate deals. Its areas of particular

prowess include real estate lending and leasing transactions, with additional expertise in joint venture formation, title insurance and condominium law. The team is particularly strong in the Central and South Florida markets.

Strengths

"They do excellent work on real estate zoning and land use issues, understanding not just the legal impact, but also the practical business impact of issues that arise."

"Shutts & Bowen lawyers are responsive and have the capacity to take on new matters."

Work highlights Shutts & Bowen LLP advised RocaPoint Partners on all aspects of a 37-acre redevelopment project located. The redevelopment includes a combined total of 3 million sq ft of new Class A office, retail, hotel, residential and public space.

Notable practitioners

Michael Grindstaff (see p.1472) is experienced on a variety of land use aspects of residential, industrial and mixed-use projects. **Strengths:** *"He's a phenomenal lawyer."* **Margaret Rolando** (see p.1492) advises on acquisitions, development and financing matters in real estate projects. She also possesses notable strength in condominium law.

Arthur Menor (see p.1484) represents his clients in complex leasing agreements. His experience extends to real estate acquisition and disposition advice. **Strengths:** *"Arthur is a very sophisticated attorney with a very sophisticated practice."* *"He is an excellent lawyer; he's very efficient and represents high-quality clients."* **Jennifer Stone Tobin** (see p.1498) acts on real estate transactions arising from a range of sectors, including senior housing and hospitality. **Strengths:** *"She is an exceptional land use and zoning attorney."* *"Jennifer is an excellent real estate development attorney."*

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.

What the team is known for Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson PA undertakes a broad range of real estate mandates for clients, including obtaining regulatory approvals and negotiating loans, purchases and sales. Its areas of expertise also include the financing and development of affordable housing projects. Clients include owners, developers, hotel operators and institutional lenders. The team offers a substantial zoning and land use practice, guiding clients through entitlement, development, environmental and government regulatory concerns, as well as associated litigation.

Strengths

"The firm is very strong. We have not come across a situation they have not been able to resolve with the resources they have."

"They are very meticulous, with subject matter experts in every field of law that they practice in."

"They're great: very reliable, trustworthy, friendly and our most used firm for counsel."

Work highlights Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson PA represented The Estate Companies regarding a \$100 million construction loan for the development and construction of a project in North Miami.

Notable practitioners

Reggie Bouthillier (see p.1459) provides expert

land use advice on projects within the residential, healthcare, transport and education sectors. Also offers expertise in contentious land use matters.

Strengths: *"Reggie is extraordinarily patient in negotiations; he stands out because of his negotiating ability and levelheadedness."* *"Reggie Bouthillier is very ambitious, driven and very good at what he does."* **Jacob Cremer** (see p.1464) offers notable expertise in representing his clients in both contentious and transactional land use matters. **Strengths:** *"Jake provides very timely insights and responses."* *"He is a very good land use attorney."* **Peter Desiderio** regularly handles real estate transactions for his developer, investor and lender clients. He has particular experience handling residential and mixed-use development projects. **Strengths:** *"I greatly enjoy working with Peter. I very much value his advice and legal knowledge."* *"Peter has the unique ability to look at documents and prevent litigation."* **Peter Lopez** (see p.1482) regularly handles the sale, purchasing and financing of various hotel, residential and commercial properties. **Strengths:** *"Peter is very detail-oriented and is excellent to work with in every aspect."*

Brian McDonough (see p.1483) offers extensive experience handling mixed-use development projects for developers, with additional strength in handling tax aspects of transactions. His practice also features noteworthy expertise in the affordable housing market. **Strengths:** *"Brian has a strong sense of providing good service to clients."* *"Brian is a highly sophisticated and experienced attorney."* **Barbara Ferrer** (see p.1468) is held in particularly high regard for her representation of banks and other financial institutions in complex real estate and construction financing transactions. **Strengths:** *"Barbara is a true professional. She always understands priorities and works nonstop to get the job done."* **George Pincus** is active on leasings, but also offers experience in acquisitions, sales and financing mandates. **Strengths:** *"George Pincus has a deep understanding of what we do and how we do it; real estate is his expertise."* **Erin Tilton** (see p.1498) has experience advising private and public sector clients on a range of land use permitting and entitlement issues, including plans and amendments, rezonings, variances, concurrency and development agreements. **Strengths:** *"Erin exemplifies what we would want from someone on our staff: hard-working, responsive to questions and issues, and able to manage the different personalities on different projects."* *"Erin is extremely knowledgeable of litigation and is a pleasure to work with. Her writing skills are superb."* **Nicole Neugebauer** (see p.1486) assists clients on a broad range of zoning and land use mandates, including applications and environmental permits as well as defending against code enforcement and rezoning denials.

Strengths: *"Nicole is a very good lawyer."*

Trenam

What the team is known for Trenam is highly proficient at structuring sophisticated loans, credit facilities and other forms of real estate finance. Also extremely adept at advising on complex eminent domain proceedings. It is noted for experience pertaining to the condominium, retail, residential and office spaces. Clients include national

banks, retailers and developers. Particular strength in the Tampa market.

Notable practitioners

David Brittain handles all aspects of real estate transactions including acquisitions, developments, financing and leasing. **Strengths:** "David is well respected and he has a robust lending practice." **Robert Stern** has a notable real estate and finance practice. He also has experience advising on acquisitions, sales and leasing matters.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jeffrey Bass of Bass Law covers representation of clients in contentious issues arising from land use, entitlement and zoning matters.

Mike Bedke (see p.1458) of DLA Piper LLP acts on complex real estate transactions, including those with restructuring components. He acts for clients in a range of sectors, including renewable energy, transportation and finance.

Manuel Farach of Mrachek, Fitzgerald, Rose, Konopka, Thomas & Weiss PA frequently handles contentious real estate matters, but also has additional transactional expertise. **Strengths:** "Mr. Farach is extremely knowledgeable and makes himself available to answer all questions and concerns. He's a true professional and a pleasure to work with." "He's very knowledgeable and has a very comprehensive grasp of the subject area. He's very generous with his time and knowledge." "Manny relates to anyone, making him easy to work with."

Manuel Fernandez of McCarter & English LLP

acts on complex real estate financing transactions, often for investment and development companies. He also advises on joint ventures and acquisitions.

Ryan Girnun of Jones Day has a broad practice that includes strengths in both real estate transactions and financing work. He represents domestic and international lenders, REITs and capital investment groups. **Strengths:** "Ryan is excellent. He answers and resolves all issues quickly on complex transactions and I highly recommend his services." "Ryan is a true professional, he's very responsive and he is a subject matter expert in commercial real estate transactions."

Gary Hunter (see p.1475) of Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC represents landowners in complex land use matters spanning land use entitlements, area planning and litigation involving zoning and land use aspects. **Strengths:** "Gary has good knowledge of Florida land use laws." "Gary is a pleasure to work with; he's very knowledgeable and connected."

Mark Meland (see p.1484) of Meland Budwick, P.A. advises a broad range of clients, including buyers and sellers, on many real estate aspects including acquisitions, debt-equity structuring and joint venture agreements. **Strengths:** "He's intelligent, great to work with and very professional."

Bonnie Miskel of Dunay, Miskel and Backman, LLP represents both public and private sector interests in zoning and land use matters. She has guided her clients through issues ranging from litigation, environmental and health regulations to

plan amendments.

Bryan Putnal of Smith Hulsey & Busey has a wide-ranging practice which includes residential, leisure and industrial projects. He also advises on the finance aspects of real estate transactions.

Strengths: "Bryan provides outstanding representation and is extremely loyal and dedicated to his clients." "He's a valuable adviser and friend."

Clifford Schulman of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, PL draws on his longstanding experience to advise his clients on land use and planning issues. **Strengths:** "Clifford has an excellent reputation."

Ira Teicher of Hogan Lovells is frequently sought by clients to advise on complex real estate transactions, and he regularly represents investment funds and developers. **Strengths:** "Ira is very sharp." "You can tell Ira how you want to do things and he gets it done how you want. Every risk is identified and appropriately triaged. He gets the crown in my book."

Christopher Thanner (see p.1498) of McGuire-Woods LLP enjoys a practice that covers many elements of commercial real estate including the development and leasing of office, industrial, multifamily and retail assets. **Strengths:** "Christopher has a sophisticated legal practice."

Steven Zelkowitz of Taylor English Duma LLP enjoys a diverse practice, representing public and private clients in complex transactional real estate matters as well as advising on zoning and land use issues. **Strengths:** "Steven is one of the most pragmatic and proactive people I know. He thinks like a businessman."

Tax

Tax
Leading Firms
Band 1
Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Band 2
Akerman LLP
Baker McKenzie
Bilzin Sumberg
Dean Mead
Gunster
McDermott Will & Emery LLP
Band 3
Carlton Fields
Comiter Singer Baseman & Braun LLP
Gutter Chaves Josepher Rubin Forman Fleisher PA
Hill Ward Henderson
Packman, Neuwahl & Rosenberg

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

What the team is known for Greenberg Traurig, LLP boasts impressive performers across a wide variety of complex tax issues including corporate, controversy, and trusts and estates. It represents an array of sophisticated clients, ranging from high net worth individuals to multinational corporations. The law firm also possesses significant expertise in both inbound and outbound transactional and investment matters. The group draws on a strong global tax team to provide a comprehensive service to domestic and international entities. The law firm is active across an array of sectors, including entertainment, leisure, real estate and finance.

Notable practitioners

Seth Entin is held in high regard for his skill in advising both large companies and high net worth individuals on cross-border mandates, including

audits, corporate tax issues and litigation.

Strengths: "He is a great lawyer who is sophisticated." **Joel Maser** is particularly experienced in the tax elements of real estate transactions, including joint ventures. His practice also includes SALT mandates. **Strengths:** "Joel Maser is very highly regarded." **Ozzie Schindler** is held in high regard for his cross-border tax planning capabilities, which see him advise a range of private and corporate entities. His handling of multijurisdictional transactions is complemented by expertise in controversy matters. **Strengths:** "He is sharp."

James Lang is highly regarded for his expertise in tax credit mandates and tax incentive programs. He is particularly highlighted for his knowledge in qualified opportunity funds and zones. **Strengths:** "James is very connected in the tax-advantaged space. He knows what is going on in the market, provides guidance and delivers creative solutions to most roadblocks that pop up." "His experience and expertise is essential to the successful completion

Tax
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Barnett Leslie <i>Gunster</i>
Barrett James <i>Baker McKenzie</i>
Press Martin R <i>Gunster</i>
Weinstein Andrew <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Comiter Richard B. <i>Comiter Singer Baseman & Braun</i>
Conley Keane Cristin A <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Entin Seth J <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>
Kosnitzky Michael <i>Pillsbury (ORL)</i> ◇
Maser Joel D <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>
Rubinger Jeffrey <i>Winston & Strawn LLP (ORL)</i> ◇ *
Sherman William <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Band 2
Burke David P <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Chaves Robert <i>Gutter Chaves Josepher Rubin Forman</i>
Goldstein Richard M <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>
Hadjilogiou Steven <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Horowitz Mitchell <i>Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney (ORL)</i> ◇
Kasner Stewart L <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Lederman Alan S <i>Gunster</i>
LePree Summer <i>Winston & Strawn LLP (ORL)</i> ◇ *
Looney Stephen <i>Dean Mead</i>
Minton Michael D <i>Dean, Mead, Minton & Moore</i>
Moore Robert <i>Baker McKenzie</i>
Neiman Jeffrey <i>Marcus Neiman Rashbaum (ORL)</i> ◇ *
Panoff Robert <i>Robert E Panoff PA (ORL)</i> ◇
Rappoport Adi <i>Gunster</i>
Rubin Charles <i>Gutter Chaves Josepher Rubin Forman</i>
Schindler Ozzie A <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>
Wolf Shawn P <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>
Band 3
Bruno Michael J. <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Comiter Andrew <i>Comiter Singer Baseman & Braun LLP</i>
Goldberg Mitchell <i>Berger Singerman (ORL)</i> ◇
Josepher Richard <i>Gutter Chaves Josepher Rubin Forman</i>
Kemm Lawrence <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Share Leslie A <i>Packman, Neuwahl & Rosenberg</i>
Sharp William <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
Silva Michael <i>McDermott Will & Emery LLP</i> *
Sitterson Curtis <i>Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler (ORL)</i> ◇ *
Webb Hal J <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>
Winston Richard L <i>Winston Legal Group (ORL)</i> ◇ *
Wioncek Jennifer <i>Bilzin Sumberg</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Callahan Christopher R. <i>Fox Rothschild (ORL)</i> ◇ *
Lang James <i>Greenberg Traurig, LLP</i>
Tevel Sean <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

of transactions."

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for Holland & Knight is a premier outfit fielding a deep bench of highly experienced tax attorneys advising on the full range of corporate, private wealth and employee benefits issues. The law firm offers a diverse list of public and private clients considerable expertise in both domestic and international transactional matters. It is also noted for its handling of state and federal controversies. The law firm is active across a broad array of sectors, including

Tax: State & Local
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Larsen Peter O <i>Akerman LLP</i>
Band 2
Burke David P <i>Carlton Fields</i>
Band 3
Pierce Robert <i>Ausley McMullen, PA (ORL)</i> ◇

real estate, agriculture, sport and leisure and education.

Strengths

"The team at Holland & Knight is very responsive." "Holland & Knight is my go-to for complex international tax issues. It's a great team that covers a wide array of areas and is extremely responsive to emails."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Weinstein is highly regarded for the depth of his tax expertise, which sees him provide counsel to a range of high net worth individuals. His practice includes cross-border tax disputes and international planning. **William Sherman** has a leading reputation for his handling of transactional tax mandates, which includes advising on large-scale cross-border M&A and investments.

Strengths: "He is a leader in the industry and is excellent to work with." "William is very sharp." "He is very experienced and knows the major changes affecting the area for the last 20 years." **Stewart Kasner** maintains a wide-ranging cross-border tax practice. He advises high net worth individuals and corporations on trust structures and real estate investments. **Strengths:** "Stewart Kasner is a go-to in the market for trust and estate planning."

Lawrence Kemm is best known for his expertise in outbound cross-border tax structuring. **William Sharp** advises companies and high net worth individuals on planning matters, as well as handling tax controversies. **Sean Tevel** has a burgeoning reputation due to his work in complex tax structuring matters. **Strengths:** "Sean is sharp."

Band 2

Akerman LLP

What the team is known for Akerman has an accomplished practice representing clients across a wide range of tax issues including controversy, litigation, estate planning, and state and local tax. The firm frequently acts on issues arising from the development of emerging technology, including cloud computing and digital goods. It specializes in transactional matters, with significant cross-border expertise and a focus on work in Latin America. The firm has a deep bench both nationally and statewide, with nine Florida office locations.

Strengths

"Akerman is very knowledgeable in the nuances of our industry and company, and always provides detailed and relevant tax support."

"Their client service is great: responsive, valuable input and available."

"The team's responses are very detailed."

Work highlights Akerman represented Target Enterprise in litigation against the Florida Department of Revenue after it assessed state income

tax using a market-based sourcing method.

Notable practitioners

Peter Larsen advises a broad client base on contentious tax matters. He is highly knowledgeable on SALT issues impacting automotive and telecommunications companies. **Strengths:** "Peter Larsen has a lot of deep knowledge. He can bring a lot of experience to the table and brings that expertise to his advice."

Baker McKenzie

What the team is known for Baker McKenzie has an impressive reputation for sophisticated domestic and cross-border tax issues, thanks to the strength of its international office network. The firm demonstrates significant expertise across the full gamut of tax structuring and controversy matters, as well as large scale outbound transactions. It attracts a strong roster of multinational clients. The firm is skilled in advising clients on the tax implications of complex M&A transactions.

Notable practitioners

James Barrett has an impressive reputation for his cross-border tax capabilities, which includes advising on the structuring of offshore operations, multijurisdictional M&A and debt and equity investments. **Strengths:** "He's extremely bright and capable." **Robert Moore** acts for a range of US-headquartered companies and international high net worth individuals, handling transactional and contentious matters such as controversies and reorganizations. **Strengths:** "He is very pragmatic and really commercial." "Bobby Moore is a great attorney." "He is a very good tax planner."

Bilzin Sumberg

What the team is known for Bilzin Sumberg possesses significant capabilities in advising domestic and international clients in cross-border private wealth and estate planning issues. The firm is noticeably active across a diverse range of industries including real estate, financial products and technology. It is particularly expert in handling the tax implications of high value inbound transactions. The firm is also skilled handling compliance issues, including voluntary disclosure matters. The firm's expertise covers federal, state and local tax matters.

Strengths

"The team is really knowledgeable."

"The lawyers are very attentive to client needs."

"The team is knowledgeable and practical in its approach."

Notable practitioners

Richard Goldstein is recognized for his impressive tax planning practice, which sees him act for clients such as high net worth individuals and multinational corporates. He is particularly experienced in advising non-US entities on the US tax elements of transactions such as investments. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent strategist and overall adviser." **Shawn Wolf** combines his corporate tax capabilities with experience in tax planning for individuals. **Strengths:** "His knowledge is both very broad and very deep." "Shawn is an excellent attorney." **Hal Webb** is frequently called upon to assist high net worth individuals on tax and estate planning. He is noted for his

expertise in handling international tax matters. **Strengths:** "Hal Webb is very practical." **Jennifer Wioncek** leads the firm's tax and private wealth practice group. She is adept at advising high net worth individuals on state planning and pre-immigration tax planning matters. **Strengths:** "Jennifer Wioncek is a well-respected trusts and estate planner." "Jennifer is very technical. She is incredible." "She is a fantastic lawyer." "Jennifer Wioncek works really hard and delivers great results." "Jennifer is excellent in all aspects: she is thorough, responsive and personable."

Dean Mead

What the team is known for Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozarth is a highly regarded local firm with significant strength across all manner of estate planning, state and local taxation and tax controversy matters. The firm boasts particular experience in real estate transactions and joint venture projects. It offers additional capabilities in employee benefits work.

Notable practitioners

Stephen Looney maintains a broad-based tax practice, which includes advising on issues arising from corporate transactions such as reorganizations and M&A. He is also experienced in distressed situations, as well as in tax controversies.

Michael Minton acts at the intersection of tax, renewable energy and agribusiness.

Gunster

What the team is known for Gunster fields a broad bench of experienced tax practitioners, well versed in a wide range of tax and private wealth issues, with specific strengths in controversy, transactional and tax planning work. Attracts a broad client base that includes startups, investment funds, family businesses and entrepreneurs. The firm also demonstrates expertise in ERISA, labor law and employment law. Offers a deep statewide bench, with 13 office locations in Florida.

Strengths

"It is an outstanding and knowledgeable law firm." "The lawyers are responsive and smart."

"The lawyers are very knowledgeable in the areas in which they specialize, and if they need to bring in other parties, their egos don't get in the way – they get us the right people."

"From partners through to associates, we receive excellent legal advice and timely work products."

"The team has excellent expertise in US tax laws and demonstrates a good grasp of complex tax issues."

Work highlights Gunster advised MSH on the tax aspects of its reorganization, which involved the separation of two aspects of the business.

Notable practitioners

Leslie Barnett comes recommended for the depth of his tax expertise, which includes advising on succession planning and corporate transactions. He acts for both companies and individual clients. **Martin Press** has a strong reputation for both his transactional and contentious work. He advises a broad client base on corporate and estate planning matters, including cross-border and offshore mandates. **Alan Lederman** has notable expertise in dealing with cross-border tax

planning concerns, as well as advising on controversies. **Strengths:** "He is a super smart lawyer." "He's like an encyclopedia." **Adi Rappoport** acts on tax planning concerns and disputes for high net worth individuals and major corporates. He has expertise in cross-border matters. **Strengths:** "He's very aware of the issues that can arise and impact on a transaction." "He's very up to date in any changes in tax law or estate planning law. He has a very strategic, thoughtful and careful way of looking at issues and giving us several options." "Adi Rappoport always provides sound advice, and creative and practical solutions to complex issues." "He understands the client's needs and expectations." "Adi Rappoport is an outstanding professional who is extremely experienced and well connected."

McDermott Will & Emery LLP

What the team is known for McDermott Will & Emery houses a strong group of dedicated tax attorneys in Florida, with additional firm-wide capabilities allowing for a strong national and international practice. The firm has a broad practice and includes planning and advisory matters, as well as providing counsel on financing issues and the tax elements of corporate transactions. Its diverse roster of clients includes those in the healthcare, education and financial services sectors.

Strengths

"The law firm is very sharp and quick at providing effective advice."

"McDermott Will & Emery's work is excellent and reliable."

"The team is responsive and helpful."

"The lawyers are able to solve tax and trust issues very efficiently."

"The service is very efficient and practical."

Work highlights McDermott Will & Emery assisted Destillers United Group with the tax aspects of its sale of its Diplomático Rum brand to Brown-Forman, including post-closing tax matters.

Notable practitioners

Steven Hadjilogiou (see p.1473) comes recommended for his expertise in cross-border tax issues, including those involving real estate transactions. He acts for a broad client base, which includes private equity firms and global corporations. **Strengths:** "Steven Hadjilogiou provides good and relevant corporate tax advice." "He is very efficient and helpful." **Michael Bruno** (see p.1460) is particularly acclaimed for his counsel on cross-border transactions and planning matters, which sees him act for both international and domestic clients.

Strengths: "He is super sharp, very smart and very knowledgeable in his specialist field, which is cross-border planning and international tax optimization." "Michael Bruno is great at efficiently finding useful solutions." **Work highlights:** **Michael Silva** (see p.1495) focuses his work on a range of cross-border matters, including the tax elements of real estate investments and banking work. **Strengths:** "His work is excellent. He is a very creative thinker and problem solver who takes on difficult issues and is capable of delivering sophisticated analysis on novel, complex matters."

Band 3

Carlton Fields

What the team is known for Carlton Fields houses highly experienced attorneys working across the full range of state, local and federal taxation matters. The firm represents a range of both public and private clients in estate and pre-immigration tax planning matters, as well as issues arising out of corporate transactions.

Notable practitioners

Cristin Conley Keane advises high net worth individuals and the companies owned by them on a range of transactional tax mandates. **David Burke** acts across an impressive range of tax mandates, including cross-border planning, SALT issues and complex controversies.

Comiter Singer Baseman & Braun LLP

What the team is known for Comiter Singer Baseman & Braun has a dedicated tax team routinely engaged on a variety of private wealth, transactional and controversy issues. The firm advises a broad range of private individuals, major corporations and limited liability companies. It has additional strength in tax advisory work pertaining to private equity and joint ventures.

Notable practitioners

Richard Comiter has an excellent reputation for his handling of wealth management concerns, as well as corporate tax issues. He is a go-to attorney for a range of high net worth clients. **Andrew Comiter** is a practitioner rapidly gaining recognition in the corporate tax space.

Gutter Chaves Joseph Rubin Forman Fleisher PA

What the team is known for Gutter Chaves Joseph Rubin Forman Fleisher is an experienced boutique firm offering significant expertise across a range of corporate and personal tax issues, including trust and probate matters. The firm is highly sought after by high net worth individuals and entrepreneurs, as well as large corporations and brokerage companies. It offers comprehensive tax planning advice at both state and federal levels.

Notable practitioners

Robert Chaves maintains a broad-based tax practice with a largely transactional focus. He is also capable in estate planning and trust administration. **Charles Rubin** provides expert corporate tax counsel to a broad client base, which includes non-profits. He advises on matters such as transactional and estate planning. **Richard Joseph**'s practice includes large scale controversies, as well as regulatory compliance mandates involving multiple agencies.

Hill Ward Henderson

What the team is known for Hill Ward Henderson has a solid breadth of expertise across private wealth and estate planning, general corporate and employee taxation issues. The firm provides public companies and healthcare entities with significant depth of knowledge in transactional tax matters. Its client base also includes private equity funds, real estate developers and executives. The firm is based in Tampa.

Strengths

"Hill Ward Henderson is extremely strong. Its team is very knowledgeable in development tax structures, contract drafting and corporate structures." "The lawyers are very timely in their response to emails."

Notable practitioners

Prestin Weidner is a key contact.

Packman, Neuwahl & Rosenberg

What the team is known for Packman, Neuwahl & Rosenberg offers a solid breadth of expertise across private wealth and estate planning, general corporate and employee taxation issues. The law firm provides public companies and healthcare entities with significant depth in executive compensation and employee benefits issues. Its client base also includes private equity funds, real estate developers and executives. The group is noted for its expertise in international tax.

Notable practitioners

Leslie Share is regarded as a highly experienced lawyer in the tax market. He is particularly renowned for his knowledge in trust and estate planning mandates. **Strengths:** "He's got a great reputation and has been around a long time in the community."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Christopher Callahan (see p.1461) of Fox Rothschild offers expertise in both outbound and inbound tax planning, primarily for high net worth individuals. **Strengths:** "Christopher Callahan is a go-getter." "He is a strong international tax lawyer who supports our strategy well."

Mitchell Goldberg of Berger Singerman acts on a range of tax planning matters for a broad client base, which includes family businesses and technology companies. **Strengths:** "Mitchell Goldberg is very good to work with. He provides quick turna-

round and a quality service."

Mitchell Horowitz of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney is a highly regarded controversies attorney who frequently acts for clients in civil disputes against federal and state agencies. He also advises on transactional matters. **Strengths:** "Mitchell Horowitz is a well-respected controversies lawyer." "He is a very well-respected tax lawyer who adds expertise to complex transactions."

Michael Kosnitzky of Pillsbury advises clients such as high net worth individuals, technology companies and financial institutions on tax planning and transactional matters. **Strengths:** "His key strength is commerciality. Tax is super complicated and requires nuance and a lot of knowledge. To have a good grasp of that knowledge and explain it to the client is an important skill." "He is exceptionally aware of all areas of law and is quick to respond with his incredible depth of knowledge, as well as utilizing his resources in areas where it is not his personal focus." "He has a high level of commercial awareness." "He is on the leading edge of transactional tax work and tax planning for high net worth individuals." "Michael Kosnitzky is the best commercial lawyer I've met when it comes to dealing with and explaining complicated legal structures."

Summer LePree (see p.1480) of Winston & Strawn has built a strong reputation in cross-border tax planning. She acts for both corporations and high net worth individuals on a range of big-ticket matters. **Strengths:** "She is absolutely fantastic and truly special in her niche."

Jeffrey Neiman (see p.1486) of Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro is noted for his handling of white-collar tax mandates, which is complemented by broader experience in civil controversies. **Strengths:** "He is a great trial lawyer and advocate who is very smart and bright." "He is smart, strategic and a pleasure to work with." Jeffrey Neiman has a very substantive knowledge of the area."

Robert Panoff is a highly respected litigator for white-collar criminal tax matters. He also draws on wider regulatory expertise, as well as providing SALT counsel. **Strengths:** "He is well regarded in the tax community."

Robert Pierce of Ausley McMullen, PA is an experienced state and local tax attorney. His handling of audits and disputes is complemented by broader expertise in planning.

Jeffrey Rubinger (see p.1492) of Winston & Strawn is a go-to attorney for cross-border corporate mandates, advising on planning for transactions such as restructuring and expansion activities.

Curtis Sitterson (see p.1496) of Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. draws praise for his transactional practice, which includes advising on the tax elements of real estate deals and joint ventures. **Strengths:** "Curtis is very adept at dealing with regulatory agencies and having a good feel for how to work with them constructively." "Curtis Sitterson is an extraordinary attorney and counselor. He has handled complex federal and state estate tax cases to successful completion, obtaining stellar results."

Richard Winston (see p.1500) of Winston Legal Group expertly advises his clients on M&A transactions and IPOs. He has considerable experience handling international tax issues. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent lawyer who is very well organized." "Richard Winston is very knowledgeable in US tax laws and regulations, and very quickly identifies the needs of clients." "He is outstanding. He really cares on a personal level about the client and his responses are immediate."

Leaders' Profiles in Florida

ABATE, Maria Elena

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Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Insurance Litigation, Business & Commercial Litigation, Administrative Law & Litigation, Employment Law & Litigation

Career: Maria Elena Abate is a Shareholder and Chief Diversity Officer at Colodny Fass. Ms Abate focuses her practice on complex, commercial and class action litigation, employment law, and the prosecution of fraudulent insurance claims. In her over 30 years of practice, she has successfully represented and advised clients in a myriad of high-risk business disputes, including coverage, bad-faith, re-insurance, premium audits, marine cargo insurance, regulatory appeals, and Medicare secondary payer matters. Ms Abate also serves in an advisory and training capacity to the industry. In recent years she has participated in panel discussions regarding the use of artificial intelligence in insurance.

Professional Memberships: Claims and Litigation Management Alliance, Fraud Committee Claims and Litigation Management Alliance School of Insurance Fraud, Instructor Florida Property and Casualty Insurance Task Force Florida Bar, Member National African American Insurance Association, Florida Chapter: Board Member, Elections Chair and Finance Committee Member

Personal: Among her accomplishments, Maria is most proud of her work in helping to found two non-profit boards dedicated to the service of under-represented communities: the National African American Insurance Association ("NAAIA"), Florida Chapter and the Women's Breast and Heart Initiative, ("WBHI") Florida Chapter. Ms. Abate currently serves as the Elections Chair for NAAIA, Florida, is a member of the finance committee, and helped to establish the NAAIA Florida Scholarship Program. This program, which partners with the Risk Management & Insurance Program (RMI) at FSU and FAMU, provides a reciprocal pathway wherein minority students are made aware of the various career opportunities available in the insurance industry and prospective employers are provided emerging skilled talent. Since its inception in 2021, the NAAIA Florida Scholarship Program has awarded ten RMI students full scholarships. As a founding board member of WBHI, Ms. Abate has overseen and helped to make possible the provision of life-saving screenings and education regarding breast health and heart health to thousands of women. These services are coordinated by WBHI throughout South Florida – an area where too many women have limited access to care. Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties are the state's most diverse and populous region, with a population that is 67 percent Hispanic, 16 percent

Black, 14 percent White, and 3 percent other. The region also ranks in the lowest 25 percent of Florida counties for adults who have insurance coverage, are Medicaid enrollees, or have a usual source for healthcare.

ACKERBAUM COX, Joyce

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Career: Joyce Ackerbaum Cox is an experienced employment litigator and adviser, focusing her practice on the management side of employment law matters for clients in all industries, with a particular focus on the hospitality, restaurant, healthcare and energy sectors. With a deep understanding of her clients' businesses, Joyce proactively helps her clients avoid problems and provides practical solutions. She regularly defends employers involved in discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims, wage and hour compliance, and disability/leave issues. She has significant experience defending those matters brought as a class or collective action and in performing complex/high-level workplace investigations. Joyce also serves as co-leader of BakerHostetler's Noncompete and Trade Secrets Practice team, advising on and litigating matters concerning violations of noncompete/nonsolicitation agreements and misappropriation of trade secrets. She has handled many high-profile cases around the country with results favorable to her clients. Further, she advises on and prepares employment contracts, including executive contracts. Additionally, Joyce handles matters regarding accessibility compliance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). She counsels and litigates these cases for both employers and public accommodations in general, and over the years, has handled in excess of 100 cases regarding accessibility of brick and mortar locations, as well as websites. Joyce is a member of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Council and Chair of the firm's Disability Affinity Group.

ACKERMAN, David P

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: David Ackerman defends law firms in professional malpractice and legal ethics actions. A Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, clients value his litigation experience and strategic insight in resolving disputes through trial and appeals, negotiation, or arbitration. In addition, David litigates a variety of commercial matters, including class actions and business disputes.

ADAMS, Mark-David

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Featured in Public Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mark-David Adams

is a public finance and tax lawyer with over thirty-five years' experience in municipal finance, taxation and project finance law. He has worked on public financings for numerous Florida issuers, in addition to financings across the U.S. and Puerto Rico. He served as underwriters' counsel for the first internet offering of the State of Tennessee, and has provided advice to the Comptroller of the State of Tennessee in connection with the promulgation of the State's "Guidelines for Interest Rate and Forward Purchase Agreements." Mark Adams frequently serves as counsel to banks and other financial institutions. He also has worked on financings for airports, housing finance authorities, public utilities, solid waste authorities, sports authorities, colleges, universities and districts throughout the United States. Mr. Adams has extensive experience in working with derivative products.

Professional Memberships:

National Association of Bond Lawyers; Florida Bar

Personal: New York University, LL.M., 1986; University of Miami, J.D., 1985; Lafayette College, A.B., 1982

ALONSO, Fernando C

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Miami
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida), Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Fernando Alonso has practiced in the corporate and securities, banking and finance and international fields for more than 25 years. His clients include a broad range of publicly owned and privately held US and foreign companies and financial institutions. He has led numerous significant mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and other business transactions, including those involving cross-border complexities. He regularly represents foreign clients in connection with US acquisitions, as well as domestic companies with regards to their international expansion.

His practice also involves representation of both financial institutions and companies in relation to their equity and debt financings. He has structured and directed numerous private equity deals and has particular experience in the telecommunications, energy and infrastructure sectors. Further, he represents private investment funds in the US and abroad in connection with their structuring and joint ventures, as well as portfolio acquisitions and dispositions. He currently serves as chairman of the firm's Latin American and Iberian practice groups. BA with distinction in history, Yale College, 1980 (summa cum laude, member of Phi Beta Kappa). JD,

Yale Law School, 1983. Judicial clerk for the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Career: Chairman of the firm's Latin American and Iberian practice groups.

Personal: Received his BA with distinction in history in 1980 from Yale College, graduated summa cum laude and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and JD 1983 Yale Law School. Before commencing his practice, he served as a judicial clerk for the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

ANDREWS, Walter J

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Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: As a senior partner in the firm's insurance coverage practice, Walter offers clients more than 30 years of experience managing insurance-related issues, including program audits, policy manuscripting, counseling, litigation, arbitration, and expert witness testimony. He works with companies in a diverse range of industries, including financial services, consumer products, food and beverages, chemicals, real estate and municipalities. Additionally, Walter litigates insurance coverage and bad faith disputes around the nation, involving cyberinsurance and e-commerce issues, business interruption, product liability, construction defect, re-insurance matters, and other emerging claims. These matters involve a variety of insurance contracts, including cyberinsurance, professional liability, first party property, general liability insurance policies, and various reinsurance agreements. Walter has had significant court wins on duty to defend and bad faith cases and testifies regularly as an expert witness on similar cases and on the reasonableness of underlying settlements. He is also a Fellow in the American College of Coverage Counsel and a Life Fellow in the American Bar Foundation.

ARMSTRONG, Ed

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Land Use & Development Rights; Real Estate Acquisition & Development; Governmental Relations, Bid Protests and Procurement

Career: Ed Armstrong regularly represents national and local developers, public and private, with interests in the Tampa Bay area. Ed often serves as local general counsel to these clients. He also represents several high-profile clients who have significant interactions with local governments. In 2014, Governor Rick Scott appointed Ed to the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board where he served until 2019. He was also appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis in 2020

and reappointed in 2022 for the balance of the four-year term. Ed also served on the Board of Trustees for BayCare Health System for 15 years. He served as chair of the BayCare Medical Group from 2017–2019, chaired the Finance Committee, and currently serves on the Investment Committee.

Professional Memberships: Southwest Florida Water Management District—Governing Board; Chair BayCare Health System; Member, Investment Committee; Past Member, Board of Trustees; Past Member, Finance Committee Bank of Tampa—Pinellas County Advisory Board

ARNOLD, B.C.S., Trevor
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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Appellate and Trial Support Litigation Construction Professional Liability Defense Transportation Personal Injury Environmental and Sustainability Law Product Liability and Toxic Tort

Career: Trevor leads GrayRobinson's Construction Team and is based in the firm's Orlando office. His practice is focused on civil litigation. His experience encompasses litigation, arbitration, mediation, loss prevention and risk management. Trevor has significant trial experience with commercial/business and construction litigation. He handles litigation in federal and state courts throughout Florida. Trevor holds an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell. One of Trevor's primary areas of concentration is construction litigation. He is board certified in construction law by The Florida Bar. Trevor handles and has experience with a wide variety of construction disputes, including personal injuries/deaths during or after construction, defects and/or failures and delays and/or inefficiencies. He has also lectured on numerous construction law issues including The American Institute of Architects (AIA) contracts, design professional liability and "Green Building" or LEED issues. Trevor has experience handling construction claims involving various types of projects and construction. He handles disputes relating to industrial projects, including power plants and cement plants. His practice encompasses claims relating to infrastructure or transportation projects, including roadways, rail systems, airports, bridges and tunnels. He represents clients regarding disputes over residential projects, including apartments, condominium conversions, oceanfront condominiums, single-family homes and residential subdivisions. Trevor handles disputes over remediation, mold, sinkholes, hurricane damage and indoor air quality issues. He has litigated and tried commercial construction cases such as a hospital, a theme park, an international fiber optic telecommunications network and a university building. Furthermore, he handles civil works projects involving storm-water, wastewater and utility

systems. Trevor also handles various commercial and business litigation including disputes regarding contracts, leases, franchises, business torts, trade secrets, intellectual property, product liability, insurance and employment and non-competition agreements. Trevor's practice further includes election law, local government matters, insurance and personal injury.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar American Bar Association Orange County Bar Association

ARRASTIA, John
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Practice Areas: John Arrastia, Jr. is an experienced first chair trial attorney and counselor in disputed business, commercial, and fraud cases. His litigation in federal and state courts and arbitrations have included Fortune 500 companies, fiduciaries, government and quasi-governmental entities, as well as smaller publicly-traded companies, privately-held businesses, and individuals in a variety of industries. These representations include his role as Special Litigation Counsel to the Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Title III debtors in the Puerto Rico insolvency proceedings ("PROMESA"), involving the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico Electric and Power Authority, Employees Retirement System, and the Highways and Transportation Authority. He is also an experienced in non-advocate roles, including commercial arbitrator and receiver. As a commercial arbitrator, he has presided over 170 contested matters. As a member of the Panel of Arbitrators of the American Arbitration Association, John has been sought out and has presided over cases involving a wide variety of issues including contractual relationships, fraud, banking, real estate, healthcare, and other business relationships. He has also been appointed by state and federal courts to act as a receiver over existing business operations. John has been honored as a fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America (LCA), an invitation-only trial lawyer honorary society composed of less than one-half of one percent of U.S. attorneys. He is rated "AV Preeminent" by Martindale Hubbell and has been repeatedly recognized as a "Best Lawyer" by "Best Lawyers in America," "Top Lawyer" by South Florida Legal Guide, "Legal Elite" by Florida Trend, "Top Lawyers in Florida" by Legal Leaders, and "America's Most Honored Lawyers, Top 1%". Throughout his career, John has also had significant involvement in diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. He has been highlighted as a "Champion of Diversity" by the Defense Research Institute's For the Defense magazine and selected as a fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity. He has served as a board member of the Hispanic National Bar Foundation, and on the Executive Committee of the Hispanic National Bar Association as vice-president of exter-

nal affairs, a member of the Board of Governors, and president of Region XIII, encompassing the State of Florida. He has also been active in the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Firms, and the American Bar Association's Minority Trial Lawyers Committee and the Committee on Ethnic and Racial Diversity in the Profession. John is a frequent speaker and lecturer on substantive legal issues relating to litigation and arbitration. He has written numerous articles in publications for the American Bar Association, the American Arbitration Association, such as the Dispute Resolution Journal, Commercial & Business Litigation, The Minority Trial Lawyer, and Journal of Money Laundering Control. His service in numerous bar and professional associations includes being a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and Life Member of the Hispanic National Bar Association. John is a member of The Florida Bar and admitted to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida, and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. He holds his bachelor of arts from the University of Notre Dame and earned his juris doctor with honors from the University of Florida College of Law, where he was awarded Best Oral Advocate and President of the intercollegiate, award winning Trial Team. John earned his master of laws from the University of Cambridge and in 2023 established the J. Arrastia Master of Laws Grant, which assists overseas students pursuing LL.M. degrees at Cambridge University's Jesus College. He is fluent in Spanish.

AUBIN, Thomas G.
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Fort Lauderdale
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Featured in Litigation (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Thomas Aubin has 30 years of experience in medical malpractice defense for healthcare institutions and practitioners, product liability defense, commercial litigation, administrative law defense of physician and nursing licensure investigations, as well as the defense of corporations in other complex commercial matters. Thomas has tried numerous cases in state and federal court throughout Florida. Thomas also has extensive appellate experience. He has served on judicial re-election campaigns as well as served on the local ethics committee in Broward County, Florida.

Career: Thomas Aubin is a Shareholder and member of the firm's Board of Directors. He is based in South Florida.

BAIN, Joseph W.
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-joseph-w-bain>

BAKER, Deborah

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas:

Career: Deborah Baker is a partner in the litigation practice group and is the Firm's Director of Attorney Development. Ms. Baker focuses her law practice in the areas of commercial litigation and alternative dispute resolution, with significant emphasis in the areas of business and real estate litigation. Ms. Baker has represented public and private companies in a variety of corporate litigation matters. She has litigated shareholder derivative lawsuits through trial and appeals, ending with favorable outcomes for her clients. She is a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator and has been appointed by the Miami-Dade County Circuit Court to act as a Special Magistrate to assist the Court, litigants and their counsel in resolving discovery disputes in lawsuits pending in the Complex Business Litigation Division. Ms. Baker has also advised clients on intellectual property matters, including a multi-national retail business with respect to a claim of trademark and copyright infringement. Ms. Baker was able to guide her client towards a favorable resolution without litigation. Ms. Baker has obtained her FINRA Series 7, 55, and 63 licenses, and has represented claimants before the American Arbitration Association. Ms. Baker has extensive trial experience, both jury and non-jury, and has successfully handled several appeals.

Professional Memberships:

Jackson Health Foundation, Golden Angel Society, Member, 2023 The Florida Bar, Board of Governors' Judicial Nominating Commission Screening Committee for Vacancies on the Florida Supreme Court, Member, 2018–2019 The Florida Bar, Board of Governors' Judicial Nominating Commission Screening Committee for Vacancies on the Third District Court of Appeals, Chair, 2018–2019 The Florida Bar, Florida Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism Screening Committee, Chair 2018 The Florida Bar, Program Evaluation Subcommittee on Military Affairs, Chair 2018–2019 The Florida Bar, Citizens Advisory Committee, Member, 2017–2018 The Florida Bar, Board of Governors, Member, 2016–2019 Anti-Defamation League, Civil Rights Committee, Member, 2014–Present Dade County Bar Association, Member Jewish Federation of Greater Miami Judicial Reception Awards Selection Committee, 2015–2017 Florida Bar, Civil Procedure Rules Committee, 2015–2016 Florida Bar, Eleventh Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee, 2015–2016 Florida Association for Women Lawyers, Miami-Dade Chapter – President, 2014–2015–State FAWL Outstanding Chapter Award, 2014–2015 Spellman-Hoover American Inn of Court, Member, 2015–Present Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc., Board Member, 2009–2011

Lotus House, Street Law Program, Director, 2011

Publications: Author, "Thriving Together, The Importance of My MDFAWL Friendships," MDFAWL Advisor – Spring 2023, June 8, 2023

BALINT, Nathan

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Nate Balint represents private equity funds, strategic acquirers, and entrepreneurs on the purchase and sale sides of merger, acquisition, and leveraged buyout transactions, including associated equity and debt arrangements. His experience spans several key sectors, including technology, media & telecommunications, restaurants & retail, business services, industrial services, consumer products, education, and energy. Related to his M&A practice, Nate also handles general corporate and governance matters, often on behalf of private equity-backed businesses.

BARKETT, John

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Featured in Environment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Environmental Toxic Tort and Exposure Litigation; Global Arbitration; Business Transactions; Data and Discovery Strategies; International Business Litigation; Environmental Litigation; Environmental and Regulatory Counseling; Environmental Due Diligence and Transactions; Litigation. **Career:** John is a commercial and environmental lawyer (CERCLA, RCRA, and toxic tort), having handled scores of complex and simple litigation matters in federal and state courts or before an arbitration tribunal. He is a certified mediator and has served as a neutral in scores of matters involving in the aggregate more than \$4 billion. John conducts commercial domestic and international arbitrations and ad hoc arbitrations and has been recognized in Who's Who Legal – International Bar Association; Best Lawyers in America; Florida Trend, Legal Elite; and Florida Super Lawyers.

Professional Memberships:

American College of Environmental Lawyers, Fellow; Association of Certified E-Discovery Specialists, Advisory Board; American Law Institute; College of Commercial Arbitrators, Fellow; American College of Civil Trial Mediators, Fellow; Natural Resources & Environment, American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources, Editorial Board

Publications: The Roberts Court 2019-20: Distancing From the Kennedy Era, the Roberts Era Has Begun, White Paper, July 2020. For a full list of publications, visit <https://www.shb.com/professionals/b/barkett-john>

BARNETT, Eleanor

Armstrong Teasdale LLP, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Eleanor Barnett is a trial attorney who focuses her practice on complex commercial and business litigation, real estate litigation, trust and probate litigation, and employment litigation. She has experience litigating matters in both state and federal courts throughout Florida and other jurisdictions throughout the country. She has handled matters through trial in various areas of business disputes, including actions involving employment discrimination, construction, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, partnership disputes, all facets of real estate matters, insurance coverage disputes, and copyright and trademark infringement. Practice areas include: Litigation Complex Commercial Litigation Trusts, Estates and Private Wealth Management Employment and Labor Real Estate Insurance Coverage Litigation Real Estate, Development, Construction

BARRY, Richard

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Featured in Litigation (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Litigation Health Care Insurance Defense Medical Malpractice Defense Professional Liability Defense **Career:** Richard Barry has built a career on the dogged pursuit of answers for his clients. He is dedicated to protecting and defending clients against complicated and highly technical claims of medical malpractice, vehicular liability, other personal injury, and insurance coverage. An effective and persuasive communicator before juries, he has decades of courtroom experience representing physicians, hospitals, other health care providers, transport companies, and insurers throughout Florida. He also handles state administrative actions involving professional licensure and discipline. Richard's expertise is centered on complex litigation and catastrophic injury work in the products liability space, and the health care and transportation sectors. He manages automobile and other vehicular liability cases involving commercial conveyance and common carriers and also represents insurance companies in first- and third-party claims and coverage disputes. His natural curiosity and deep knowledge of both medical nomenclature and scientific subject matter allow him to provide nuanced and sophisticated counsel to clients operating in these specialized areas. He carefully evaluates each case with a focus on transparent client communications, moving toward positive outcomes, and containing the risk and cost involved in delicate professional negligence matters and protracted litigation. Richard's experience also includes adjacent work in the retail and construction industries

in matters involving professional liability, risk management, general liability, premises liability, and negligent security. Notable clients include Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, Ferguson Enterprises, and Walmart. A collegial and collaborative partner, he often leads multidimensional trial teams alongside GrayRobinson colleagues in the appellate, construction, and labor and employment practice areas.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association International Association of Defense Counsel Defense Research Institute Florida Defense Lawyers Association The Florida Bar – Board Certified in Civil Trial Law – Health Law Section Florida Supreme Court – Certified Circuit Court Mediator George C. Young First Central Florida Inn of Court, Barrister Orange County Bar Association Cornerstone Hospice Foundation Board, 2011-present Cornerstone Hospice Foundation, Orange County Advisory Board, 2011-present Cornerstone Hospice Ethics Committee, 2011-present Florida State University Alumni Association, Life Member Leadership Orlando, Class 84 Seminole Boosters, Inc. Tiger Bay Club of Central Florida

BASSETT, W Randall

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Randy Bassett is a first chair trial lawyer, who has tried more than 30 cases to juries. Randy has represented both foreign and domestic companies in federal and state courts across the United States in individual cases, multidistrict proceedings, and class actions. He focuses on the trial of high exposure cases on behalf of corporate defendants in difficult jurisdictions. Randy has represented companies in a range of industries, such as, Brown-Forman Corporation, Delta Airlines, General Motors, Gilead Sciences, Gol Linhas Aereas Inteligentes S.A., Imetric 4D, Logitech, Purdue Pharma LP, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and United Parcel Service, Inc. Mr. Bassett has handled cases throughout the United States with particular emphasis in jurisdictions designated "judicial hellholes" by the American Tort Reform Association. He has tried cases in the state courts of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Texas and North Carolina and in the U.S. district courts for the Northern District of Georgia and Middle District of Florida. He also has handled appeals on behalf of clients in the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fourth, Sixth and Eleventh Circuits, and has appeared in the state appellate courts of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

BATTISTA, Paul J

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Paul Battista focuses his practice on complex commercial bankruptcy, financial restructuring, and insolvency matters both in and out of court, including bankruptcy-related litigation and transactional work. Paul regularly represents Chapter 11 debtors in possession (DIP), creditors' committees, DIP lenders, purchasers of assets and trustees in large and complex restructurings, workouts, and bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings in Florida and throughout the United States. Through his representations, Paul has gained significant bankruptcy-and insolvency-related experience in numerous types of businesses, and has been involved in most of the large bankruptcy cases filed in the Southern District of Florida and statewide.

BEDKE, Mike

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Career: <https://www.dlapiper.com/en/people/b/bedke-michael-a>

BENNETT, Susan

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami

Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Susan Bennett has extensive experience in title insurance issues and in advising financial institutions and developers in complex real estate and syndicated real estate loan transactions.

Career: Susan is a Shareholder in the Real Estate Department and member of the Firm's Board of Directors. She is based out of Tampa, Florida.

BERCUN BOHM, Stacy

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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Construction Law and a LEED® Accredited Professional, Stacy Bercun Bohm represents developers, contractors, subcontractors, and design professionals in complex construction contract, project administration, and litigation matters. She is one of the first lawyers in Florida to achieve both Board Certification and LEED accreditation. Stacy structures and negotiates complex commercial and residential construction contracts for design and construction of health-care facilities, offices and campuses, shopping centers, supermarkets, warehouses, mixed-use high rise buildings, hotels and condominiums, golf courses, custom-designed homes, stadiums and arenas, retail, houses of worship, cultural arts centers and facilities, airport projects, and senior living facilities. With a litigation practice in both state and federal courts, she represents clients in construction disputes involving Chinese drywall, breach of contract, class actions, foreclosures, payments, bond claims, defects, and liens. She frequently utilizes alternative dispute resolution proceedings, such as arbitration and mediation, and has

served as an arbitrator in American Arbitration Association and State Court Non-Binding Arbitration proceedings resolving construction issues related to contracts, payments, and construction defects.

BERG, Lisa

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami

Featured in *Labor & Employment (Florida)*

Practice Areas: Lisa Berg has more than 30 years of experience representing employers in all areas of labor and employment law and focuses on litigation avoidance. She has extensive experience advising employers on day-to-day employment issues, including: accommodation of disabilities; pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions; family and medical leave; artificial intelligence; reductions-in-force; employee discipline, evaluation and discharge; drug testing; unlawful harassment; and workplace privacy. Additionally, she conducts confidential investigations and audits, drafts employee handbooks/policies, negotiates independent contractor, severance, and employment agreements, and provides management and employee training on a variety of employment topics. Lisa appears before the EEOC and state and local EEO agencies to handle charges or complaints of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. Lisa also has considerable expertise in all areas of traditional labor law, including preventative labor relations programs and managing employer responses to union campaigns, collective bargaining, and handling of unfair labor practice charges and trainings to avoid charges and lawsuits.

Career: Lisa Berg is a Shareholder and based out of Miami, Florida. She is Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Labor and Employment Law.

Professional Memberships: Academy of Florida Management Attorneys (Past President); ABA (Past Regional Co-Chair, Committee on Practice and Procedure under the NLRB).

Publications: Annual Pocket Guide to Florida Employment Laws (Co-Author); Florida Employment Law Letter (Co-Editor); Southeast Employment Law Letter (Co-Editor); Firm's Labor & Employment Law Blog, BeLaborThePoint.com (Contributor).

BETTRIDGE, Scott

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Featured in *Immigration (Florida)*

Practice Areas: Scott currently serves as the chair of Cozen O'Connor's Immigration Practice, which forms a piece of the firm's Labor & Employment group. He represents both corporate and individual clients in all areas of U.S. immigration law. Scott's corporate clients include major global organizations in the financial, hospitality, fashion, media, IT, energy, agriculture, insurance, and health care sectors, along with organizations specializing in professional services and private club industries. Specifically, his practice includes all as-

pects of corporate immigration services including, nonimmigrant visas, permanent residence, labor certification, and naturalization, along with I-9 review and compliance services, with a focus on global workforce mobility issues such as due diligence considerations and risk management assessments for mergers, acquisitions, restructurings, downsizings, and startups. He also consults with individuals on family-based petitions as well as EB-5 immigrant investor petitions, including Form I-526 and I-829 issues and support. Scott is a frequent speaker on business-related immigration developments and trends at industry events, including those held by the American Immigration Lawyers Association and European-American Chamber of Commerce, among other prominent organizations.

Personal: Scott received his law degree from John Marshall Law School and his bachelor's from the University of Tennessee.

BHAVSAR, Nikki

GrayRobinson, PA, Orlando
Featured in *Construction (Florida)*

Practice Areas: Construction Litigation

Career: Nikki Bhavsar helps construction clients understand and plan for risk. Known for her keen sector expertise and grasp of key pressures facing clients operating in this dynamic and evolving environment, she focuses her client offerings on construction, contract, and litigation matters throughout Florida. As construction continues to surge across the state, Nikki represents design professionals, contractors, subcontractors, and owners as they navigate labor challenges and regulatory pitfalls. Nikki assists clients with construction defect actions, lien and payment disputes, personal injury claims, contract interpretation and issues, and construction delay claims. She also provides drafting support for complex construction and design contracts, as well as development of risk management actions. Delivering a continuity of care over the course of a construction project, Nikki guides clients through the administration of contracts, legal management of issues that may arise, and proper dispute resolution procedures. Nikki is an active thought leader on trends affecting the construction sector as a whole and how digital transformation impacts the built world. A collaborative problem solver and social change advocate, she is committed to developing and sustaining meaningful relationships, driving diversity and inclusion efforts, and leading teams toward a common vision. She often partners with GrayRobinson colleagues in the banking and finance, real estate, labor and employment, and land use practices to provide multidimensional litigation support for construction clients.

BIRKE, David

Akerman LLP, Miami

Featured in *Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)*

Practice Areas: David Birke serves as Co-Chair of Akerman's Corporate Practice Group. David's practice focuses on representing private equity funds, family offices and their portfolio companies in complex acquisitions, divestitures, recapitalizations, restructurings, growth capital investments, and debt and equity financings. David's wide ranging practice also encompasses representing other private and public companies with corporate governance, joint ventures, executive compensation, and general commercial matters. David brings a unique, pragmatic and solutions-oriented perspective to his client's transactions; an approach shaped through numerous complex transactions coupled with his experience counseling clients as a certified public accountant at Arthur Andersen.

BLACK, David

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Featured in *Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)*

Career: As manager of Berger Singerman's Corporate, Securities and M&A Practice Group and former co-chair of its Business, Finance & Tax Team, David Black handles substantial, complex transactions on behalf of national and international clients across numerous industries including SaaS, healthcare, construction, manufacturing and distribution, transportation/logistics, and marine. He has led acquisitions spanning the globe and valuing well in excess of \$500 million. Additionally, David regularly serves as general counsel to entrepreneurial and institutional businesses, advising in a broad array of matters. He has been recognized for professional excellence by the South Florida Business Journal, the M&A Advisor, and the Daily Business Review.

Professional Memberships: -Advisory Board Member, Posse Miami

Publications: -Black, D. K., & Duarte, M. M. (2022, October 21). Preparing Your Company for a Liquidity Event: Who Should Be on Your Team?. Daily Business Review. <https://www.law.com/dailybusinessreview/2022/10/21/prepare-your-company-for-a-liquidity-event-who-should-be-on-your-team/>

BOUTHILLIER, Reggie L

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Featured in *Environment (Florida), Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)*

Practice Areas: Reggie Bouthillier has over 31 years of experience representing clients throughout Florida in the areas of real estate, land development, land use, environmental and government affairs.

Career: "An excellent attorney.... Very thoughtful and strategic, and has a full grasp of the law and the real world...He's very smart and delivers tremendous client service. He is tireless." -Chambers USA 2018-2019 Reggie Bouthillier is a Shareholder and a mem-

ber of the Firm's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Reggie serves as Chair of the Land Development, Zoning & Environmental Group and is based in Tallahassee, Florida. He is a strong client advocate and has been actively involved in countless transformative real estate and development projects throughout the state over the past three decades. Known for his ability to see the "big picture," Reggie is an enthusiastic leader who partners with his clients, colleagues, peers and community stakeholders to strategically develop and advance collective visions. Reggie is particularly skilled at strategic planning, creative problem solving, complex project management, consensus building and dispute resolution. He regularly collaborates with others to formulate comprehensive, innovative and solution-driven action plans.

Professional Memberships:

Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce, Member and Past Chair and Board Member; Association of Florida Community Developers, Member; The Florida Bar, Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section; The Florida Bar, Environmental and Land Use Law Section, Member

BOYER, April

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Featured in *Labor & Employment (Florida)*

Practice Areas: April Boyer is a partner in the firm's Labor, Employment, and Workplace Safety practice. She focuses her practice on employment law and complex commercial litigation where she serves as lead trial counsel for companies involved in disputes in state and federal courts, arbitrations, and before administrative agencies. She handles all aspects of litigation including preliminary and permanent injunction hearings, evidentiary hearings, bench trials, arbitrations, and jury trials. As described in more detail in the Achievements section, April has been recognized by her peers for her accomplishments, including being listed in Best Lawyers in America® in the areas of Labor Law-Management and Employment Litigation. She also is an AV-rated lawyer — the highest available rating given by Martindale Hubbell for legal ability and professional ethics. In the area of complex commercial litigation, April helps companies resolve their business disputes with competitors, customers, vendors, and others with whom they conduct business. Much of her experience relates to disputes between competitors, including misappropriation of trade secret claims, breaches of nonsolicitation and nondisclosure provisions contained in business contracts (such as letters of intent, purchase agreements, and joint venture agreements), and tortious interference with contracts and business relationships. She also prosecutes and defends other business dispute claims including breach of contract claims, violations of Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, consumer fraud, slander/

defamation, and other civil disputes. In the area of employment law, April defends employers faced with employment law disputes such as wage and hour claims, discrimination, harassment and/or retaliation lawsuits, whistleblower actions, and ERISA fiduciary duty claims. She also has significant experience litigating misappropriation of trade secrets claims and breaches of restrictive covenants (e.g., noncompete, nonsolicit, and nondisclosure agreements). As lead counsel, April has handled a myriad of restrictive covenant/trade secret injunction proceedings. While most of these cases resolve at the injunction phase, she served as lead counsel for the plaintiff/competitor in a jury trial where the plaintiff was awarded compensatory and punitive damages for breach of its restrictive covenants and tortious interference by competitor with those contracts. In addition to resolving employment disputes when they occur, April counsels her clients on employment issues before they become disputes. In the area of restrictive covenants and trade secrets, she drafts and interprets the enforceability of contracts containing these provisions. April trains and counsels employers on making day-to-day employment decisions to ensure compliance with applicable employment laws and regulations. She also assists employers in conducting internal audits to ensure legal compliance, represents employers when being audited by state and federal regulatory agencies, and advises companies and their Officers and Directors in company investigations (including ethics concerns and harassment/discrimination claims) and in corporate governance disputes. April also drafts and prepares handbooks and related policies for employers, conducts trainings on those policies, and counsels and trains company personnel on ethics and code of conduct compliance, diversity training, and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

Professional Memberships: Board Member of the South Florida Manufacturing Association (SFMA), 2020-present Adjunct Professor for Employment Law for the Florida International University, Master of Science in Human Resource Management Program, 2019-present National Association for Women Lawyers (NAWL) Board Member, July 2020-present Assistant Secretary, August 2023-Present Chair, Strategic Programming Committee, Present Executive Committee Member Member, 2007-present Planning Committee for NAWL Annual Meeting Co-Chair, Program Subcommittee, 2016 Co-Chair, Program Book Subcommittee, 2015 Co-Chair, Sponsorship Subcommittee, 2013 Committee Member, Sponsorship Subcommittee, 2011, 2012, 2014 Planning Committee for NAWL Regional General Counsel Institute Committee Member, Marketing Subcommittee, 2016 Committee Member, Program Subcommittee, 2016 Planning Committee for NAWL Mid-Year Meeting Co-Chair, Mid-Year Planning Meeting, 2018 Co-Chair, Sponsorship Subcommittee, 2014

Co-Chair, Marketing Subcommittee, 2013 Committee Member, Sponsorship Subcommittee, 2011 Committee Member, Logistics Subcommittee, 2011 Planning Committee for NAWL Miami Night of Giving Charity Event Committee Chair, 2010 Committee Member, 2009 Planning Committee for NAWL Austin Program Committee Member, Sponsorship Subcommittee, 2016 NAWL Challenge Club, member 2015-present Women's Fund of Miami-Dade Board of Directors, 2011-2020 Co-Chair "Raise the Bar" Charity Event, 2006-present Co-Chair, Nominations Committee, 2013-2016 Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Governance Committee, 2015-2016 Committee Member, Development Committee, 2013-present Committee Member, Governance Committee, 2016-present Women of Distinction Award Selection Committee, Federal Judge Award Selection Committee, 2019 Litigation Counsel of America Member, Labor and Employment Law Section, The Florida Bar Member Member, Florida Association for Women Lawyers Miami-Dade Chapter President, Florida Tower Condominium Association, 2004-2008 Member, Dade County Bar Association's Black History Month Award Selection Committee, 2017

Publications: "Help Wanted: What Employers Need to Know About Pay Transparency Requirements in Job Postings," Employee Benefit Plan Review, January 2023 "Help Wanted: What Employers Need to Know About Pay Transparency Requirements in Job Postings," The National Law Review, 1 November 2022 "Employers Can Use COVID Models To Address Monkeypox," Law360, 2 August 2022 "Pandemic Pandemonium: Navigating Employment Considerations in the Face of COVID-19," Benefits Law Journal, Summer 2020 Co-author, "Employment Arbitration Agreements Can Contain Class Action Waivers," Daily Business Review, 19 June 2018 Co-author, "Ruling on overtime exemption for dealership service advisors may have broader consequences," Miami Herald, 11 June 2018 Co-author, "What About Confidentiality Clauses in Sexual Harassment Settlements," South Florida Legal Guide insert for the Miami Herald, 20 November 2017 "Hollywood Has Shined a Spotlight on Sexual Harassment: Now What?" Daily Business Review, 13 November 2017 Co-author, "Many Employers Will Need to Raise Salaries to Qualify for Overtime Exemption," Daily Business Review, 21 June 2016 "Supreme Court Charts Narrow Course for Stats in Class Certification," Daily Business Review, 30 March 2016 Co-author, "Independent Contractor Classification Under Scrutiny in New DOL Guidance," Daily Business Review, 13 August 2015 "The new approach to managing a global workforce," Miami Herald, 25 July 2015 Co-author, "Discrimination Protection Extends to Transgender Employees," Daily Business Review, 30 January 2015 Co-author, "Non-Competes in Employment Contracts," Hot Topics in Business Litigation, 2002 Co-author, "Responding

to Military Leave Requests," Bank Employment Law Report, October 2001

BOZORGI, Susan
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Susan has extensive experience in federal court, where she has been lead counsel and defended clients charged by the United States Government with offenses including Medicare fraud, pharmaceutical fraud, wire fraud, mail fraud, mortgage fraud, bank fraud, security fraud, money laundering, drug conspiracies, aggravated identity theft crimes, tax offenses, Hobbs act violations, and firearm offenses. She has litigated in both state and federal courts throughout the country and has tried over 75 jury trials. She has experience representing professionals from all business sectors, including lawyers, doctors, executives, and politicians who are facing either the possibility of a criminal charge or have been formally charged. Susan also has experience representing clients before the Securities and Exchange Commission and other regulatory bodies.

Professional Memberships: Susan is currently the Global Vice-Chair and Co-Chair of the Florida Chapter for the Women White Collar Defense Association. She previously has held leadership roles on the board for the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) and as co-chair of the Defense Function Committee for the Criminal Justice Section of the American Bar Association. She has also committed herself to supporting women in the field as founder of the Women Criminal Defense Attorneys Blog (WCDA Blog).

BRODSKY, Jerry
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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Construction and Infrastructure Construction Dispute Resolution International Construction and Infrastructure Public-Private Partnerships Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution Government Contracts Surety

Career: Jerry Brodsky is a partner and director of Peckar & Abramson's Latin American practice. Jerry is trilingual (English/Spanish/Portuguese) and is certified by the Florida Bar as a Construction Law Specialist. Many of Jerry's matters involve multi-cultural domestic or cross-border transactions and disputes. His practice includes the representation of international and domestic general contractors, construction managers, sureties and other construction professionals in the United States and throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, in the preparation of contract documents, negotiation, mediation, arbitration and litigation of construction contract claims, construction and design defect claims, insurance claims, surety bond claims and related matters. Jerry's practice and experience

includes mega-projects for transportation and other infrastructures, as well as industrial, commercial and residential engineering and construction projects. Jerry also provides training services and counseling to domestic and international clients in the areas of contract negotiation, compliance and legal project administration/risk management. In 2021, he completed FIDIC Certified Course Module 2: Claims and Disputes Resolution. Jerry represents and has served as project counsel during the procurement, negotiation, implementation, administration and post-completion phases of mega-projects, using both traditional and project finance/public-private partnership delivery models. Jerry also serves as referee and dispute board member in international disputes involving construction of infrastructure projects in Central America and has been engaged to develop, implement and administer a program of dispute boards for world sporting events in Brazil. Jerry is admitted to practice in the State of Florida and the United States District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Florida. He is a member of the Florida Bar and the Dade County Bar, and serves as Chair of the International Division of the Forum on Construction of the American Bar Association and Secretary of Region 4-Latin America of the Dispute Resolution Board Foundation. He received his bachelor of science in industrial engineering from Lehigh University and his law degree, summa cum laude, from the University of Miami.

Professional Memberships: Florida Bar Association American Bar Association (International Division Officer) Dade County Bar Association Dispute Resolution Board Foundation (Region 4-Latin America Secretary)

Publications: "Contractors Should Expect a New Wave of Climate-Resilient Projects," P&A Client Alert, December 2021 (Co-Author) "COVID in the Americas - A Review of Impacts, Responses, Challenges for Construction Sectors," Daily Business Review/Law.com, September, 2020 (Author) "Expert Testimony: Hot-Tubbing in Legal Proceedings," Daily Business Review, November 2016 (Co-Author)

BRONSON, Ardith
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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Career: <https://www.dlapiper.com/en/people/b/bronson-ardith>

BROWN, Bowman
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-bowman-brown>

BRUNO, Michael J.
McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Miami 1-305-347-6504
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Featured in Tax (Florida)

Practice Areas: Partner Michael Bruno focuses his practice on domestic

and international tax planning for multinational companies, funds, and entrepreneurial families. Michael has written numerous articles on international tax planning and frequently submits comments on statutory & regulatory promulgations. As a strong proponent for pro bono legal services, Michael founded the Transactional Equal Justice Program with Legal Services of Greater Miami, which offers free legal advice to non-profits and low-to-moderate income small business owners, helping them to launch a business. Michael regularly advises corporate clients and funds on mergers, acquisitions, restructurings and divestitures in a variety of business contexts. He has assisted companies with a number of international tax issues, including intellectual property migrations, BEAT, Subpart F, GILTI, and FDII planning, foreign tax credit planning, FIRPTA, treaty planning, tax-efficient cash repatriation strategies and post-acquisition integration and implementation. Michael also has experience in advising companies on complex cross-border tax matters involving technology, digital goods and services. Michael also regularly advises entrepreneurial families on strategies for minimizing US income taxation with respect to their closely held businesses and investments. Recently, through comments and presentation, Michael successfully advocated on behalf of the Florida Bar Tax Section for the IRS and Treasury to afford the Section 250 deduction to electing Section 962 shareholders that earn Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income ("GILTI"). View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/bruno-michael-j/>

Professional Memberships: Greater Miami Tax Institute, President, Vice President Legal Services of Greater Miami, Chair and Founder of Transactional Equal Justice Program Florida Bar, Tax Section, Co-Chair of Inbound Tax Committee, Assistant Director Florida Bar, Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section, member

Personal: Education: New York University School of Law, LLM, 2013 University of Florida Levin College of Law, JD, cum laude, 2012 University of Central Florida, BSBA, Finance and Accounting, 2009

BUDWICK, Michael
Meland Budwick, P.A., Miami
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Commercial Litigation, Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Financial Frauds, Receivership and Assignments, Creditors' Rights

Career: Michael Budwick is a partner and serves as Co-Chair of the Financial Fraud Group. He is regularly involved in the most contentious and complex litigation and insolvency matters, having successfully litigated or resolved a broad array of commercial disputes. He has represented trustees, receivers, creditors and victims in some of the

country's largest, most high-profile financial fraud cases, including in the \$2 billion Ponzi scheme perpetrated by Tom Petters (the third largest Ponzi in U.S. history) and the \$950 million Ponzi perpetrated by Jeff Caroff, the largest fraud in the history of the Eastern District of California.

Professional Memberships: • Board Member, Rabbi Alexander S. Gross (RASG) Hebrew Academy • Past first Vice-President, Treasurer and Director of the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida • Past Member of the Florida Bar Grievance Committee

BUFFINTON, Amanda
Shutts & Bowen LLP, Tampa
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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-amanda-b-buffinton>

BULLARD, Randy A
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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Career: Randy Bullard is the co-chair of the firm's Latin America Desk and partner in the Corporate Department. Randy has built a decades-long career in the corporate, M&A, and private equity practices throughout Latin America, Florida, the United States, and Europe. His work with MoFo's top clients has produced some of Latin America's most significant transactions and investments. MoFo's Latin American desk is a sought-after resource for clients based in or with operations throughout the region. Randy has experience across a broad range of sectors, including financial services, telecommunications, media, entertainment, energy, agriculture, manufacturing and food and beverage. Randy is an advocate for human rights in the South Florida community and is a co-chair of the International Bar Association's LGBTI Law Committee, a committee member for the Cyrus R. Vance Center for International Justice and a member of the board of directors of the Council of the Americas. Randy is also a prolific speaker and author on corporate trends in Latin America.

Personal: J.D., Harvard Law School; A.B., Princeton University

BURKE, Richard E
GrayRobinson, PA, Orlando
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Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Florida)

Practice Areas: ERISA and Employee Benefits Religious Organizations Taxation Technology Transactions ESOPs

Career: Rick focuses on employee benefits and deferred compensation and has been chair of this practice area of the firm since 1992. GrayRobinson has always been considered a statewide leader in this field and enjoys one of the largest practices in central Florida. Rick has practiced exclusively in this area since 1985. He is a frequent lecturer on benefit issues and has conducted

several seminars on a national level. Rick's practice involves the design, drafting, implementation and operation of "qualified" retirement programs, "nonqualified" deferred compensation arrangements and welfare benefit plans (e.g. cafeteria plans, medical plans, etc.) This field is one of the most complicated areas of the law and is heavily regulated by the federal government. Recently, employee benefit programs have been targeted for increased audit activity by the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Labor. Over the years, Rick has successfully defended employers against the IRS and DOL in more than 300 audits/appeals/rulings, etc. Rick's clientele includes both publicly traded companies and privately held employers. He also represents numerous governmental and tax-exempt organizations. In fact, the majority of Rick's practice currently involves governmental plans. The rules that apply to these arrangements are significantly different than the requirements applicable to private sector retirement programs, which makes this area a specialty practice within a specialty practice.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar – Tax Law Section, Member – Employee Benefits Committee American Bar Association – Tax Law Section, Member American Society of Pension Professional and Actuaries

BURNETT, Jason
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Banking and Finance Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Litigation Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution

Career: Jason is an AV rated attorney who practices in the areas of commercial litigation and bankruptcy and is a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy issues. Jason has substantial experience representing debtors in Chapter 11 cases from the prefilings stage through confirmation and post-confirmation activities. He has also represented creditors, trustees and committees in all aspects of cases under Chapters 7, 11 and 13 of the Bankruptcy Code. Additionally, he has represented creditors, assignors and assignees in state court assignments for the benefit of creditors. His experience also extends to the litigation of contract disputes, construction disputes and complex debt workouts.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar – Business Law Section Executive Council Member, Bankruptcy/ UCC Committee Chair Florida Supreme Court, Certified Circuit Mediator Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison Committee, Chair, 2010-2011 Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association, Past President

CALLAHAN, Christopher R.
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Featured in Tax (Florida)

Practice Areas: As a Co-Chair of the International Taxation & Wealth Planning Practice, Christopher provides wealth management and international tax planning advice to high-net-worth clients, funds and businesses. In recognition of his dedication to developing cutting-edge tax strategies for his clients, Christopher has been named as one of the leading tax attorneys in Florida by Chambers USA. In his practice, he handles a full range of international taxation and wealth issues, including foreign pension planning and compliance for individuals and active companies with U.S. employees; domestic and international tax planning for partnerships (e.g., private equity and real estate funds); domestic and international income tax planning, including Subpart F, GILTI and FDII planning, for closely-held corporations; advice regarding U.S. income and estate tax treaties; tax planning for non-resident individuals, including wealth and estate planning (e.g., trust planning), FIRPTA withholding and pre-immigration tax planning; formation of foreign grantor trusts by foreign settlers (particularly redomiciling Panama Foundations to the United States); tax compliance and disclosure matters (e.g., submissions to the Streamlined Offshore Procedures, Delinquent FBAR Procedures, delinquent International Information Return Procedures, etc.); tax planning for non-resident executives of U.S. companies (e.g., how to minimize exposure to U.S. estate tax regarding their ownership of company stock and stock options as well as other U.S. situs assets such as U.S. portfolios and U.S. real estate); and cross-border employment tax planning for publicly traded corporations.

Career: Prior to joining Fox Rothschild, Christopher was a member of a Chambers-rated international taxation group at a Miami-based boutique taxation law firm. In addition, prior to practicing law, Christopher worked in the Basketball Operations Department of the Philadelphia 76ers of the National Basketball Association (NBA).

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association | Florida State Bar Association | Florida Bar Tax Section, International Tax Division, Co-Director | Florida Bar Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section, International Estate and Trust Tax Planning Subcommittee, Chair | International Fiscal Association | Irish American Bar Association of Florida | Lexwork International | New York State Bar Association | Society of Trusts and Estates (STEP), Gold Coast Florida Chapter, Educational Programming, Director

Personal: University of Miami School of Law (LL.M. in Taxation) | University of Miami (M.B.A.) | University of Miami School of Law (J.D., magna cum laude) | Tulane University (B.S.)

CAPUANO, Sam
Berger Singerman, Tallahassee
Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Samuel Capuano is a partner on Berger Singerman's Business Reorganization Team. Sam serves as First Vice President for the Bankruptcy Bar Association Southern District of Florida. He handles a broad range of cases focusing on matters involving commercial insolvency and litigation in bankruptcy cases, Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors cases, receiverships, post-judgment proceedings, and out-of-court workouts. Sam works with a broad spectrum of clients, including representing debtors, creditors, trustees, assignees, and receivers. He also routinely represents landlords, tenants, asset purchasers, officers, directors, equity, and other interest holders. When working with his clients, Sam strives to understand their ultimate goals and collaboratively design and implement a strategy to succeed. Sam understands that having substantive knowledge of the law is critical, but he also believes that practicality and common sense must inform every strategic choice. He is motivated by finding creative, efficient, and practical solutions to his client's problems, and he is honest, open, and transparent in his advice.

CARMAN, Stephanie
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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Health Care Data Privacy Litigation Corporate Labor and Employment Insurance Defense

Career: Stephanie is a shareholder in the Miami and Washington offices, focusing her practice on the health care industry. She provides strategic advice on regulatory issues, transactions, investigations and litigation. Stephanie represents corporate, governmental, academic and individual clients in administrative actions and federal and state courts at both the trial and appellate levels. She also works with clients on internal investigations and responding to governmental requests for information. Whether it is False Claims Act or qui tam matters, corporate compliance, or licensure matters, Stephanie brings insight and experience to advise clients on a plan of action. She represents companies in a variety of industries and jurisdictions but is best known for her work with life sciences and healthcare industry clients including academic medical centers, hospitals, home health agencies, hospices, laboratories, information technology and device companies. In the practice of health law, Stephanie takes the time to learn about her clients' businesses, arriving at a strategy to effectively and efficiently meet their needs and goals and advocate for them. With regulations constantly in flux and frequent innovations in products and services, she works hard to stay abreast of the health care industry's legal needs. Stephanie is the immediate past President of the University of Miami School of Law Alumni Association and is a past President of the Dade County Bar Association. She is the

membership chair and a member of the Executive Committee of Legal Services of Greater Miami's board of directors and a former member of The Florida Bar Grievance Committee. Stephanie also serves on the Tufts University Alumni Council and as co-chair of its Alumni Resources Committee. Stephanie is also on the board of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association Miami Chapter and serves as Director at Large, Membership and Volunteer Engagement. She is also a Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellow. Stephanie has been recognized by Chambers, The Daily Business Review, South Florida Legal Guide, Attorney at Law Magazine, SuperLawyers, and Florida Trend. She was also awarded The Daily Business Review's Rising Star award, The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division's Lynn Futch Most Productive Lawyer, the Cystic Fibrosis 40 Under 40 Outstanding Lawyers of Miami-Dade County, and The University of Miami School of Law Alumni Leadership Award. She is AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell and a regularly published author. She is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a fellow of the Litigation Council of America. Prior to joining GrayRobinson, Stephanie worked at a large international law firm where she chaired the Miami recruiting, summer associate, and community investment committees.

Professional Memberships:
Healthcare Businesswomen's Association Miami Chapter Director at Large, Membership and Volunteer Engagement Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Fellow American Bar Association, Member The Florida Bar, Grievance Committee, Former Member American Health Lawyers Association, Member Dade County Bar Association, Former President Florida Association for Women Lawyers, Member Litigation Counsel of America, Fellow American Bar Foundation, Fellow

CLOUD, Thomas A.
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Florida)

Practice Areas: Administrative and Regulatory Land Use Law Utilities Government Environmental and Sustainability Law

Career: Through four decades, Tom has been a local and state government, utility, land use, and environmental law attorney. Board certified in City, County and Local Government Law, Tom has represented over 100 Florida cities, including six as city attorney. His practice includes negotiating complex contracts, drafting dozens of city and county legislative initiatives and ordinances, creation and defense of municipal rates, fees, assessments, and charges, obtaining state and local government regulatory approvals and all matters attendant to the acquisition, development, and utilization of both real property and business acquisitions and sales. He has

been responsible for the application and approval of over 25 Developments of Regional Impact throughout central Florida, as well as dozens of other complex land use matters. Tom has handled a variety of matters directly involving regional planning councils throughout Florida, including comprehensive plan amendments, DRI reviews, interlocal planning agreements, and agreements between RPCs and local governments. Tom helped create and served as the first general counsel to the Volusia Growth Management Commission, a charter-created intergovernmental entity that reviewed plan amendments within Volusia County. In addition to handling state administrative, municipal, land use, and environmental matters, Tom is one of the preeminent municipal utility attorneys in Florida, having successfully handled a wide variety of both transactional and litigation matters within the field. He has handled a variety of complex municipal, county, and special district financial transactions, including the defense of various capital and operational rates, fees, assessments, and charges. Tom has written, presented, and published dozens of articles on a variety of local government topics for various sections of The Florida Bar, Stetson Law Review, and other publications. Tom currently serves as city attorney in four cities across Central Florida, and serves as general counsel to the Utilities Commission of New Smyrna Beach. He previously served as president of the Florida Municipal Attorneys Association, and has represented hundreds of cities and counties throughout Florida in a variety of legal matters since 1980.

Professional Memberships: Florida Municipal Attorneys Association, Past President, Past Executive Council The Florida Bar, Environmental and Land Use Law Section, Governmental and Public Policy Advocacy Committee American Bar Association

COLEMAN, Ira
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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Ira Coleman is the chairman of McDermott Will & Emery. Since Ira took on this role in 2017, the Firm has embraced a new strategic direction focused on being indispensable to clients, enhancing performance and nurturing a happy, fun culture. Under his leadership, McDermott has adopted the unofficial mantra of #AlwaysBetter, representing the Firm's commitment

for constant improvement with the goal of delivering ever-greater value for our clients, people and communities. With this as a foundation, the Firm has outperformed the industry average—with consistent double-digit growth across all key metrics—expanded across practices and geographies, and recruited top talent. Prior to taking on this role, Ira led the Corporate & Transactional Practice Group and served as the managing partner for the Firm's Miami office. He

focuses his practice on all aspects of representing major private and publicly held corporations. In particular, he advises clients in navigating M&A and controversy matters that have "bet the company" implications. His other areas of focus include health, private equity and compliance. Ira also serves as the general counsel for the Healthcare Private Equity Association (HCPEA). He presents regularly at private equity, national health care and leadership-focused conferences on a variety of subjects. He has authored and been quoted in numerous articles on private equity, health law, diversity and inclusion, and leadership. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/coleman-ira/>

Professional Memberships:

Serves as the general counsel for the Healthcare Private Equity Association American Bar Association

Personal: Education: University of Miami School of Law, LLM Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center, JD State University of New York -Albany, BA

COLLIER, Jeffrey A.

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Tallahassee

Featured in Environment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jeff Collier has more than 20 years of experience serving private and public sector clients throughout Florida in environmental, land development and administrative law. Jeff represents clients before federal, state and local environmental agencies on large development-related projects and contamination remediation projects. As a former managing attorney in the South Florida Water Management District's Office of Counsel and a former senior attorney in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of General Counsel, Jeff brings a unique perspective on challenges related to environmental resource and consumptive use permitting, compliance and enforcement, water quality/water supply issues, sovereign submerged lands, and brownfields redevelopment.

Career: Jeff Collier is a Shareholder at the firm and based in Tampa, Florida.

Publications: Jeff frequently writes publications and lectures on topics relating to environmental, land use, and land development law.

COLODNY, Mike

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Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mr. Colodny focuses in representing national corporations, banking institutions and insurance companies in corporate matters, insurance regulatory and compliance work before government agencies and quasi-judicial public boards and commissions. He has extensive experience in the formation of insurance operations, the drafting of vendor contract and affiliate financial documentation for insurance carriers and Managing General Agencies. In

addition, he has substantial experience in residual markets and their operations.

Career: As former General Counsel for the Florida Residential Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association and its successor, Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, Mr. Colodny was instrumental in negotiating several billion dollars in related catastrophe claims funding. As General Counsel he was involved in drafting the initial Plan of Operations and subsequently the parameters of the residual market entities first Depopulation and Bonus programs. Mr. Colodny is a former four-year term Mayor for the City of North Miami and the attorney for the President of the Florida Senate.

Professional Memberships: Mr. Colodny is currently a member of the Florida Bar and the Broward County Bar

COLOMAR GARCIA, Marta

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: -International Commercial Litigation and Arbitration for multinational corporations, sovereign governments, and individuals. -White-Collar Criminal, Asset Recovery -Financial institutions & OFAC -Regulatory compliance -Business & Finance Transactions -International Government Relations -Corporate Finance, Private Equity, Securities -Appeals & Trial Support

Career: Administrative Managing Partner, bilingual international attorney Marta Colomar-Garcia brings legal experience in the U.S., Spain, and Latin America. A frequent featured guest contributor to CNN Español and El Venezolano TV, she is also a contributor to Inter-American Dialogue's Latin America Advisor on topics including international finance, banking, and money laundering. She earned a Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center in 2006, and a Juris Doctor degree from the Universitat de Barcelona, Facultat de Dret in 2005.

Languages: English, Spanish, Catalan.

Professional Memberships: Florida District of Columbia New York Supreme Court of the United States United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit United States District Courts for the Middle and Southern Districts of Florida Spain Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS)

CONNERS, Patricia

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami

Featured in Antitrust (Florida)

Practice Areas: Patricia "Trish" Connors is a nationally-renowned litigator and creative legal strategist, with particular expertise in antitrust and competition law. Trish's practice includes advising clients, both plaintiffs and defendants, regarding antitrust, competition, and consumer protection enforcement issues, investigations, or litigation, both in single-state and multistate matters; providing cutting-edge and timely compliance counseling and

training to clients to minimize potential antitrust or consumer protection exposure; and providing clients with strategic counsel regarding investigative, litigation and settlement strategies as well as creative options for effective case resolution. A particular focus of her work is enforcement by state attorneys general. Trish is Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Antitrust and Trade Regulation.

Career: For 36 years Trish served seven attorneys general in various senior executive positions in the Florida Attorney General's Office, including as Chief Deputy. As Chief Deputy, she supervised over 1,100 employees and engaged in a wide array of matters, representing the State of Florida on both sides of the "v". As Deputy Attorney General for Enforcement she oversaw the Office's Antitrust and Complex Enforcement, Civil Rights, Consumer Protection, False Claims and Lemon Law Arbitration Divisions. For the last two decades of her extensive career in public service, Trish was also the Director of the Antitrust and Complex Enforcement in addition to her other responsibilities. In 2001, she was the first woman to be appointed Chair of the Multistate Antitrust Task Force of the National Association of Attorneys General, serving in that capacity until 2005. Through her time with the Attorney General's Office, Trish gained extensive knowledge of state and federal antitrust and consumer protection enforcement practices and policies as well as many other aspects of government and regulatory practice. These insights as well as her extensive substantive enforcement experience are a valuable resource to companies confronting potential multistate or multi-agency exposure as well as to state attorneys general and private plaintiffs contemplating antitrust actions. Trish has been credited with helping obtain billions of dollars in recoveries on behalf of the State of Florida and its citizens. She has led or co-led countless notable multistate and state-federal investigative and litigation efforts, concentrating on both litigation and settlement strategies and creative case resolution. Her antitrust work includes many successful enforcement actions involving such diverse products as pharmaceuticals, financial services, health care products and services, telecommunications, dairy and other food products, and a wide variety of consumer products. Her work in public service led Trish to regularly interact with opposing counsel, private plaintiffs' counsel, other state attorneys general offices as well as counterparts at the Federal Trade Commission, U.S. Department of Justice and sometimes even European agencies.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association, Government and Public Sector Lawyers' Division, Executive Council, 2020-Present; Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee, Inc. Board of Directors, 2023; Bond Elementary School, Classroom Connection Mentor, 2022-Present;

University of Florida, Adjunct Professor, Antitrust Law, Spring 2023 and Spring 2024; American Bar Association (ABA), Antitrust Law Section, (various leadership roles) 2001-Present; ABA Antitrust Law Section, Compliance and Ethics Committee Co-Chair, 2023-Present; ABA State Antitrust Practice and Statutes (6th Edition) Treatise, Editorial Board, 2021-Present; ABA Leadership Development Committee, Co-Chair, 2019-2023; Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund Advisory Council, Vice Chair, 2023-Present; ABA, Life Fellow; American Antitrust Institute, Advisory Board, 2002-Present; Florida Association of Women Lawyers (FAWL), 1985-Present; Tallahassee Women Lawyers (TWL), 1985-Present

CONNERY JR, John C

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Mergers & Acquisitions; Venture Capital & Private Equity; Tax; Joint Ventures & Partnerships; Corporate & Transactional; Entity Formation & Tax Structuring

Career: John Connery is practice chair of Hill Ward Henderson's Corporate & Tax Group. He has a diverse transactional practice, with an emphasis on advising family offices, venture capital funds, companies, angel investors and private equity funds and their portfolio companies on structuring and negotiating complex business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, growth capital investments, joint ventures, fund formations and recapitalizations. John advises investors, developers and property managers on real estate joint ventures and regularly serves as outside general counsel to growing, middle market companies. He has substantial experience in structuring and tax planning for transactions. John acts as counsel to a number of institutional private equity and real estate investment and development clients, including KLH Capital, Mangrove Equity Partners, Clearwell Group, The Ferrante Group, Parkstone Growth Partners, Meridian Development Group, Landevor, Fairbourne Properties, Third Lake Partners and Third Lake Capital. He is a Certified Public Accountant in Florida. Prior to joining Hill Ward Henderson, John worked as an audit associate with Arthur Andersen in its Tampa office and practiced tax law in the Chicago office of the international law firm Mayer Brown.

CORBETT, Kamala E

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Land Use & Development Rights; Governmental Relations, Bid Protests and Procurement; Real Estate Acquisition & Development

Career: Kami Corbett has extensive experience in the areas of land use,

comprehensive planning, annexation, Developments of Regional Impact (DRI), zoning, variances, tree removal permits, design exceptions, subdivisions, sign permitting, alcoholic beverage permitting, concurrency agreements, development agreements and all aspects of governmental permitting, including stormwater and environmental permitting. In addition to her land use practice, she also has experience with matters relating to, real estate transactions, code enforcement, public records laws, sunshine laws, the Fair Housing Act, ADA accessibility, with unique experience specializing in hospitality facilities and sports facilities. Prior to joining Hill Ward Henderson, Kami was Of Counsel for an Am Law 100 international law firm providing land use and real estate advice to clients across the firm's state-wide, five-office platform and served as the Director of Due Diligence and Entitlements for the Tampa/Orlando Division of one of the largest public homebuilders in the United States. Kami's clients include publicly and privately owned homebuilders and residential developers, multi-family builders and developers, mixed use and commercial builders and developers, affordable housing owners, builders and developers, medical marijuana license holders and land owners. Kami is active in the business community and serves in leadership roles for NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association Tampa Bay Chapter and the Tampa Bay Builder's Association.

Professional Memberships: National Association of Office and Industrial Properties: VP of Government Affairs, Past President Commercial Real Estate Development Association Tampa Bay Chapter: 2022 Executive Committee, VP of Public Affairs Tampa Bay Builder's Association: Associate Director, Secretary Elect

COTNEY, Trent

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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Construction, Commercial Litigation, Workplace Safety and OSHA, Renewable Energy, Government Relations - State and Local

Career: Adams and Reese Partner and Construction Team Co-Leader Trent Cotney is a board-certified construction lawyer by the Florida Bar and is licensed in Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Wyoming, and D.C. He focuses his practice on all aspects of construction litigation and arbitration, including OSHA defense, lien law, bond law, bid protests, and construction document review and drafting. He routinely represents construction and infrastructure clients, including general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, manufacturers, architects, engineers, roofers, developers, and others in various matters. Trent is an EU arbitrator for construction related disputes. In addition to nearly 25 years of assisting

his clients in their legal matters, Trent is a zealous advocate for the international commercial roofing industry. He serves as general counsel for more than 10 trade associations and organizations, including the National Roofing Contractors Association, Florida Roofing & Sheet Metal Association, National Slate Association, Roofing Technology Think Tank, Western States Roofing Contractors Association and several other industry associations. Trent is recognized by his peers throughout the construction industry as one of the leading attorneys in his field of practice. He has received numerous honors and distinctions because of his dedication to the legal profession and his expertise in construction and infrastructure law.

Professional Memberships: National Roofing Contractors Association, General Counsel, One Voice Member; International Federation for the Roofing Trades, Voting Member; Roofing Contractors Association of Washington, General Counsel; Florida Roofing, Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors Association, General Counsel, Director; Western States Roofing Contractors Association, General Counsel; The Tile Roofing Industry Alliance, General Counsel; Tennessee Association of Roofing Contractors, General Counsel, Member; National Slate Association, General Counsel, Member; National Women in Roofing, Founding Sponsor; Roofing Industry Alliance for Progress, Founding Sponsor, Governor Level Contributor; ROOFPAC Political Insiders Council, Member; Roofing Technology Think Tank, General Counsel; West Coast Roofing Contractors Association, General Counsel; Chicago Roofing Contractors Association, Member; Construction Partners of Tampa Bay; Department of Business and Professional Regulation Contractor Continuing Education Lecturer; The Florida Bar - Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section; Tennessee Bar Association – Construction Law Section; Associated Builders & Contractors Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, Member; Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Contractors Association, Member; Roofing Contractors of South Florida Association, Member; Palm Beach County Contractors Association, General Counsel, Member.

Publications: Trent has published more than 1,000 articles in 100 different local, regional and national publications on such topics as construction mediation, arbitration, negligent design, delay damages, contract provisions and defective workmanship. He is the editor and primary author of two Amazon best-selling books, OSHA Defense for the Construction Industry and OSHA Defense: Know Your Rights. The books provide contractors, trades, design professionals, suppliers, manufacturers and others in the industry with an understanding of their rights during an OSHA inspection as well as critical defenses to use after an OSHA citation has been issued. Trent is a frequent guest on nationally and regionally broadcast podcasts and regularly

speaks at events across the globe on topics related to construction and infrastructure law.

Personal: Humane Society of Tampa Bay, Past Board Member; University of Tampa Board of Counselors, Past Board Member; Vanderbilt University Undergraduate and School of Law, Initial Admissions Interviewer; Black Dagger Military Hunt Club, Sponsor

CREMER, Jacob

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Featured in Environment (Florida), Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Jacob "Jake" Cremer serves clients throughout Florida in the following areas: environmental, land use, land development, permitting and economic development (including ad valorem tax exemptions and brownfield designations) and property rights litigation.

Career: Jake Cremer is a Shareholder at the firm and based in Tampa, Florida.

Professional Memberships: Tampa Bay Builders Association, Board of Directors; Hillsborough County Farm Bureau, Board of Directors; Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Gubernatorial Appointee; Connect Florida, Board of Governors; Leadership Tampa Bay Class of 2016.

Publications: Jake frequently writes publications and lectures on topics relating to environmental, land use, and land development law.

CRITCHLOW, Richard H

Kenny Nachwalt PA, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Rick has over 40 years of experience litigating complex commercial cases of all types in state and federal court, as well as in arbitration. He has represented a host of clients in bet-the-company litigation involving common law and statutory business torts, contract disputes, state and federal securities law violations, shareholder derivative claims, class actions, director and officer liability, lender liability, partnership issues, real estate issues, employment matters, RICO, and independent investigations. In addition, Rick represents attorneys and accountants in professional liability matters.

Career: In addition to his practice as a litigator, Rick is often asked to serve as an arbitrator in complex commercial matters and to serve as an expert on attorneys' fees issues. He also has spoken at numerous conferences on lawyer liability issues and served on multiple grievance committees of The Florida Bar.

Professional Memberships: Rick is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a Fellow of the International Society of Barristers, and a member of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, the American Bar

Association, Fellows of the American Bar Foundation, and the Dade County Bar Association.

CURTIS, O. Benton

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Benton (Ben) Curtis, a former federal prosecutor and experienced trial attorney, focuses his practice on leading matters, both domestically and abroad, that involve government enforcement defense, internal investigations, compliance counseling, and due diligence regarding third parties and business transactions. Ben regularly represents clients before, and in litigation against, government agencies, including clients accused of health care fraud, kickback violations, Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) violations, money laundering, and securities fraud. Ben likewise regularly represents corporations and high net worth individuals who have been victimized through internal or third-party misconduct, often in the form of an exceptional theft or fraud. Ben has tried more than 25 federal jury trials in district courts all around the country, and calls upon that experience when counseling his clients in truly high-stakes matters. Ben's capabilities stem, in large part, from his previous ten years with the US Department of Justice (DOJ), which lengthy tenure included extended stints in Miami, Washington, DC, and Los Angeles. In his last position, Ben served for almost five years as an Assistant Chief in DOJ's Criminal Division, Fraud Section, where he supervised numerous large-scale health care fraud investigations and prosecutions around the country. He also oversaw significant FCPA investigations related to the entertainment and gaming industries in Asia, and a number of insider trading and high-yield investment matters. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/curtis-benton/>

DANNECKER, John H

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Featured in Construction (Florida)

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DANON, Samuel A

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Sam Danon is the Managing Partner of the firm and a member of the Litigation team. He is a trial lawyer who seeks results tailored to his clients' business needs, balancing trial readiness and business pragmatism. His practice focuses on commercial disputes in US courts, consumer class actions, government regulatory advice and corporate compliance. He has particular experience counseling financial institutions and multinational corporations through multijurisdictional disputes in US courts

and with matters related to operations in the Americas and the Caribbean. Sam has trial experience in federal and state courts and domestic and international arbitration before the American Arbitration Association (AAA), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the AAA's International Center for Dispute Resolution (ICDR). Sam has also assisted multinational companies with the creation, implementation and monitoring of global corporate compliance programs with specific guidance on issues related to Code of Conduct, Anti-Money Laundering and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

DAVIS, Gary Scott

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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Partner Gary Scott Davis, PA, advises clients on issues concerning managed care, including emerging health benefit plans, strategic restructurings and reorganizations, dispositions, mergers, joint ventures and contractual matters. The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education recognizes Gary as a Board Certified Health Law Attorney. Gary is a nationally recognized speaker on organizational and reimbursement transactions relating to managed health care, health care contracting and joint ventures. He is also a published author of numerous writings on managed care. Gary has served as an adjunct lecturer of health care law for the Graduate School of Business Administration (MBA Programs for Executives), University of Miami and on the Advisory Board and faculty of the Nova Southeastern University Institute of Continuing Education for Health Care Professionals. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/davis-gary-scott/>

Career: Awarded, prestigious David J Greenburg Service Award (AHLA, 2000); Received, Follmer Bronze Merit Award for Outstanding Service (HFMA, 1993).

Professional Memberships:

American Health Lawyers Association; American Bar Association, Health Law Section; Florida Bar, Health Law Section; Healthcare Financial Management Association; Florida Academy of Health Care Attorneys, member of board of directors

Personal: Education: George Washington University Law School, JD, with honors, 1982 State University of New York – Binghamton, BA, with honors, Phi Beta Kappa, 1979

DAY, Allison R

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Allison Day helps clients handle challenges in all areas of bankruptcy, business reorganization, and creditors' rights. Allison has handled numerous Chapter 11 reorgan-

izations and liquidations on behalf of debtors, creditors, creditor committees, and trustees. She has also represented debtors, trustees, and creditors in bankruptcies under Chapters 7 and 13, including the former Standing Chapter 13 trustee for the Southern District of Florida. In addition, she regularly represents assignors, assignees, and creditors in assignment for the benefit of creditors' proceedings and receivers in both state and district court receivership proceedings.

DEBLASIO III, Patrick G

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Discrimination and Harassment; Hiring, Performance Management, and Termination; Litigation and Trials; Unfair Competition and Trade Secrets; Wage and Hour

Career: Patrick G. DeBlasio III has significant experience defending employers in single-plaintiff and collective actions under the Fair Labor Standards Act; conducting wage and hour audits; handling restrictive covenants; and representing employers in proceedings before the Department of Labor and similar agencies, in state and federal court, and in arbitration. He provides general advice and counseling on employment matters and regularly speaks before industry groups and associations on employment-related topics. DeBlasio's clients span the retail; hospitality; waste management and banking industries.

Professional Memberships: Florida Bar –Labor and Employment Law Section; Hospitality Human Resources Association of Broward County (HHRABC); Miami-Dade County Special Olympics –Executive Development Committee; North Carolina State Bar; State Bar of California

DECKER, Jeffrey E

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: North & Central)

Career: Jeffrey Decker is a partner in the firm's business group and the Orlando Business Leader. Jeff's practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, joint venture, strategic alliance and divestiture transactions, securities offerings, Securities Exchange Act reporting and other corporate finance matters, proxy solicitations, corporate governance, corporate recapitalizations, restructurings and reorganizations, and general transactional and legal matters for public and private companies.

DEFIELD, Andrea

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Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Andrea DeField is a partner in Hunton Andrews Kurth's top-ranked insurance coverage practice where she co-leads the firm's cyber insurance practice. She has dedicated

her career to helping clients manage risk and maximize insurance recovery. She handles all types of insurance issues, including those arising from D&O, E&O, CGL, cyber, crime, builder's risk and property insurance policies. As part of her counseling practice, Andrea adds value to business deals by advising clients on contractual risk transfer through indemnity, additional insured, and required insurance provisions in contracts. She also conducts insurance due diligence for mergers and acquisitions. Andrea helps clients proactively manage risks by auditing clients' cyber and other insurance programs to identify gaps in coverage before renewal and works with clients, their brokers, and insurers to fill gaps through manuscript endorsements. She also drafts insurance sections of cyber incident response plans, participates in tabletop exercises and teaches executives and board members about cyber, professional liability, and directors and officers insurance claims. When a loss has occurred or a claim has been made, Andrea helps policyholder clients maximize insurance recovery through litigation or alternative dispute resolution of coverage and bad faith cases.

DELIONADO, John

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: John regularly represents Fortune 500 companies, financial institutions, and HIPAA-covered entities in governmental investigations and class actions. John was appointed to serve as the first Special Master over discovery in the Takata Airbag Products Liability Multi-District Litigation. John is veteran of more than 15 jury trials and handled at least twice that number of evidentiary hearings during his time as an Assistant United States Attorney and in private practice. His trials included high-profile cases involving an airplane hijacking, the armed kidnapping of a federal employee, a mail fraud scheme targeting several schools, and the attempted enticement of a minor over the internet. He has extensive experience in matters involving cyber intrusions, cyber extortions, corporate espionage, theft of trade secrets, and data breach events. On multiple occasions, John has counseled and defended companies experiencing massive, extremely high profile data breaches and crises. He has counseled and defended more than 80 financial institutions and FinTech's across the country during examinations and investigations on issues relating to consumer and regulatory compliance issues and cyber preparedness.

Throughout his career, he has led dozens of investigations in matters relating to financial crimes, insider abuses, consumer protection issues, the False Claims Act and potential FCPA violations.

DELPOZO RODZ, Alette

Shutts & Bowen LLP, Miami
ARodz@shutts.com

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Career: [https://www.shutts.com/professionals-aliette-delpozo-rodz](http://www.shutts.com/professionals-aliette-delpozo-rodz)

DEMARIA, Joseph

Fox Rothschild, Miami
305.442.6547
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Joseph is an aggressive advocate for clients involved in high-stakes business, construction and white-collar criminal litigation disputes.

A former federal prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice's Miami Organized Crime Strike Force who has four decades of experience leading trial teams, Joe is well-known for his tenacity and no-holds-barred approach to major litigation before state and federal courts. Joe has secured key trial victories while representing clients from wide-ranging sectors, including banking and financial services, large-scale corporate construction, international business, government entities and public school systems. He has also defended individuals under investigation and subject to criminal and regulatory charges by the U.S. Department of Justice and state and federal regulators. Read more about Joseph's litigation successes. Certification by the Florida Bar as a Business Litigation Specialist, Joe has successfully handled many "bet the company" cases. His experience extends to federal and civil RICO claims; embezzlement and bribery; accounting and legal malpractice; corporate governance; breach of fiduciary duty; money laundering fraud; grand theft; tax evasion; construction delays; surety and insurance.

Career: Prior to joining Fox, Joseph was a long-time partner at the Miami law firm of Tew Cardenas LLP. He was also a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Miami Organized Crime Strike Force. While in law school, he served as the managing editor of the Buffalo Law Review.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association | The Florida Bar

Personal: State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law & Jurisprudence (J.D., cum laude) | St. Bonaventure University (B.A, History, Economics, magna cum laude)

DESCALZO, Marissel

Tache, Bronis, and Descalzo, Miami
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Practice Areas: White Collar Criminal Defense Federal Anti-Kickback and Health Care Fraud Defense False Claims Act Defense FCPA Defense OFAC/Sanctions Defense Defense of Civil Prosecutions Involving Fraud, RICO, Theft, and Misappropriation of Assets

Career: I am a trial attorney and focus my practice on defending companies and individuals in high stakes government investigations, enforcement actions, and prosecutions. I have

participated in numerous federal and state trials to verdict.

Professional Memberships: ABA Criminal Justice Section, Executive Committee Hispanic National Bar Association

DEWOLF, Diane

Akerman LLP, Tallahassee

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Diane DeWolf is board certified by The Florida Bar in Appellate Practice. She focuses her practice on handling complex civil and administrative appeals and providing trial support. Diane is a member of the Appellate Practice Group at Akerman LLP. She previously served as Deputy Solicitor General in the Office of the Attorney General, where she represented the State of Florida in civil appeals of statewide impact. Diane also served as a fellow for the National Association of Attorneys' General United States Supreme Court Project in Washington, D.C., during which she had the unique opportunity for intense hands-on exposure to United States Supreme Court practice. Diane currently serves as a member of the Executive Committee for the Appellate Practice Section of The Florida Bar, has served on the Florida Bar's Rules of Appellate Procedure Committee, and is a former President of the First District Appellate Inn of Court.

DIAZ, JR., Michael

Diaz Reus & Targ LLP, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: -International Litigation & Arbitration-White Collar Crime, Government Sanctions (OFAC, Magnitsky, CAATSA, GLOMAG, etc.), investigations and defense -Regulatory and Corporate Investigations, Governance and Compliance -Fraud & Asset Recovery

Career: Florida Bar Board Certified International Litigation and Arbitration attorney Michael Diaz is a multilingual litigator, trial lawyer, and arbitral advocate with 37 years of experience advising clients, trying cases, and negotiating resolutions to complex civil, arbitral and criminal disputes. He has extensive experience handling visa recovery efforts, FCPA and OFAC violations, and Specially Designated Nationals classifications. He regularly counsels on preventative arbitration and litigation strategies and conducts parallel investigations in complex, high-stakes regulatory, investigative and compliance matters that involve financial fraud, international asset recovery and white-collar crime. Mr. Diaz's sophisticated asset tracing techniques have resulted in millions of dollars in recoveries for U.S. receivers, financial institutions, and individual fraud victims. He has handled numerous notable, well-publicized litigation and arbitration cases, OFAC and sanctions matters, and cases of alleged money laundering and public corruption. He is a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS).

Professional Memberships:

ADMISSIONS Florida 11th Circuit Court of Appeals Southern District of Florida Middle District of Florida U.S. Supreme Court 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals of New York U.S. Court of International Trade

DIAZ, JR., Victor M

VM Diaz & Partners, LLC, Miami Beach 305-704-3200 victor@diazpartners.com

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: VM Diaz & Partners, LLC is a boutique litigation law firm focusing on all types of complex civil litigation, including commercial litigation, class actions, multi-district litigation, mass torts and products liability cases and wrongful death and personal injury litigation. The firm also offers corporate counseling in litigation avoidance and dispute resolution. VM Diaz & Partners, LLC has been recognized by US News and World Report as a Tier 1 Law Firm in multiple areas of civil litigation. (2015-2024) (Best Law Firms for Commercial, Real Estate and Plaintiff's Personal Injury, Litigation). The firm also has been recognized for legal excellence by Best Lawyers in America, South Florida Legal Guide, Chambers & Partners, Super Lawyers, Florida Trend Magazine and numerous other publications.

Career: For nearly 40 years, Founding Partner, Victor M. Diaz, Jr. has been ranked as one of South Florida's preeminent trial lawyers. Mr. Diaz has been recognized by numerous national and regional publications as one of the state's premier elite civil trial lawyers, Best Lawyers in America (2006-2024); South Florida Legal Guide (2005-2023); Florida Trend Magazine's Florida Legal Elite (2005-2023); Chambers And Partners Best Lawyers (2005-2024); Lawdragon's 500 Leading Plaintiff's Lawyers in America, and has been named one of America's Top 100 Bet-the-Company Litigators. Most recently, Mr. Diaz has been awarded the prestigious title of "Lawyer of the Year - Litigation" no less than four times in the past ten years: 2013 - South Florida Legal Guide; 2014 - Best Lawyers in America; 2019 - Best Lawyers in America; 2021 - Best Lawyers in America. Other awards include: Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award, Florida Supreme Court (2000) Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation (2003) Ocean Drive Magazine Power Players List (2007) South Florida Business Journal Key Partners Award Finalist (2007) Lifetime Achievement Award, South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (2006) City of Miami Beach's Citizen of the Year Award (2003) Theodore Gibson Foundation Humanitarian Award (2002) Community Heroes Award, City of Miami Beach (2002) Community Leadership Award, Points of Light Foundation (2000) Dade County Bar Association Pro Bono Service Award (2000) City of Miami Beach, Shining Light Award (1997) Mayor's Outstanding Citizen Service Award, City of Miami Beach (1997) Florida Preservation Award, Florida

Trust for Historic Preservation, (1995) Outstanding Service Award, Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. (1994)

Professional Memberships: Mr. Diaz's professional and civic activities have included serving as President of Greater Miami Legal Services, Inc. (1996-1997); Chairman of the Miami-Dade College Foundation (2000-2003); Vice Chairman of the Spanish American League Against Discrimination (1997-2001); Chairman of the City of Miami Beach Planning Board (2003-2007); Chairman of Miami Dade County Charter Review Task Force (2007); Member of the Executive Committee of the Yale Law School Alumni Association; and a Member of the Metro Dade County Cultural Affairs Council. Mr. Diaz has received numerous personal and professional honors for his professional accomplishments and his civic leadership. In 2000, the Florida Supreme Court awarded Mr. Diaz the "Tobias Simon Award," the State of Florida's highest recognition for public and pro bono service. Mr. Diaz's other awards recognizing his professional and civic accomplishments, include the Points of Light Foundation "National Community Leadership Award" (2000); the City of Miami Beach "Citizen of the Year Award" (2003); the Theodore Gibson Foundation "Lifetime Humanitarian Award" (2002); and the South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce "Lifetime Achievement Award" (2006). In 2003, Mr. Diaz was elected by his peers as a Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

DILLON, Sean M

Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson, LLP, Maitland 407 622 5250 sdillon@moopd.com

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Construction law and litigation. Has extensive experience representing US and international contractors, engineering firms, and design-builders throughout the USA, and internationally, in contract reviews, bid protests, complex claim preparation/defense, and all types of dispute proceedings (dispute review board, mediation, neutral evaluation, arbitration and litigation), with heavy emphasis on mega-projects exceeding \$1 billion.

Career: Board certified in construction law by The Florida Bar; Senior Partner of Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon, & Masterson, LLP; admitted to Florida Bar and Georgia Bar; US District Court, Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida; US Court of Appeals, Federal and Eleventh Circuits.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar; The State Bar of Georgia; American Bar Association (Member, Forum on Construction Law and Public Contract Law and Litigation Sections).

Publications: Co-Author, "Pricing Damages" Chapter, "Construction Disputes: Representing the Contractor" (2019); Author, "Primary Legal Concepts for Delay Claims" Co-Author, "Shattering the 'Windows Schedule Analysis"

Chapters for the Seminar Group's Construction Project Scheduling & Delay Claims course (2014); "Co-Author, "Construction Law" USA Chapter, The European Reference Series (2012); Co-Author, "Damages and Remedies in Construction Disputes" Chapter for The Florida Bar's Construction Law Certification Review Course (2013).

Personal: Bachelor of Science in Construction Management, University of Florida; Juris Doctor, University of Florida. Member of Florida Blue Key.

DILLWORTH, Drew M

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterton, P.A., Miami (305) 298-7161 ddillworth@stearnsweaver.com

Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Drew Dilworth's practice focuses on business restructuring and bankruptcy litigation. Drew represents parties in work-outs, debt restructuring, bankruptcy, insolvency and related commercial litigation matters. He is a court appointed fiduciary in bankruptcy proceedings, overseeing the wind-down of complex business enterprises.

Career: Drew Dilworth is a Shareholder and member of firm's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Drew is based out of Miami, Florida.

Professional Memberships:

Admitted to Florida, Illinois, U.S. Court of Appeals (11th Circuit), U.S. District Courts (Southern, Middle Districts of Florida), Northern District of Illinois. American Bankruptcy Institute; Bankruptcy Bar, Southern District of Florida, Panel of Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Trustees for the Southern District of Florida, Meritas Board of Directors and Finance Committee

DIXON, Sharon Quinn

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterton, P.A., Miami +1 305 789 3503 sdixon@stearnsweaver.com

Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Sharon Quinn Dixon practices in both the Tax and Labor & Employment departments. She has 40+ years' experience in the employee benefits field and counsels employers, including tax exempt entities, on employee benefit plans, including: the design, operation and compliance of tax qualified plans (401(k), 403(b), 457(b), pension, ESOP) health and welfare plan administration and compliance (Affordable Care Act, COBRA, Section 125 Plan issues) fiduciary issues in plan administration executive employment and nonqualified deferred compensation agreements and plans separation agreements and IRC §409A and §457 issues benefits and compensation issues in business mergers and acquisitions payroll tax issues. Sharon also has considerable experience assisting individuals with estate planning and wealth preservation needs.

Career: Sharon Quinn Dixon is a Shareholder of the Firm and is based in Miami, Florida. She received an LL.M. in Taxation and is Board Certified by the Florida Bar in Tax Law.

Professional Memberships:

American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, Fellow; American Bar Association, Tax Section, Employee Benefits Committee; Florida Bar, Tax and Real Property Probate and Trust Law Sections; Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami.

DOMBEY, Dana

McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Miami ddombey@mwe.com

Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Partner Dana Dombey focuses her practice on representing private equity funds, strategic investors, ambulatory surgery centers and physician practices in a variety of transactional and regulatory matters. Dana has assisted clients in connection with numerous transactions, including management and professional service arrangements, mergers and acquisitions, and joint ventures. She also regularly advises clients with respect to state licensure issues, compliance, Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, corporate practice of medicine laws, the Anti-Kickback Statute, the Stark law and other federal and state legal, regulatory and business issues affecting health care providers.

Dana has assisted clients in connection with numerous transactions, including management and professional service arrangements, mergers and acquisitions, and joint ventures. She also regularly advises clients with respect to state licensure issues, compliance, Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, corporate practice of medicine laws, the Anti-Kickback Statute, the Stark law and other federal and state legal, regulatory and business issues affecting health care providers. Previously, Dana served as a foreign law clerk for the Honorable Uzi Vogelman at the Supreme Court of Israel. While in law school, she served as a student attorney at the Harvard Transactional Law Clinics and as a law clerk at the University of Miami's Office of the General Counsel. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/dombey-dana/>

DOYLE, Jon F.

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Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jon F. Doyle advises multinational companies on cross-border equity-based compensation programs. He has particular experience advising businesses on the tax, securities, foreign exchange, labor, data privacy, and e-commerce issues they may encounter in each country where they offer stock option, stock purchase, restricted stock, phantom stock, stock appreciation right, cash bonus, venture capital, retirement and directed share plans to their employees, directors, and consultants. Mr. Doyle also represents clients on cross-border employment and data privacy matters.

Professional Memberships: ADMIS- SIONS - California, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, and New York.

EISENBERG, Susan Nadler

Cozen O'Connor, Miami (305) 704-5941 seisenberg@cozen.com

Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Susan has more than 30 years of experience representing employers in all aspects of employment matters and is widely recognized as one of the leading employment lawyers in Florida. She is a recognized trial attorney, having handled single plaintiff and class/collective actions in state and federal courts as well as arbitration.

Susan is also widely known for her expertise with wage and hour issues and, for many years, was one of the authors of the premier treatise titled *The Fair Labor Standards Act* and is a founding member of the Wage and Hour Defense Institute. Susan also advises clients on employment law compliance, discipline, terminations, reductions in force, and wage and hour audits. She is Florida Bar Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law, a Fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, an arbitrator, and a Certified Circuit Mediator. For almost 20 years, Susan has served as a neutral mediator and arbitrator in single plaintiff and class actions. Susan has previously served as the office managing partner of Cozen O'Connor's Miami offices. In 2020 and 2023, she was named a "Lawyer of the Year" for labor & employment litigation by Best Lawyers.

ELDRED, Carl

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Tallahassee

Featured in Environment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Carl Eldred has over 20 years of experience counseling utility, industrial, chemical manufacturing, and developer clients on solid and hazardous waste compliance, waste cleanup and recycling, hazardous substance and pollutant releases, and alternative fuels. He routinely advises clients on the remediation and redevelopment of large-scale contaminated properties, including the use of risk-based corrective action and brownfield incentives and grant programs. Carl has represented clients on matters at federal, state and local levels, including representation before the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Justice and Florida Department of Environmental Protection and is highly skilled in defending agency enforcement actions.

ENJAMIO, Juan

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Miami
305-810-2511

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Juan is managing partner of the firm's Miami office. Juan regularly represents domestic and international clients in discrimination and harassment lawsuits, wage and hour collective actions, ERISA litigation and enforcement of non-competition agreements, and counsels domestic and international clients on employment, labor and commercial issues. Juan has conducted internal investigations related to allegations filed against company executives. He performs confidential investigations for clients across numerous national and multi-national in-

dustries including banking and finance and media and entertainment. Juan has led cutting edge representation in high-profile and novel class action litigation involving the intersection of immigration and civil rights laws. He has extensive experience in international litigation and defense of class actions, especially in employment cases. Juan is a thought leader locally in Southern Florida and nationwide, presenting, speaking and writing on current labor and employment legal topics and class action litigation.

Personal: JD, University of Miami School of Law, cum laude, 1986 BS, University of Florida, with high honors, 1982

EVANS, David L

BakerHostetler LLP, Washington, DC
devans@bakerlaw.com

Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: David Evans practices real estate and business law, and routinely represents clients in Florida and throughout the U.S. in complex real estate transactions, including acquisitions, sales, development, leasing, operation and land use matters. David maintains a special emphasis on home builder and master developer representation (including the preparation and negotiation of complex restrictive covenants for mixed use and other developments), and on office, industrial, retail and restaurant leasing.

FELMAN, David S

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Corporate & Transactional; Mergers & Acquisitions; Securities & Corporate Governance; Joint Ventures & Partnerships; Venture Capital & Private Equity

Career: Dave Felman has practiced banking, corporate, and securities law in Tampa and New York City. His practice principally involves mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings, venture capital investments, and representation of public and emerging growth companies. He acts as counsel to many institutional growth equity and private equity investors, including Ballast Point Venture Partners, HealthEdge Investment Partners, Supply Chain Equity Partners, Topmark Partners, Lovett Miller & Co., and Vinik Family Office. Dave is recognized as a top-tier merger and acquisitions lawyer, acting on both the buy-side and the sell-side, and for both strategic and private equity clients. He often collaborates on deals with major investment banking firms, including recently Raymond James, William Blair, and Robert W. Baird. He regularly advises boards of directors, audit committees and special committees regarding corporate governance matters. Dave serves as a faculty member of the annual Federal Securities Institute, a two-day program in Miami, and speaks at seminars throughout the United States

regarding securities offerings, private equity capital raising transactions, and mergers and acquisitions. He is founder and the principal organizer of The Florida Directors' Institute, an annual full-day program on corporate governance for public company directors. He is past chair and on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Florida Venture Forum. He chaired The Florida Bar's Business Law Section, its Corporations and Securities Law Committee, and committees responsible for drafting laws governing Florida corporations and guidelines for legal opinions.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association: Federal Regulation of Securities Committee; Private Equity and Venture Capital Committee The Florida Bar: Business Law Section, Former Chair, Executive Council Member

Florida Venture Forum: Board of Directors, Chairman (2013-2014), Executive Committee Florida Directors Institute: Founder, Principal organizer Florida Bar Business Law Section: Section Chair (2000-2001), Chair, Corporations and Securities Law Committee (1992-1994), Chair, Opinions Committee (1998-2000)

FELS, Adam

Fridman Fels & Soto, PLLC, Coral Gables
305 569 7746
afels@ffslawfirm.com

Practice Areas: His practice focuses on international money laundering cases, white-collar criminal defense, and complex internal investigations.

Career: Mr. Fels previously served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of Florida for thirteen years, specializing in international money laundering, counternarcotics, and counterterrorism prosecutions. He also served as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in both the Southern District of New York and the Eastern District of New York. Mr. Fels was one of the lead prosecutors and delivered the opening statement in the Government's successful prosecution of Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzmán, one of the largest drug kingpins ever tried in the United States. The members of the prosecution team, including Mr. Fels, were honored with the 2019 U.S. Department of Justice Attorney General's Award for Exceptional Service, the Department's highest award for employee performance.

FENDER, Brian

GrayRobinson, PA, Tampa
brian.fender@gray-robinson.com

Featured in Public Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Public Finance

Career: Brian is a shareholder and director of GrayRobinson and he leads the firm's Public Finance Team. Brian has represented a variety of clients including aviation authorities, banks and other direct purchasers of municipal debt, bond holders, charter schools, cities, counties, expressway authorities, government financing pools and programs, hospitals and other health care facilities, housing authorities, investment banks, open and closed investment funds, placement agents,

port authorities, school boards, special districts, sports authorities, state programs, tax-exempt organizations, trustees, utilities, water support authorities, universities, and various special districts. Over the course of his career, Brian has been involved in more than 800 public finance transactions and has represented clients in the issuance of more than \$45 billion of tax-exempt and taxable debt. Brian has been rated AV Preeminent® by Martindale-Hubbell and recognized for his work in public finance by Chambers USA, Super Lawyers and Florida Trend's "Legal Elite."

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association The Florida Bar Hillsborough County Bar Association

National Association of Bond Lawyers

FERNANDEZ, Andres A

Holland & Knight LLP, Miami
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Banking Law | Financial Services | Anti-Money Laundering | Cuba Action Team | Latin America Practice | Risk and Crisis Management | Consumer Protection Defense and Compliance | International Financial Regulations | Financial Services Regulations

Career: Andres "Andy" Fernandez is a partner in Holland & Knight's Miami office, co-leader of the firm's Financial Services Regulatory Team, and leader of the firm's Cuba Action Team. He practices in the area of banking law and financial services, with a focus on licensing, regulatory and compliance matters. With an emphasis on issues pertaining to the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA), anti-money laundering (AML) and Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), including recent sanctions issued under the Magnitsky Act, Mr. Fernandez counsels a broad range of clients such as domestic community banks, foreign banks, broker dealers and money service businesses (including virtual/digital currency). His fluency in Spanish helps clients in the United States as well as Central and South America. Mr. Fernandez has represented financial institutions in such diverse matters as the establishment of U.S. offices and branches of foreign banks, the de novo formation of financial institutions, the resolution of regulatory enforcement actions against financial institutions, the representation of financial institutions before various regulatory or enforcement agencies as well as the resolution of potential civil and criminal monetary penalties, fines and forfeitures before U.S. regulators (Federal Reserve, OCC, FDIC, FINRA and the SEC), FinCEN, OFAC and the U.S. Department of Justice. He began his legal career as a public defender in Miami-Dade County, Florida, where he tried numerous jury trials to verdict. With this background, he was able to expand his practice into areas of commercial litigation at a boutique law firm, and then rise as the co-chair of the banking and financial services practice at another Florida-based law

firm. Beyond his active legal practice, Mr. Fernandez is an avid public speaker at regional and international banking conferences and training seminars. He also serves as an adjunct professor at the Florida International University College of Law teaching a course on BSA, AML and OFAC.

Professional Memberships:

Center for Financial Training, Board of Directors Florida International Bankers Association (FIBA), Board of Directors; Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, 2021-2022 U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Bank Secrecy Act Advisory Group, Member South Florida Banking Institute, Board of Directors, President Cuban American Bar Association The Mike Lowell Foundation, General Counsel Latin Builders Association, Honorary Director, 2009-2013

FERRER, Barbara

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Barbara has extensive experience in real estate, with a focus on development work. She represents buyers, sellers, lenders and developers in connection with the acquisition, financing, development, construction and disposition of various large-scale commercial real estate projects. She also represents institutional lenders in all aspects of real estate-secured and asset-based loans, including construction loans, factoring arrangements, public-private financing, low income housing tax credits (LIHTC) and affordable housing equity, and debt financing.

Career: Barbara J. Ferrer is a Shareholder in the Firm's Real Estate Department and Banking and Finance group. Barbara is also serving as national outside general counsel for AHS Residential d/b/a ReSia.

Professional Memberships:

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, 2015-Present Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, Fellows Program, 2015 Latin Builders Association, 2012-Present Cuban American Bar Association (CABA), 1999-Present Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Miami, 1999-Present The Florida Bar, Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section, 1997-Present

FINEBERG, Justin

LashGoldberg, Miami
jfineberg@lashgoldberg.com

Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Justin C. Fineberg's practice includes complex commercial litigation, health care litigation and employment litigation, as well as select commercial transactions. Mr. Fineberg's experience includes litigating matters in contract, tort and under state and federal statutes. He also litigates high profile employment disputes, successfully defending corporate clients against wrongful termination, discrimination, retaliatory discharge

and whistleblower claims. Mr. Fineberg also represents public and private corporations and individuals in commercial transactions. His practice also includes representing educational institutions and, in particular, companies focused on the development and delivery of online education. Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution Complex Commercial Litigation Corporate, Partnership & Shareholder Disputes Employment Litigation Health Care Litigation Real Estate Litigation

Career: Mr. Fineberg's law career started with a two-year clerkship for Justice Charles T. Wells of the Florida Supreme Court. He has nearly 25 years of experience litigating complex commercial disputes. This includes serving as co-lead counsel in numerous cases which have proceeded to verdict, obtained several multi-million dollar judgments and awards, and successfully defended various business interests against multi-million dollar claims. He has litigated and arbitrated cases throughout the United States, including Florida, Georgia, Illinois and North Carolina.

FIORE, Kristen

Akerman LLP, Tallahassee
kristen.fiore@akerman.com

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Kristen Fiore is a seasoned, board certified appellate attorney, who has handled hundreds of complex commercial appeals and orally argued dozens of those cases, including appeals in all six Florida District Courts of Appeal, the Florida Supreme Court, and the United States Courts of Appeal for the Second, Fifth, Seventh, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits. She routinely assists clients with both trial preservation, key arguments and constitutional and appellate issues in a wide variety of areas of the law, including administrative, cannabis, gaming, financial, healthcare, hospitality, insurance, labor and employment, and tax. She currently serves on the Florida Appellate Court Rules Committee and is a frequent speaker on appellate topics, most recently presenting on the Jurisdiction of the Florida Supreme Court and Ensuring Completion of the Record on Appeal.

FISCHER, Dianne O

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: DIANNE FISCHER is a 30-year commercial litigator focusing on class actions, multidistrict litigation, arbitration, and corporate investigations. Dee Dee represents primarily large institutional clients in industries that include healthcare, technology, insurance, fintech, and private equity. Dee Dee's experience includes the Video Privacy Protection Act (VPPA), Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act, the Lanham Act, Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act (FDUTPA), the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA), and federal antitrust laws.

She represents corporations and their officers and directors in key litigation matters, including fiduciary duty claims, improper dividend claims, trade secret matters and disputes involving covenants not to compete.

FLANAGAN, Patricia M

Shutts & Bowen LLP, West Palm Beach
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-Patricia-M-Flanagan>

FORNARIS, Carl A

Winston & Strawn LLP, Miami

Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Carl Fornaris is co-chair of the Financial Services Practice and co-chair of the Digital Assets and Blockchain Technology Group. He represents his clients on formation and licensing, capital-raising transactions, acquisitions and divestitures, USA PATRIOT Act/BSA/AML compliance (including Corporate Transparency Act compliance), OFAC sanctions programs, cryptocurrency regulation, payments and FinTech, federal and state agency enforcement proceedings, Dodd-Frank Act compliance, and Small Business Administration PPP loans). Throughout his career, he has counseled clients in their dealings with the Federal Reserve, OCC, FDIC, FinCEN, SEC, FINRA, Florida Office of Financial Regulation, New York Department of Financial Services, and other state supervisory authorities. Carl also represents lenders and credit parties in financing transactions, particularly credits to non-U.S. loan parties, asset-based credits, acquisition financing, and stand-by letters of credit. Carl is also a member of the Bank Receivership Task Force, created in March of 2023. Previously, Carl served as head of legal and compliance for the Latin America region of Barclays Bank PLC, with responsibility for managing legal and compliance matters throughout the region.

Career: With over 30 years of legal experience, Carl advises a broad range of financial services firms, including banks and their holding companies, money services businesses, investment advisers, securities broker dealers, gaming firms, FinTechs, cryptocurrency firms, and other institutions on all aspects of their business.

Professional Memberships:

-Board of Directors, Florida International Bankers Association -Board of Directors, South Florida Banking Institute -Adjunct professor, Business Law Department, University of Miami Business School

Publications: -"Lenders Must Look To The Law as Fla. Joins Disclosure Trend", Law360, Co-author, August 11, 2023
- "State Street sees opportunity in court win for spot bitcoin ETF", Techtelegraph, Quoted, September 5, 2023

Personal: - The Best Lawyers in America®, Banking and Finance Law; Corporate Law; Financial Services Regulation Law; Securities / Capital Markets Law; Securities Regulation; and

FinTech Practice, 2008-2024 - "Lawyer of the Year," Financial Services Regulation Law, Miami, 2022 - "Lawyer of the Year," Securities Regulation, Miami, 2014, 2021, and 2023 - Chambers USA, Banking & Finance Regulatory -Florida; Banking & Finance: Transactional -Florida (2005-2023) - Top Rated Lawyer, Super Lawyers -Florida, 2007 - 2015, 2021-2024 - Recognized in The Legal 500 Latin America International Firms for Banking & Finance and City-Focus Miami (2024) - The Legal 500 US, "Media, Technology and Telecoms -FinTech," 2020-2021 - Notable Practitioner, Chambers and Partners 2019 FinTech Guide, 2019 -South Florida Legal Guide, "Top Lawyer," 2011-2021 - Team Member, "Corporate/M&A -Law Firm of the Year," Chambers Latin America Awards, 2014 - Team Member, Corporate Board Member magazine and FTI Consulting Inc., one of "America's Best Corporate Law Firms," 13 Annual Legal Industry Study, 2013 - Team Member, "Corporate & Finance -International Counsel in Latin America (Florida-Based)," Chambers Latin America Awards, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2016 - Team Member, top corporate law firm in Miami as selected by corporate directors, in the annual "Legal Industry Research Study," Corporate Board Member magazine and FTI Consulting Inc. (10 year), 2002-2009, 2011-2012 -Chambers Global, 2009-2011 -Chambers Latin America, Corporate M&A, 2009 -Team Member, "Focus on Latin America -Law Firm of the Year (Florida-Based)," Chambers Latin America Inaugural Awards for Excellence, 2009 -Who's Who Legal Florida, 2008 -Florida Trend magazine, "Legal Elite," 2006-2008 -Recipient, "Pro Bono Service Award," Dade County Bar Association, 2005

FRAZIER, S Katherine

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Real Estate Acquisition & Development; Real Estate Finance; Commercial Leasing; Automotive Real Estate & Finance

Career: Katherine's real estate and business practice focuses on representing local, regional, and national clients in connection with their commercial transactions here in Florida including, but not limited to, land acquisition and development, entity formation, leasing, financing, survey, and title insurance matters. Katherine actively represents automobile dealerships, with a particular emphasis on dealership acquisitions and dispositions and related real property transactions. Katherine has represented a NYSE dealership group as lead real estate counsel in multiple portfolio acquisitions over the years including a portfolio of over 70 dealership properties. She serves on the Executive Committee and Executive Council of the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar.

Professional Memberships: American College of Real Estate Lawyers; Fellow Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Tampa Bay; Executive Council; Economic Summit Committee The Florida Bar; Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section, Chair (2023-2024); Executive Committee Member (2013-Present) Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Real Estate American Bar Association: Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section

FRAZIER, Seann M.

Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs LLP, Tallahassee
sfrrazier@phrd.com

Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Healthcare Professional Services Administrative Litigation Appellate Litigation Healthcare Litigation Healthcare Regulatory, Reimbursement & Compliance Regulated Industry Advocacy, Licensing & Certifications

Career: Seann Frazier knows the way through the morass of state regulation in Florida. Over the course of his 25-year career he has guided clients through all manner of regulatory and litigation matters involving Florida state government. His creativity and encyclopedic knowledge of Florida administrative law positions his clients exceedingly well in their dealings with the state.

Publications: Presenter: "Evidentiary Issues In Cases Involving the APA," The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, Spring 2021 Co-Presenter: "Legal Cannabis and the Health Care Industry," Meritas® Capability Webinar, November 2019 Speaker: "Florida Administrative Practice Act—Remedies and Principles," Advanced Topics Seminar, Florida Bar Health Law Section, May 31, 2019 Speaker: "Introduction to the Administrative Procedures Act," Basic Administrative Law Seminar, Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, November 2, 2018 Speaker: "2018 Long Term Care and the Law: When Hurricane Irma Hit Florida: A Natural Disaster Begets a Regulatory Emergency," American Health Lawyers Association seminar, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 2018 Speaker: "What is the APA and Why Should I Care," Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, Program Chair, 2006, 2008, 2018

FREEMAN, Meredith

Shutts & Bowen LLP, Miami
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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-meredith-a-freeman>

FRIDMAN, Daniel

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Practice Areas: Dan has led some of the largest corporate investigations in Latin America, including:--An accounting fraud investigation in Brazil of a U.S.-listed public company that resulted in a \$100 million restatement of financial results. The Securities and Exchange Commission closed its investigation without taking any enforcement

action.--A Foreign Corrupt Practices Act internal investigation of a Brazilian multinational company involving the payment of over \$120 million in bribes to Brazilian politicians.--A Foreign Corrupt Practices Act internal investigation of a major Argentine company implicated in the chauffeur's notebooks "cuadernos" bribery scandal. He also focuses his practice on representing companies and individuals facing criminal or civil cases brought by the U.S. Department of Justice, including False Claims Act cases and Anti-Kickback Statute investigations.

Career: He is a former Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General of the United States and was Special Counsel for Health Care Fraud at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC. He advised the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General in the George W. Bush Administration on national healthcare fraud enforcement policy, and he testified before the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives committees on law enforcement issues.

FUHRMAN, Troy A.

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Products Liability; Consumer Products Liability Litigation; Class Action & Complex Mass Tort; Drug & Medical Device; Tobacco & Vapor; Litigation

Career: Over the past 25 years, Troy Fuhrman has defended national and international clients in high stakes product liability and mass tort litigation at all levels of state and federal court. Troy's practice focuses on representing clients in the pharmaceutical, technology, commercial, and consumer product manufacturing sectors. Troy recently served as lead counsel for an international corporation regarding an industry-wide constitutional challenge presented to the Florida Supreme Court, and he leads the firm's Tobacco Litigation Group. In this capacity, he serves as both Trial and Case Managing Counsel for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in over one thousand cases pending in the state. Troy has also served as court-appointed Liaison Counsel for tobacco litigants throughout the state.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association The Florida Bar Hillsborough County Bar Association

FULTON, Robert

Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa
Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Automotive; Products Liability; Consumer Products Liability Litigation; Industrial & Commercial Product Liability; Drug & Medical Device; Personal Injury; Automotive Liability Litigation; Litigation

Career: Bob Fulton defends companies in products liability, catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death claims. Throughout his career, Bob has defended national and international clients in numerous automotive, trucking, consumer products and power

tool products liability cases throughout Florida and in several other states. He also has represented retailers and home builders in premises liability matters.

Professional Memberships: Product Liability Advisory Council Defense Research Institute Florida Defense Lawyers Association Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel Litigation Counsel of America: Senior Fellow Network of Trial Law Firms

GABRIELLE, Eric K.

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Eric Gabrielle specializes in litigation of employment law issues in Florida federal and state courts, and counsels employers regarding compliance with all federal, state and local laws and regulations governing employment relationships and the drafting and judicial enforcement of restrictive covenants (non-compete agreements). He represents business enterprises of all sizes, including commercial businesses, law firms, non-profit entities, institutions of higher education, and professional sports franchises and arts organizations.

Career: Eric Gabrielle is a Shareholder of the firm. He is Florida Bar Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law. He is based out of South Florida.

Professional Memberships: The Academy of Florida Management Attorneys, President (2021-2022); Director (2018-2023); Federal Bar Association, Broward County Chapter, President, 2009-2010; Broward County Bar Association, Chair of Employment Law Section, 2003-2004; National Association of College and University Attorneys, 2017-Present. Director, Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. (2014-present); Florida Bar Education Law Committee (2017-2022); Florida Bar Labor and Employment Certification Committee (2011-2017, 2021-present).

Publications: Eric is a frequent lecturer on labor/employment law topics and is a guest lecturer for a graduate higher education law program.

GALE, James A.

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jim has been practicing intellectual property law and litigation for 41 years, both as an outside lawyer in international law firms and as general counsel for an international Class III medical device company. He was the inaugural chair of Florida's IP Board Certification Program. He has appeared in over 400 federal cases in over 48 different district and circuit courts. He has handled well over 400 injunctions in state and federal courts in over 35 different states in patent, trademark, trade secret, restrictive covenant, and employee "raiding" cases. In addition to multi-million dollar jury verdicts, and defense verdicts in "bet the

company" litigation, he obtained a \$2.3 billion judgment against a company that misappropriated his client's trade secret technology. Jim also taught Trade Secret Law as an Adjunct Professor of Law at both the University of Miami and the University of New Hampshire, Franklin Pierce School of Law.

Career: Co-Chair, IP Litigation Department. Registered patent attorney.

Professional Memberships: Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America. Board Certified in Intellectual Property by the Florida Bar. Appointed to the 11th Circuit Defend Trade Secrets Jury Instruction Panel.

GARCIA, Maria D.

Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, Miami

Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Health Care Law, Complex Commercial Litigation, Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Health Care Transactions

Career: Partner and Chair of the Health Care Practice. She has extensive expertise in health care law and commercial litigation. Maria has led multiple multi-million-dollar managed care litigation matters in arbitration and state and federal courts. As a legal adviser and advocate, she is proud of assisting clients with reaching successful outcomes and monetary recoveries in these cases. Maria also advises clients on issues regarding strategic business expansion and formation, managed care agreements and disputes, and federal and state regulatory compliance. She represents health care systems, individual hospitals, physician practices, ambulatory surgery centers, and ancillary service providers. Maria is a recognized speaker on health care law developments and reimbursement transactions. She has also authored various articles on managed care and health care law issues. Maria's work as a health care attorney has been recognized for multiple years by Super Lawyers Magazine and the South Florida Legal Guide, who has named her a "Top Lawyer" in healthcare. Florida Trend Magazine has named her as one of the 500 Most Influential Business Leaders in the State of Florida. Maria has taught as an adjunct professor at the Florida International University College of Law focusing on health care law and Medicare and Medicaid compliance and reimbursement issues.

Professional Memberships: Florida Board of Medicine Board Member, Florida Bar Health Law Section Legislative Committee Member, Cuban-American Bar Association (CABA), Pro Bono Legal Services Board of Directors Member

Publications: • "CMS Finalizes New Rule Addressing Telehealth Benefits in Medicare Advantage Health Plans," Florida Bar Health Law Updates, May 2019. • "Recent Trends in Managed Care Disputes" Presentation to Florida Hospital Association (FHA), Co-Author, 2017. • "Florida's New PPO Balance Billing Prohibition: Outlook for Providers and Patients," South Florida Legal Guide 2017 Edition. • "2016 Managed Care Up-

date" Presentation to Florida Hospital Association (FHA), Co-Author, 2016. • "The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) Releases List of Recent Licensure Actions Against Medical Providers." Florida Bar Health Law Updates, May-June 2014. • "Florida Department of Health (DOH) Professional License Renewal Process Now Includes Continued Education Review," Florida Bar Health Law Updates, February 2014. • "Consulting and Royalty Agreements with Physicians: A Look at this Business Relationship in Light of the Federal Anti-Kickback Statute," South Florida Legal Guide Midyear Edition 2012.

GASSENHEIMER, James D
Berger Singerman, Miami
305.714.4383
jgassenheimer@bergersingerman.com

Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: James Gassenheimer, a partner on Berger Singerman's Dispute Resolution and Business Reorganization Teams, where he is recognized as a leading trusted advisor to the firm's high-net-worth individuals in the hospitality and real estate development spaces as well as counsel to many private family offices. He brings a wealth of expertise from his more than 30 years of extensive jury and non-jury trial experience in State, Federal, Bankruptcy court and domestic and international arbitrations. His practice focuses on a broad range of commercial litigation matters including shareholder disputes, fiduciary related litigation, real estate related litigation, business torts, bankruptcy litigation and insurance coverage. He has been board certified as a civil trial lawyer by The Florida Bar and the National Board of Trial Advocacy for over 20 years and has served as Chair of the Civil Trial Certification Committee of The Florida Bar. James is a member of the Executive Counsel of the Trial Lawyer's Section of The Florida Bar and will serve as its Secretary and Treasurer this coming year. He is also an instructor at The Florida Bar Advance Trial Advocacy program.

Professional Memberships: –Chair of the 2022 Teachers Law Symposium sponsored by the Trial Lawyers' section of The Florida Bar –The Florida Bar Civil Trial Law Certification Committee, 2017 to present –Member, Executive Council of the Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar, 2017 to present –Miami-Dade Trial Lawyers Association –The Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida –The Federal Bar Association –The Dade County Bar Association

Publications: –Gassenheimer, J. D. (2019, March 7). Courts Continue to Tighten the Reins on Expert Witness Testimony. *South Florida Legal Guide.* <http://sflegalguide.com/berger-singerman.html> –Gassenheimer, J. D., & Levy Kushner, N. (2020, March 24). Florida Private Trials An Attractive Option During COVID-19. *Law360.* <https://www.law360.com/articles/1256511-Gas->

senheimer, J. D., & Perry, C. M. (2021). (publication). *The Edge. Trial Lawyers Section of the Florida Bar.* Retrieved from https://floridatls.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/TrialLawyers_TheEdge_Summer2021-v3.pdf.

GAYO-GUITIAN, Mariaelena

Venable LLP, Miami
mguitian@venable.com

Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mariaelena Gayo-Guitian focuses on complex commercial bankruptcy, financial restructuring, insolvency matters, business reorganization, and creditors' rights. Mariaelena regularly represents Chapter 11 debtors in possession (DIP), trustees, and restructuring professionals in large complex cases throughout Florida. She has extensive experience handling adversary matters involving bankruptcy claims, fraud claims, professional negligence, and bankruptcy avoidance actions. She has also represented trustees and creditors in bankruptcy cases under Chapters 7 and 11. As a complement to her bankruptcy practice, Mariaelena also has developed substantial experience in the representation of both assignors and assignees in assignment for the benefit of creditors in state court proceedings.

GELFMAN, Jamie

McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Miami
305-507-2306
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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jamie Gelfman is board certified in health law by the Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization and Education and is certified in healthcare compliance (CHC) by the Society of Corporate Compliance and the Health Care Compliance Association. Jamie works with healthcare clients on the full scope of legal issues that shape their business strategies. She is deeply experienced in regulatory, compliance, reimbursement and licensure matters, with particular experience in the administration of Medicare and Medicaid programs, fraud and abuse, privacy and security, and scope of practice issues. With more than a decade of healthcare legal experience based in Florida, Jamie is a valuable partner for healthcare companies doing business in or working to expand operations in the state. Read full biography here: <https://www.mwe.com/people/jamie-b-gelfman/>

GENET, Solomon

Meland Budwick, P.A., Miami
305 358 6363
sgenet@melandbudwick.com

Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida)

Practice Areas: Commercial Litigation, Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Financial Fraud, Receivables and Assignments, and Creditor's Rights

Career: Solomon B. Genet, a partner with Meland Budwick, P.A. and general counsel for the firm, focuses his practice on commercial litigation, corporate insolvency and bankruptcy, and financial fraud matters.

Professional Memberships:

• Board of Directors member, Lehrman Community Day School • Mentor, Kozyak Minority Mentoring Foundation • Former Board member, Bass Art Museum • Former Vice Chair of the Miami Beach Cultural Arts Council • Founding member of the Miami-Dade County Mortgage Fraud Task Force • Former Member, Bankruptcy Court Local Rules Committee • Former Chair, Greater Miami Jewish Federation Real Estate Speaker Series **Publications:** "Your Contingency Fee May Be at Risk if Your Client Files for Bankruptcy," *Daily Business Review*, October 18, 2017. "HOAs in Florida: Issues and Analysis for the Real Estate Developer," *ActionLine*, the Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section publication (*ActionLine*), Summer 2008. "Heter Iska; Does it Make a Loan not a Loan? An Introduction for Lenders and Borrowers," *ActionLine*, Summer 2007. "Closing Protection Letters in Florida: A Title Underwriter's Liability to the Commercial Lender," *ActionLine*, Winter 2006. "The Bankruptcy/Divorce Conflict: How Courts Have Used Constructive Trusts to Remedy An Inequitable Situation," Annual Survey of Bankruptcy Law, 2001-02 Ed. "2nd Circuit Review," *Norton Bankruptcy Advisor*, March 2000.

GENOVESE, John H

Venable LLP, Miami
JHGenovese@Venable.com

Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida)

Practice Areas: John Genovese focuses his practice on troubled loan workouts, bankruptcy litigation in Bankruptcy and U.S. District Courts, insurance insolvencies, and other complex commercial litigation. John acted as co-counsel for the class action shareholders/noteholders in the Enron Chapter 11 proceeding and related matters, which resulted in settlements in excess of \$7.2 billion, the nation's largest securities class action recovery. He also served as special litigation counsel to the Chapter 11 Trustee of Rothstein Rosenfeldt Adler, P.A., reported to be the fourth-largest Ponzi scheme ever in bankruptcy, settling litigation matters for more than \$100 million.

GENTILE, Melinda S

Peckar & Abramson, P.C., Miami
305 358 2600
mgentile@pecklaw.com

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Construction & Infrastructure Contracts, Project Documentation and Risk Management Construction Dispute Resolution Business Litigation Government Contracts

Career: Melinda S. ("Mindy") Gentile is Of Counsel in P&A's Miami office, and serves as co-chair of the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee. Leveraging her more than 35 years' experience as an esteemed construction lawyer and commercial litigator, she now dedicates her practice to focus solely on alternative dispute resolution (ADR). Mindy is an exceptionally qualified Arbitrator, Mediator, Neutral Evaluator,

Dispute Board Member, Special Master, Fee Expert, and Private Resolution Judge. Mindy's full-time practice involves assisting parties in resolving disputes relating to the development, design, and construction of private or public projects and other general commercial disputes. Her insightful and practical approach, coupled with her deep understanding of the construction process and risk assessment, enables Mindy to bring thoughtful, creative, and effective dispute resolution services to each engagement. She has a unique tenacity and tireless commitment to the process of resolving disputes that enables her to provide an extraordinary level of service. An exceptional communicator with well-honed negotiation skills, Mindy effectively designs dispute resolution strategies to build consensus and assist parties in achieving success through voluntary resolution. Mindy is highly proficient in virtual platform-based dispute resolution processes. While serving clients previously as a construction litigator and advisor, Mindy's experience included preparing and negotiating bid and project documents, advising through the project administration phase, and handling matters ranging from government procurement and bid protests to contract disputes, and from construction liens to defect, impact, bond, and insurance claims. As she does now, Mindy has always recognized the importance of early identification and resolution of disputes –actively assisting her clients in avoiding litigation wherever possible. When dispute resolution could not be accomplished, Mindy vigorously represented her clients in varied complex litigation proceedings. She successfully handled a variety of matters before state and federal courts, and in arbitration, mediation, administrative proceedings, and private negotiations. Coupled with her deep commitment to dispute resolution is Mindy's dedication to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the construction industry and in construction law. As co-creator of the annual Groundbreaking Women in Construction (GWIC) conference along with P&A Founding Partner Robert Peckar, Mindy champions national efforts toward removing barriers and promoting women and other diverse individuals in the construction industry and the construction bar. Mindy serves as co-chair of P&A's Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee, where she leads a firmwide committee of existing and emerging leaders as they build on the firm's solid culture to create an even stronger future, both at P&A and outside the firm. Mindy was shortlisted for Outstanding Contribution at the Chambers Diversity & Inclusion Awards: North America 2021 for her efforts in furthering the advancement of diversity and inclusion. Mindy is certified by the Supreme Court of Florida as a Circuit Civil Mediator and is a Florida Supreme Court Qualified Arbitrator. She is certified as a Specialist in Construction Law by the Florida Bar, and served on the inaugural Construction Law Cer-

tification Committee, which prepared the first exam for lawyers seeking certification as an expert in construction law in the State of Florida. She has also served as a Broward County Magistrate. Mindy was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Bar, Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section, Construction Law Committee and was recently named to City & State Florida's Construction Power 100 list. She has written and spoken extensively on construction, ADR, diversity, and ethics-related topics.

Professional Memberships: Florida Bar (Construction Law Committee and ADR Committee) American Bar Association, Forum on Construction Law Florida Academy of Professional Mediators Broward County Bar Association (Construction Law Committee) Miami-Dade County Bar Association The National Association of Women in Construction The Construction Association of South Florida Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.

GILBERT, Eric
McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Miami
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egilbert@mwe.com

Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Partner Eric Gilbert focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions, private equity transactions, joint ventures and general corporate matters. He routinely represents private equity clients in all aspects of their investments from acquisition through portfolio management/growth until their exit. Eric has handled many complex transactions during his representation of privately held companies and private equity funds, including leveraged buyouts, mergers and acquisitions, corporate carve-outs, debt and equity investments, and joint ventures. He regularly provides counsel regarding day to day operations including assistance with employment issues, equity incentives and other items that come up, in the life of an investment. Eric has worked on transactions in a wide variety of industries, including technology, consumer goods, real estate, agriculture, hospitality and health care. He is a results-driven practitioner who understands the value in being a deal facilitator and offering creative solutions to help resolve complex issues to close transactions without creating unnecessary complexity and/or friction. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/gilbert-eric/>

Professional Memberships: Admitted to practice in Florida
Personal: Education: Boston University School of Law, JD, 2006 University of Florida, BA, Economics, 2003 University of Florida, BA, Finance, 2003

GOLDBERG, Martin B
LashGoldberg, Miami
305-347-4040
mgoldberg@lashgoldberg.com

Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Martin Goldberg is a trial lawyer who has more than 30 years

of experience representing Fortune 100 and other clients in high stakes litigation and appeals in Florida and throughout the country. Mr. Goldberg leads a wide array of representations, including complex civil litigation, government enforcement and criminal investigations, class action defense, sports and media, and employment disputes. A portion of his practice has long been dedicated to the healthcare industry. He is licensed to practice in Florida, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Federal Courts.

Mr. Goldberg's recent cases include arguing before the Florida Supreme Court, where he obtained a unanimous decision holding that State of Florida Healthcare Special Districts cannot operate medical facilities outside their legislatively demarcated boundaries. He also worked to secure victories before the federal District Court and Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in 2019 for a national healthcare company in a False Claims Act case which held that an FCA relator's Stark Law and Anti-Kickback claims failed for reasons including the lack of a non-fair-market-value transaction. Alternative Dispute Resolution Appellate Advocacy Class Actions Complex Commercial Litigation Employment Litigation Government Investigations, False Claims Act and White Collar Criminal Defense Health Care Operations Health Care Litigation

GONZALEZ, Daniel
Meland Budwick, P.A., Miami
305 358-1221
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Commercial Litigation, Real Estate and Transactional Matters, Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Receivership and Assignments, Creditors' Rights
Career: Daniel N. Gonzalez concentrates his practice on complex litigation, insolvency matters, financial restructuring and reorganization, creditors' rights, bankruptcy related litigation, bankruptcy trustee/fiduciary representation, and asset transactions in liquidation proceedings (representing both purchasers and sellers). In addition, Dan acts as outside general counsel to companies and high net worth individuals with respect to their litigation and transactional matters.

Professional Memberships: • Member, Eleventh Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "I" • President, Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, 2012-2013 • Miami Chair, Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, Pro Bono Committee, 2008-2010 • Member, Cuban American Bar Association • Co-Chair and Steering Committee Member, University of Miami Bankruptcy Skills Workshop • Member, Dade County Bar Association • Member, Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) • Member, American Bankruptcy Institute

GONZALEZ, Thomas M
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Labor and Employment Education Litigation
Career: Tom is a shareholder in the firm's Tampa office with more than four decades of experience in the private practice of law. He represents management clients throughout the state of Florida in matters of labor relations, equal opportunity law, wage and hour law, and all employment and personnel related matters. He has tried cases in state and federal courts in several districts of Florida and other states. He has also argued before the state appellate courts and the Fifth, Sixth, Eleventh, and D.C. District Courts of Appeals. Tom's experience includes matters involving race, age, religious, national origin and sex discrimination, sexual harassment, alleged violations of ADA, ERISA violation, wrongful terminations, breach of contract, bid violations, First Amendment, Florida Whistleblower Act, FLSA, FMLA violations, and funding of construction and infrastructures. Tom has served as the City Attorney for the city of Tampa, School Board Attorney for the School Board of Hillsborough County, and General Counsel for the Florida College System Risk Management Consortium. He is also a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, and an associate of the American Board of Trial Attorneys.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar Tampa/Hillsborough County Bar Association American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, Fellow American Board of Trial Attorneys, Associate

GREENBERG, Valerie
Akerman LLP, Miami
Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Fortune 500 companies, privately held businesses, and not-for-profit organizations turn to Valerie Greenberg, a veteran litigator and courtroom strategist with a national reputation for success in high-stakes litigation, to protect their interests and resolve complex business disputes. A consummate advocate and tenacious protector of her clients, she is go-to counsel for businesses facing bet-the-company and otherwise significant litigation involving class actions, consumer protection and privacy issues, complex insurance matters, product liability/construction defect claims, and commercial disputes. Previously a reporter and editor at the Miami Herald and The American Lawyer newspapers, where her work achieved recognition as a Pulitzer Prize nominee, Valerie has earned a reputation for rigorous investigation, mastery of facts and various specialized areas of law, and skill in developing compelling, innovative, and prudent defense strategies.

GRIFFIN, Steven R.
Beggs & Lane, Pensacola
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Practice Areas: Steve Griffin is a partner in Beggs & Lane's Pensacola office and heads the firm's Energy and Public Utilities practice group. He represents public utilities, developers, independent power producers, and providers of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Steve has served in leadership roles on a wide array of renewable energy initiatives, including utility-scale battery storage projects, utility-scale solar projects, large-scale wind power purchase arrangements, community solar programs, landfill-gas-to-energy projects, and reclaimed water projects enabling the recycling and beneficial reuse of hundreds of millions of gallons of municipal wastewater. Many of these initiatives have captured public attention due to their innovative nature, including solar initiatives which, at the time, were the largest solar installations east of the Mississippi River and wind projects which received Deal of the Year Award from Commodity Business Awards, Deal of the Year Award from Platts Global Energy, and Deal of the Year Award from Risk.net. Steve has substantial experience developing and negotiating power purchase agreements (PPAs), engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) agreements, requests for proposals (RFP), long-term service agreements, and franchise agreements. He also has extensive experience representing clients before the Florida Public Service Commission.

Professional Memberships: Energy Bar Association

GRIMAL HELMSTETTER, Nicole
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Practice Areas: • Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights – Finance
Career: Nicole focuses exclusively in the areas of bankruptcy, business restructuring and creditor's rights and works with creditors, debtors, fiduciaries, trustees, creditors' committees, restructuring officers and all other parties on the bankruptcy spectrum. She often uses her significant experience as a board certified Business Bankruptcy attorney to help both large and small business owners and high net worth individuals stave off or solve their financial challenges during difficult times and emerge profitable on the other side. Nicole has successfully obtained confirmation of plans of reorganization for a number of small businesses, including schools and real estate related companies, and has obtained bankruptcy discharges for high net worth individuals and local business owners. Additionally, Nicole routinely represents purchasers of assets and other interested parties in chapter 11, chapter 7, chapter 12, and chapter 13 bankruptcy and out-of-court proceedings. Nicole has also represented traditional lenders, as well

as hedge and investment funds in the enforcement of their rights against their collateral as well as in the execution of judgment or other collection efforts.

Professional Memberships: Board Certified, Business Bankruptcy Law, American Board of Certification – Member, American Bankruptcy Institute – Director, Florida Lawyers Network, Coral Gables Chapter – Member, Bankruptcy Bar Association – Member, International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation – Former Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, Miami Brown Bag Chairperson – Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, Pro-Se Clinic Chairperson – Member, Florida Bar Business Law Section

GRINDSTAFF, Michael J
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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-michael-j-gridstaff>

GRONDIN, Bernard
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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Partner Bernard (Bernie) P. Grondin focuses on representing private equity funds, strategic investors, and founders/owners/operators in complex corporate transactions, including leverage buyouts, mergers and acquisitions (M&A), debt and equity investments and joint ventures. Bernie also has extensive experience advising buyers, sellers, founders and joint ventures partners in negotiating, documenting, facilitating and consummating transactions involving health care companies. He also concentrates on representing public and private corporations and other entities in connection with M&A, spin-offs, joint ventures, liquidity events and general corporate governance. In addition, he has represented issuers, including blank check companies, in initial public offerings and acted as corporate counsel to publicly traded companies. Bernie speaks regularly at the Firm's industry and legal symposia on a range of subjects, including trends in the ambulatory surgery center (ASC) industry, margin sustainability and growth strategies, effective supply management and structuring health care deals. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/grondin-bernard-p/>

GROOVER, Claramargaret
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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: CONSTRUCTION LAW & LITIGATION • Chapter 558 Specialized Claims Team • Construction Lien Law • Design & Construction Contracts • Design Professional Liability
Career: Claramargaret ("Claire") Groover is of counsel to the firm, specializing in construction law. She devotes her practice to complex project development, negotiating and

documenting performance requirements on condominium, mixed-use, and lease-back transactions as well as public-private partnership projects, and coordinating the client's construction and financing requirements. Claire's experience spans from early stage land development, bidding and bid protests, consultant and construction contracting through contract close-out and claims resolution representing clients in mediation, arbitration and litigation. She also counsels clients applying for licensure or defending their professional licenses before regulatory boards. In her years of practice she has represented every aspect of the construction industry including owners, architects, engineers, surveyors, construction managers and owner's representatives, constructors, suppliers, subcontractors, and their insurers and surety companies. Her early years through college and graduation were spent working in the family construction services, building supply, roadbuilding, and development business enterprises, giving her a unique, firsthand understanding of demands of entrepreneurs in the construction industry.

Professional Memberships: She previously served on the Governing Committee of the American Bar Association's Forum on Construction Law (2017-2020), having previously served as Chair (2015-2017) of its Division 12 Owners & Project Finance. She is also a member of The Florida Bar Construction Law Committee, chairing its Subcommittee on Construction Transactions. In addition to her Florida Bar certification in construction law, she is certified as a Circuit Civil and Appellate Mediator. She is a Panel Arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association and is qualified as a Florida Arbitrator.

HABER, David

Haber Law, Miami
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Practice Areas: David's practice areas include Construction Law and Litigation, Complex Business Litigation, Real Estate Litigation, Real Estate Transactional, Community Association Law, Public Bid Protest Disputes, Civil Litigation, Insurance Law, Aviation Law, and Bankruptcy – Creditor's Rights.

Career: David B. Haber, founder of Haber Law, has over 30 years of experience representing clients in the areas of construction law, complex commercial disputes, real estate and business law, and community association representation. Mr. Haber and his firm emphasize quality of practice, efficiency, and responsiveness to each client's needs. Mr. Haber is Board Certified in Condominium and Planned Development Law, is recognized by Super Lawyers in Construction Litigation, and is a Fellow of the Construction Lawyers Society of America. For over three decades, Mr. Haber has represented and counseled property and business owners, real estate developers, lenders, community associations, contractors and design professionals, and commercial landlords in

connection with multimillion-dollar and complex construction, capital improvement, and repair projects, including assisting clients with contract negotiation, bidding and bid protest proceedings, approvals, financing/loans, insurance issues, construction and design disputes, real estate-related transactions, commercial leases and commercial landlord/tenant disputes, distressed asset based transactions, loan workouts and restructurings, and business entity formation, disputes, and dissolution. Mr. Haber also represents business owners, individuals, community associations and business entities in complex business litigation, arbitrations and appeals, community association law, and other commercial and real estate-related disputes involving mortgage and uniform commercial code foreclosures (including receiverships, assignments of rents and leases and defense of lender liability matters), title insurance claims defense and coverage disputes, construction defects litigation, fraud, contract and forgery litigation, commercial aviation litigation, bankruptcy and creditor's rights representation, and sophisticated international collection matters. Mr. Haber's experience in these areas, his proven reputation for being a fierce advocate, and his practical business sense provide the firm's clients with expertise in counseling clients, achieving resolutions that are architected to meet a client's needs and interests, and assessing the risk-reward factors associated with a particular matter and litigation in general.

Professional Memberships:

–Served on the Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) for Miami-Dade County – Mount Sinai Medical Center Foundation, Past Board Member – Temple Beth Shalom, Past Board Member and Officer – Voices for Children, Past Board Member and Officer – University of Florida Hillel, Past Board Member – Florida Family Learning Partnership, Past Board Member – Florida Bar Association, Member since 1984 – American Bar Association, Member since 1985 – Dade County Bar Association, Member since 1986 – Miami Beach Bar Association, Member – Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida

Publications: –Partners David Haber and Roger Slade authored "Calling For An End to The 24/7, 365 Lawyer", published in the Daily Business Review. –April 22, 2022 –David Haber authored 'I Know All About Condo Living. After Surfside, Change Is Coming', published in the New York Times. –July 29, 2021 –"Two-Thirds of Miami Condo Buildings Are Older Than 30 Years. The Repair Bills Are Coming Due." featuring David Haber, published in the Wall Street Journal –July 14, 2021 –"After Florida Building Collapse, Task Force to Consider Changes to Condo Laws" featuring David Haber, published in the Wall Street Journal. –July 6, 2021 –"How to Prepare Your Law Office for Extreme Weather Events" by David Haber and Nilka Gomez, published in the Daily

Business Review –April 18, 2019 –"Can Work-life Balance Improve Your Bottom Line?" by David Haber, published in the Miami Herald –April 12, 2019 –"Summary Jury Trials are Popping Up in Florida Courtrooms, Stirring Controversy," commentary by David Haber in the Daily Business Review, November 20, 2018 –"The 'Frye' Standard is the Law in Fla., 'a Monumental Game Changer'" by David Haber, published in the Daily Business Review. –October 23, 2018 –Partners David Haber and Francesco Soto, along with law clerk Brett Silverberg, authored 'Supreme Court's Latest Construction Defect Decision and Its Impact on Construction Insurance Claims,' published in the Daily Business Review. –January 16, 2018 –Partners David Haber and Francesco Soto, along with law clerk Brett Silverberg, authored 'Florida Supreme Court's Latest Construction Defect Decision: Triggering the Insurer's Duty to Defend in the Pre-Suit Process,' published in the statewide Florida Community Association Journal. –January 12, 2018 –Founding Partner David Haber and Senior Associate Attorney Jonathan Goldstein authored 'After Irma: Examining the Association Loss Prism,' for the Florida Community Association Journal. –November 2, 2017 –Founding Partner David Haber and Partner David Podein authored 'Hurricane Irma: Tips for Navigating Your Way Through the Insurance Claim Process,' Florida Community Association Journal. –September 15, 2017 –Attorneys David Haber, Jonathan Goldstein, and law clerk Brett Silverberg provide a "2017 Community Association Legislative Update," published in the statewide Florida Community Association Journal. –August 10, 2017 –Haber Law attorneys David Haber, Jonathan Goldstein and Alex Leon authored an article published in the Florida Community Association Journal: "The 2017 Spring Legislative Session: Medications for Community Association Corruption (May Have Serious Side Effects)." –May 11, 2017 –In the Florida Community Association Journal, Founding Partner David Haber and Senior Associate Jonathan Goldstein offer guidance for incoming board members: "Material Alterations: By Definition a Big Deal." –March 6, 2017 –Partners David Haber and Frank Soto authored an article for the Florida Community Association Journal about a fascinating and seldom used jury trial process. –January 27, 2017 –"Material Alterations: By Definition a Big Deal" by David Haber and Jonathan Goldstein, published in the Florida Community Association Journal –March 6, 2017 –"Is Your Association Ready for the New Construction Defect Pre-Suit Process?" by David Haber and Frank Soto –April 29, 2016 Attorneys David Haber and Frank Soto authored 'Is Your Association Ready for the New Construction Defect Pre-Suit Process?' –April 29, 2016 –Attorneys David Haber and Jonathan Goldstein author 'The DBPR's Proposed Electronic Voting Rule.' –February 10, 2016 –Attorneys David Haber and Rebecca Newman Casamayor

authored 'Emotional Support Animals, Are They Service Animals?' – December 15, 2015 – Founding Partner David Haber addresses the hot issue, 'drones and privacy' in this Florida Community Association Journal article. – July 1, 2015 – David B. Haber and Rebecca Newman authored 'Emotional Support Animals: Why Housing Providers are Forced to Accommodate Almost Any Request.' – January 1, 2015

HACKER, Michael
McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Miami
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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Partner Michael Hacker focuses his practice on domestic and cross-border mergers, acquisitions, recapitalization, joint ventures and the related financings required to fund such transactions, primarily representing private equity sponsors and their portfolio companies. Michael also provides general corporate counseling to portfolio companies and other clients. Michael is appointed as an attorney ad litem by Lawyers for Children America to represent a foster youth. Michael also serves on McDermott's Technology Advisory Board. Michael earned his Juris Doctor degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Florida where he also served as the executive communications editor of the Florida Law Review. Michael was also on the executive committee of the Bennett Inn of Court. Before practicing at McDermott, Michael was a Summer Honors Intern for the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Michael also earned his Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Florida and is a member of the Florida Blue Key Leadership Honorary. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/hacker-michael/>

HADJILIOGIU, Steven
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Featured in Tax (Florida)

Practice Areas: Steven Hadjilogiou focuses his practice on tax optimization of business operations and investments with a specific emphasis in the areas of international tax and real estate. Steven provides advice on international inbound and outbound tax planning for multinational companies, family offices, private equity and ultra-high net worth individuals. He also advises funds, family offices and ultra-high net worth individuals in connection with complex real estate structuring and investment issues, including in the areas of opportunity zone funds, 1031 transactions and qualified small business stock. Steven has represented various Fortune 500 companies and major privately held businesses in their tax planning and supply chain projects, and also has substantial experience advising on transfer pricing, tax-related intellectual property matters, Subpart F, GILTI, foreign investment in US real property and outbound

investment in real property. Steven also advises clients on pre-immigration planning and cross-border wealth succession. Steven has also worked on the taxation of partnerships and corporations, mergers & acquisitions and international corporate reorganizations. Since 2013, Steven has been an adjunct professor of International Inbound Taxation at the University of Miami Graduate Tax Program. He is the co-chair of the annual Florida Bar/FICPA International Tax Conference. Steven has written numerous articles and presented on topics related to tax. He was a primary drafter of the *amicus curiae* brief submitted to the US Supreme Court on behalf of the Florida Bar Tax Section in *Knight v. Commissioner* in 2008. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/hadjilogiu-steven/>

Professional Memberships: Annual Florida Bar/FICPA International Tax Conference, Co-Chair International Fiscal Association, Regional Council member Florida International Bankers Association (FIBA) Greater Miami Tax Institute, former Chair Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), member

HALL, Eric
Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa

Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Mergers & Acquisitions; Securities & Corporate Governance; Venture Capital & Private Equity; Joint Ventures & Partnerships; Corporate & Transactional

Career: Eric J. Hall is a Shareholder in the Corporate and Transactional Practice Group of Hill Ward Henderson.

Mr. Hall has practiced with the firm for more than 16 years. His corporate practice is focused on mergers and acquisitions, but he also has experience with matters involving securities law, corporate governance, general corporate law and other business transactions. Mr. Hall has represented both public and privately-held companies and owners in various types of merger and acquisition transactions, including forward and reverse mergers, stock/equity purchases and sales, and asset purchases and sales. He also has counseled public companies, private equity firms and their portfolio companies in matters related to the implementation of corporate acquisition, reorganization and divestiture strategies. Mr. Hall is experienced with speaking about merger and acquisition and other business law topics at seminars and other events. He is a member of the Florida Bar Business Law Section and the Mergers & Acquisitions Committee of the American Bar Association Business Law Section. Mr. Hall is a member of the firm's Management Committee.

HAMLIN, Bret
Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa

Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Qualified Retirement Plans; Executive Compensation; Fiduciary & Prohibited Transactions;

Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation; Representation Before Federal Agencies

Career: Bret Hamlin practices primarily in the areas of employee benefits, deferred compensation and trusts. Prior to entering the private practice of law, he provided plan design and consulting, third-party administration and investment, as well as retirement plan education services for clients. Bret represents large, medium and small employers with respect to many employee benefit matters, including both single employer and multiple employer qualified retirement plans, executive deferred compensation and welfare benefit plan matters. A significant portion of his practice involves plan compliance, ERISA fiduciary best practices and plan corrections under Internal Revenue Service and Department of Labor compliance resolution and plan correction programs. He also represents clients before the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Labor and Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation with respect to employee benefits matters, including, but not limited to, Internal Revenue plan examinations and Department of Labor plan investigations. Bret is an active member of the Employee Benefits Committee of the Tax Section of Taxation of the American Bar Association, the Tampa Bay Pension Council, the Florida West Coast Employee Benefits Council, and the National Association of Professional Employer Organizations (NAPEO). He is also a past president of the Florida West Coast Employee Benefits Council.

Professional Memberships: Florida West Coast Employee Benefits Council Tampa Bay Pension Council, Co-Chair American Bar Association: Tax Section, Employment Benefits Committee, Vice Chair

HANDFINGER, Adam
Peckar & Abramson, P.C., Miami

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Construction & Infrastructure Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution Construction Dispute Resolution Employment Law and Practices Power & Industrial Facilities/ EPC Public-Private Partnerships Surety COVID-19 Task Force Residential and Multi-Family

Career: Adam Handfinger is a co-managing partner of the firm's Miami office, chair of the Client Service Committee, and sits on Peckar and Abramson's Executive Committee. He is certified by the Florida Bar as a Construction Law Specialist and focuses his practice on construction law and commercial litigation matters, representing construction professionals in issues relating to contract negotiation, project management, subcontractor performance issues and claims, payment, construction defects, bond and insurance claims, the project closeout process, and the litigation of related disputes. Adam advises clients through all stages of construction projects, often helping

clients resolve problems in real-time to avoid disputes and achieve successful project outcomes. Adam and his team have extensive litigation experience throughout the United States, in state and federal courts, as well as arbitration proceedings. This litigation experience involves all types of construction law issues, including payment disputes, delay claims, construction defect claims, and insurance coverage issues. Adam also works with Peckar and Abramson's Employment Law Group, defending employment practice liability claims, including discrimination, wrongful termination, retaliation, and wage claims. He has successfully defended class action Fair Labor Standards Act Claims brought by construction laborers. Adam has received several accolades. He has been ranked by Chambers for multiple years in a row and was named a "Next Generation Partner" by The Legal 500. Adam is also recognized by Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers and was named the 2023 "Lawyer of the Year" for Construction Law in Miami by Best Lawyers. He has also been named a Top Lawyer by the South Florida Legal Guide and has an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale. Adam has published over 70 articles regarding construction law and is a frequent lecturer on construction-related topics. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Terry W. Stiles School of Real Estate Development at the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship at Nova Southeastern University, teaching a course on construction management.

Professional Memberships: Construction Association of South Florida American Bar Association (Construction Industry Forum) Associated General Contractors of America

Publications: • "Taking Subs from Struggles to Success: How to Overcome Subcontractor Defaults in Today's Market" Construction Super Conference, November 2023 (speaker) • "Crisis Management Seminar," P&A and American Global Seminar, April 2023 (panelist) • "Managing Increasing Material Costs & Current Operational Pressures," Marcum LLP Construction Summit, February 2022 (Moderator) • "How Marital Strain & Divorce Impact Workplace Safety & Performance – 4 Steps to Implement an Employee Support System," Construction Business Owner, December 2022 (co-author) • "Tariffs, a Pandemic and War: Construction Contracts Must Withstand the Unforeseeable," Construction Executive, May 2022 (co-author) • "Top 10 Killer Contract Clauses," Levelset Webinar, May 2021 (speaker) • "Reduce Construction Risk With Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning," Construction Executive, June 2020 (co-author) • "Is My Lawyer a Robot? Technology's Impact on Professional Services," Daily Business Review, May 2020 (co-author) • "Decision Further Erodes Florida's Statute of Repose for Latent Construction Defects," Daily Business Review, January 2019 (co-author) • "Statute of Repose for Latent Construction Defects

Extension Creates Increased Risk," Daily Business Review, September 2018 (co-author) • "Chapter 558 Ruled a "Suit" Under Standard Commercial General Liability Insurance Policies", Daily Business Review, January 2018 (co-author) • "Document Control on a Construction Project", in-house training for large national contractor, February 2018 (lecturer) • "Risk Management and Project Administration", in-house training for large national contractor, March 2018 (lecturer) • "Open Mic - Discussion on Current, Pending and Potential Changes to Chapter 558 Florida Statutes", The Florida Bar, Construction Law Institute, March 2018 (lecturer) • "Florida's Highest Court to Decide if Insurance Carriers Have a Duty to Defend during the Pre-Suit Notice and Repair Process in Construction Defect Matters", Peckar and Abramson Newsletter, Winter 2017 (author) • "Risk Management and Contracting After Hurricane Irma: Suggestions to Avoid a Second Disaster", Peckar & Abramson Client Alert, September 2017 (co-author) • "Additional Insured Endorsements: Not All Forms Are Created Equal", Engineering News Record, September 2017 (co-author) • "Risk Management and Contracting After Hurricane Irma: Suggestions to Avoid a Second Disaster", Daily Business Review, October 2017 (author)

HEFT, Ross

Akerman LLP, Miami

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Ross represents clients in all facets of commercial real estate transactions, with a strong concentration in advising developers, owners, lenders, and operators of hotels, resorts, condominiums, and mixed-use real estate developments. He structures and negotiates complex construction contracts for the design and construction of projects spanning across multiple asset classes, including mixed-use high rise buildings, hotels, resorts, condominiums, multifamily apartments, golf courses and clubs, custom designed homes, arenas, retail, houses of worship, educational facilities, office buildings, and warehouses. Ross has extensive experience in drafting and negotiating agreements for development, construction, design, consulting, design-build, procurement, and project management, as well as requests for proposals, invitations to bid, and all of the various ancillary contract administration documentation. He also has extensive experience in advising clients in the creation, structuring, and operation of condominiums, master planned developments, and mixed-use projects.

HENDERSON III, Thomas N

Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa
813-227-8406
tom.henderson@hwhlaw.com

Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Real Estate; Real Estate Finance; Real Estate Acquisition & Development

Career: Tom Henderson is one of the founding shareholders of Hill Ward Henderson and is vice-chairman of the Firm. Tom's active practice includes all facets of real property law with special focus on land acquisition and development, improved property purchase and sales transactions, finance, title insurance, and survey matters. Tom has had the privilege of representing many of the nation's largest homebuilders, apartment developers, and commercial developers in connection with their Florida operations and has been instrumental in the development of residential communities and retail centers throughout Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Hernando, and Manatee Counties. Tom is a member of the Hillsborough County Bar Association, The Florida Bar, and the American Bar Association, and he is admitted to practice in all Florida courts and the United States Supreme Court. Tom is a long-standing member of the Executive Council of the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar, and, in addition to being a Fellow of the American College of Real Estate Attorneys since 1990 and a Fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys since 1979, he serves, and has served, on the boards and executive committees of numerous national and statewide legal organizations and councils.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Foundation Fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys Fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers

HENNINGER, Ursula

King & Spalding LLP, Charlotte
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Ursula Henninger is a first-chair trial lawyer specializing in defending product liability and consumer products claims. Ursula co-chairs the firm's Consumer Products group which combines a variety of specialties handling matters related to any issue involving consumers. She has tried cases in numerous state and federal courts throughout the country, most often in recognized "judicial hellholes." Her trials often involve allegations of corporate misconduct leading to claims for significant punitive damages. A partner in the Product Liability & Mass Torts practice, Ursula represents companies in consumer products (including tobacco), pharmaceuticals, medical devices and other industries. Ursula represents well-known corporations, including pharmaceutical and tobacco companies, in high-profile consumer and product liability matters. She has tried over 45 cases in her career and is known for her ability to relate to juries. In addition, she is frequently asked to lead industry groups related to common litigation themes, trial presentation and interests. In addition to being a first-chair trial attorney, Ms. Henninger coordinates defense team efforts, leading case management from the filing

of the complaint to trial and through the appeals process. She often serves as lead case management lawyer for actions filed in multiple jurisdictions, and directs pretrial discovery and motion practice for the defense team in numerous cases.

HIGER, Michael

Berger Singerman, Miami
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Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Michael J. Higer, a Partner of Berger Singerman's Dispute Resolution Team, is an experienced litigator and trial lawyer who devotes his practice to commercial litigation and civil trial work. He represents small business owners and high-profile clients in numerous industries including real estate and financial services. His litigation practice largely focuses on insurance, real estate, intellectual property, and debtor/creditor matters. He has represented clients in state and federal trial and appellate courts, the Supreme Court of Florida and the Supreme Court of the United States. Among his many accomplishments, achievements and recognitions, Michael currently serves on the American Arbitration Association's Roster of Arbitrators, is past Chair of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar where he has been recognized as one of its outstanding members, and is a Past-President of The Florida Bar.

Professional Memberships:

–Board of Governors, The Florida Bar –Commissioner, Judicial Qualifications Commission –The Florida Bar, Business Law Section; Family Law Section; Labor and Employment Law Section; Trial Lawyers Section –Judicial Nominating Screening Committee –Judicial Qualifications Screening Committee –Public Member Screening Committee –Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Committee on Business Courts –Supreme Court of Florida Committee on Standard Jury Instructions, Contract Business Cases –Florida Supreme Court Historical Society –Florida Bankers Association –The Fellows of the American Bar Foundation –American Bar Association –Dade County Bar Association –Miami-Dade County Justice Association –Centennial Celebration, Committee of 100 –Florida Justice Association –Federal Bar Association –Association of Trial Lawyers of America –American Intellectual Property Lawyers Association –Intellectual Property Law Association of Florida –Wind Conference –Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce –Greater Miami Jewish Federation –University of Miami, Law School Alumni Association –Cuban American Bar Association –Florida Association of Women Lawyers –Wilkie Ferguson Bar Association –Florida Association of Public Insurance Adjusters

Publications: –Higer, M. (2019, June 9). Berger Singerman Survey Reveals Most Florida Businesses Are Not Prepared for Hurricane Season. Berger Singerman LLP. <https://www.bergersingerman.com/news-insights/berger-singer->

man-survey-reveals-most-florida-businesses-are-not-prepared-for-hurricane-season –Higer, M., Choquette, C. B., Clausen Lozier, G., & Rodriguez, M. (2021, January 19). Chambers & Partners USA –Insurance & Reinsurance 2021 Q&A . USA –Insurance & Reinsurance 2021. <https://practiceguides.chambers.com/practice-guides/insurance-reinsurance-2021/usa>

HIGGINS, Celeste

Celeste S. Higgins, Miami
celeste@chigginslaw.com

Practice Areas: For over 28 years, Celeste represented individuals in federal court in cases ranging from: international terrorism; international drug trafficking; OFAC charges; aggravated identity theft; fraud cases including securities, bank, insurance, consumer, mail, and wire fraud; slavery charges against a Miami-Dade professor; bank robbery; a diverse selection of Medicare fraud cases, extortion, gun statute violations; drug offenses, immigration offenses, child pornography, and cruise ship rape on the high seas. Celeste has tried over 100 federal cases to trial, including bench trials and civil forfeiture cases. She has appeared as counsel in over 1000 cases in federal court in the Southern District of Florida.

HILL IV, Benjamin H

Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Automotive; Products Liability; Tobacco & Vapor; Consumer Products Liability Litigation; Personal Injury; Class Action & Complex Mass Tort Professional Liability; Litigation

Career: Ben Hill, IV serves as chair of the firm's Products Liability and Personal Injury Litigation Groups. His practice involves the defense of products liability and complex mass tort claims. For approximately 15 years, Ben has been heavily involved in the defense of a major tobacco corporation in numerous smoking and health cases throughout Florida. His practice has also involved the representation and defense of attorneys and their law firms in legal malpractice actions. Ben is very active in professional and Bar-related activities. He is a past president of the Hillsborough County Bar Association (HCBA) and served on its Board of Directors for many years. He has served on the Executive Council of the Trial & Litigation Section, and on the Board of the Hillsborough County Bar Foundation. He is also past president of the HCBA's Young Lawyers Division and has served on The Florida Bar's Grievance Committee 13B. On the national level, Ben remains active in leadership roles within the Tort, Trial and Insurance Practice Section (TIPS) of the American Bar Association. He serves as Vice Chair of the Products Liability Committee. He is a past chair of the TIPS Task Force on Outreach to Young Lawyers and is a graduate of the TIPS Leadership Academy. Ben is a past chair of the Board of Overseers for Stetson University College of Law and continues to serve on its Board. He is also a past member

of Stetson University's Board of Trustees and a past recipient of the Stetson Lawyers Association's Outstanding Alumni Representative Award.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association The Florida Bar Hillsborough County Bar Association

HOMER, Illyse

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Illyse Homer, a partner on the Business Reorganization Team (BRT) at Berger Singerman in Miami, is a highly-regarded practitioner who brings a formidable capability developed over decades to advise clients from a diverse range of industries, deploying creative and cost-effective solutions for complex business and litigation challenges arising in the context of financially-distressed situations, corporate restructurings, and contentious bankruptcy proceedings. Ms. Homer has extensive expertise in a full range of creditor-and debtor-side representations in both the bankruptcy and appellate courts as well as state and federal court receiverships and state court liquidation proceedings. As the team leader of BRT, Illyse has applied her professional experience in strategic, organizational leadership to develop and manage a team of lawyers and non-lawyer professionals which is perennially ranked as one of the finest corporate bankruptcy practice groups in the United States.

Professional Memberships: -Bankruptcy Editorial Advisory Board Member at Law360 (2021-2023) -Bankruptcy Bar Association of Florida -Business Law Section of The Florida Bar -The American Bar Association

Publications: -Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2019, May 8). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). -Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2020, June 7). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). Restructuring & Insolvency (4th edition). -Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2022, July 26). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency. The Legal 500: Country Comparative Guides. <https://www.legal500.com/guides/chapter/united-states-restructuring-insolvency/> -Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2022, December 5). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency. The Legal 500: Country Comparative Guides. <https://www.legal500.com/guides/chapter/united-states-restructuring-insolvency/>

HONKONEN, Elizabeth

Kenny Nachwarter PA, Miami

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Elizabeth Honkonen is an experienced commercial litigator in state and federal trial courts and arbitration, with a broad range of experience, such as federal antitrust matters, business torts, contract disputes,

price-gouging claims, securities fraud cases, shareholder derivative actions, class action defense, federal RICO matters, intellectual property matters, independent investigations, and 28 U.S.C. § 1782 proceedings. With her math and science background, Elizabeth particularly enjoys working on technical and scientific matters. Representative clients include large retailers, luxury goods manufacturers, accounting firms, computer and computer equipment manufacturers, financial services companies, a hospital system, a cruise ship operator, a Ukrainian oligarch, a foreign automobile distributor, a food manufacturer, a media organization, a martial arts promoter, an oil drilling company, officers of a statewide electric utility company, a cement and concrete company, and a wireless telephone company, among others. Elizabeth also has represented national and local law firms and attorneys against claims of malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty, malicious prosecution, and misrepresentation in connection with their services, and has worked with attorneys and law firms in a preventative and risk management role, to help ensure that they comply with applicable rules and standards. In addition to working with attorneys and law firms, Elizabeth also works with other professionals, such as accountants and auditors, who may be sued in connection with their services.

Career: Elizabeth is ranked by Chambers USA in Litigation: General Commercial. She is listed in The Best Lawyers in America for Commercial Litigation and Litigation-Securities and recognized as a Top Lawyer in Professional Liability-Defense and Commercial Litigation by the South Florida Legal Guide. Elizabeth also served as a member and chairperson of Grievance Committee 11G of The Florida Bar and has served as a moderator and panelist on discussion panels relating to commercial litigation and professional responsibility issues. Born and raised in Miami, Elizabeth earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Georgetown University, where she majored in Mathematics, and her Juris Doctor, summa cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law, where she was managing editor of the University of Miami Law Review. Elizabeth was President of the University of Miami Law Alumni Association and continues to serve the LAA as Chair of the annual Homecoming Golf Tournament.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar Dade County Bar Association American Bar Association Federal Bar Association The American Inns of Court, Spellman-Hoover Chapter Miami-Dade Chapter of the Florida Association of Women Lawyers

HUNT, Timothy A

Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa
+1 813 227 8451
tim.hunt@hwhlaw.com

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Construction Contracts & Negotiation; Construction

Claims & Litigation; Insurance & Surety; Mediation, Arbitration & Litigation

Career: Tim Hunt has nearly 40 years of experience in construction law. His practice primarily involves the preparation of development, design and construction contracts and the mediation, arbitration and litigation of claims relating to real estate development, design and construction. Tim's litigation experience includes defective construction claims, delay claims, design negligence, the defense of claims by condominium associations, lien foreclosure actions, and payment and performance bond claims. He worked on the contracts for the development, design, construction and renovation of significant Tampa Bay projects including Water Street Tampa, Amalie Arena, The Florida Aquarium, and Raymond James Stadium. Tim also represents several companies on Cuba trade issues, including Florida Produce, a Tampa-based business that has been selling food to the Cuban government since 2001. He has traveled to both Washington, D.C. and Havana, Cuba on multiple occasions to meet with officials from the Cuban Embassy and the Cuban Foreign Ministry. Tim serves on the national roster of certified arbitrators with the American Arbitration Association.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association: Forum on the Construction Industry The Florida Bar: Real Property, Probate and Trust Section, Construction Law Committee Hillsborough County Bar Association: Construction Law Committee

HUNTER JR, Gary K

Holtzman Vogel Baran Torchinsky & Josefiak PLLC, Tallahassee
850 222 7500
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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Gary Hunter is a partner at Holtzman Vogel, where he maintains a broad governmental law practice with emphasis on state government affairs, land use entitlements, property rights advocacy and environmental issues. In over three decades of practice in Florida, Gary has represented Florida's largest landowners in complex land use strategic development, litigation, and large area planning. He has been equally privileged to represent everyday landowners in protecting property rights from regulatory intrusion or securing needed entitlements. Gary's experience includes counseling clients through the maze of the federal Superfund and hazardous waste programs with litigation of both cost recovery actions as well as private landowner suits resulting from the migration of pollutants beyond property boundaries. In addition to his land use and property rights expertise, Gary spends considerable hours with Florida's policymakers, both in the capital and throughout the state advocating for legislative policy on behalf of large land interests, community developers, Florida's timeshare industry, the world's largest energy

company, Florida agriculture, and an international leader in the pharmaceutical industry, among others.

ISANI, Jamie

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Miami

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Ms. Isani's practice focuses on consumer class action defense, complex business and financial services litigation, First Amendment litigation, and complex appellate matters. Over the course of her legal career, Ms. Isani has helped clients navigate high-stakes litigation to achieve their business goals. She has represented national retailers in consumer class actions challenging sales and marketing practices, represented the world's leading health information companies in First Amendment challenges to state statutes at the trial and appellate levels, represented Fortune 50 banks in multiple class actions challenging practices and disclosures relating to overdraft fees and posting of debit-card transactions, and defended developers against fraud and conspiracy claims related to a multibillion-dollar hotel and casino development. Ms. Isani chairs the Miami office pro bono committee and co-chairs the Miami office Diversity and Inclusion initiative. She is a frequent contributor to internal and external publications and recently moderated several CLEs for the District of Columbia Bar. Ms. Isani graduated magna cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School. Prior to joining the firm, she served as a law clerk for Hon. Joan A. Lenard, US District Court for the Southern District of Florida (2001-2003).

JARVINEN, Christopher A.

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Career: Christopher Andrew Jarvinen is a partner on the Business Reorganization Team at Berger Singerman LLP in Miami. His extensive experience has equipped him to provide clients in a diverse range of industries with value-added, cost-effective solutions for complex, business and litigation, challenges arising in the context of financially-distressed situations, corporate restructurings, and contentious bankruptcy proceedings. Mr. Jarvinen has been elected to the American College of Bankruptcy, the American Law Institute, and the International Insolvency Institute. During 2019, he served as a Fulbright scholar at the China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing, PRC. Mr. Jarvinen received his law degree from Boston College Law School, his undergraduate degree in economics from Brown University, graduate degrees in theological ethics and religion from, respectively, Harvard Divinity School and Yale Divinity School, a global EMBA from FGV-EAESP in São Paulo, Brazil, and both a postgraduate diploma in organisational leadership and a master of science degree in major programme management from

the University of Oxford. Mr. Jarvinen is currently obtaining an Executive LL.M. degree from Columbia Law School. He has also studied in graduate programs at Teachers College of Columbia University, the Judge Business School of the University of Cambridge and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. For three years, Mr. Jarvinen taught International Legal Management to graduate business students at FGV-EAES.

Professional Memberships:

-Bankruptcy & Corporate Reorganization Committee of the New York City Bar Association -Chairperson of the Standing Bankruptcy Lawyers Advisory Committee (LAC), U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida-Vice Chairperson of the Lawyers Advisory Committee, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida -Founder and Co-Chair of Claims Trading Committee, American Bankruptcy Institute -Member of Advisory Board, American Bankruptcy Institute -New York City Bankruptcy Conference -Member of Advisory Board, International Cross-Border Insolvency Program -New York-American Bankruptcy Institute -Caribbean Insolvency Symposium -Co-Founder and Current Member, TMA Brasil -Member, Lambda Legal

Publications: -Jarvinen, C. A., & Stong, E. S. (2019, June 18). Letter From the Co-Chairs. *Claims Trading: An ABI Committee Newsletter*. [https://www.legal500.com/guides/chapter/united-states-restructuring-insolvency/](http://connect.abi.org/webmail/107412/511517803/0559c3a0f45ca40da3ece0d37c4435046896802d29684271e0464b163b243950. -Singerman, P.S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2019, May 8). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). <i>Restructuring & Insolvency</i> (3rd edition). -Singerman, P.S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2020, June 7). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). <i>Restructuring & Insolvency</i> (4th edition). -Singerman, P.S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2022, July 26). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency. <i>The Legal 500: Country Comparative Guides</i>. <a href=)

JAZIL, Mohammad

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Featured in Environment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mohammad "Mo" Jazil is a partner with Holtzman Vogel. His broad litigation practice includes state and federal constitutional cases, white-collar criminal matters, government investigations, election disputes, Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act rulemaking and enforcement cases, federal telecommunications matters, Everglades restoration, takings cases, pricing disputes, and general civil appeals. He has served as first chair in federal and state court trials; and briefed and argued dispositive motions and appeals before the federal district

courts, state appellate courts, state supreme courts, and the U.S. Court of Appeals. He has also briefed cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Since the summer of 2018, Mo continues to represent Florida's Governors and Secretaries of State on election-related and redistricting matters before the federal and state trial courts, the Florida Supreme Court, the Eleventh Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He served as lead counsel for the State in federal cases filed during the 2018 recount for three statewide races. Of the nineteen federal cases filed against the State since the summer of 2018, where Mohammad served as lead counsel, seventeen cases were dismissed (two after reversal of the district court's post-trial judgment), and two cases settled. Mo has also represented the Florida House of Representatives on issues of statewide importance. His work for the House spans two speakerships on issues as varied as cannabis regulation and transportation policy.

JONES, Rod

Shutts & Bowen LLP, Orlando
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-rod-jones>

JURMAN, Rory E.

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Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: An experienced first-chair trial lawyer, Rory Eric Jurman litigates sophisticated high-stakes insurance disputes at all levels of state and federal courts. Trusted by his clients as the go-to resource for their defense, coverage, bad faith, and extra-contractual matters across various sectors, Rory provides strategic coverage advice for virtually every type of general, excess, umbrella, commercial general liability (CGL), D&O, employment, healthcare, and professional liability insurance policy across the country. He and his team won Insurance Litigation Department of the Year - Midsize Firms (Daily Business Review). Rory also won twice the Most Effective Lawyer Award (Daily Business Review) and has been Chambers USA Rated in Insurance since 2017. Rory has served as lead counsel in dozens of bench and jury trials throughout the country and has protected insurers and self-insureds from billions of dollars of potential claim exposure. Understanding what it takes to achieve success, Rory's tireless efforts and unrelenting will to win defines him and separates him from other counsel. His matters routinely receive national and international media coverage. Rory has also litigated numerous matters of first impression, and his efforts consistently establish precedent that broadly shapes wide-ranging issues in insurance law. In this regard, Rory has been involved in litigations resulting in many published decisions. Drawing on

his nearly 30 years in the field, clients turn to Rory and his team for his trusted counsel, legal analysis, and industry knowledge. In his national practice, he is involved in all facets of case development, producing strategies to fit the unique needs of each matter. Through his diligence, tenacity, and command of the facts and law, Rory helps clients limit their exposure upfront and avoid disputes. When necessary, he represents them in challenging coverage, mass tort, and bad faith actions. He has achieved multiple defense verdicts in bad faith, coverage, and catastrophic loss matters, and he serves as trial Bad Faith counsel for numerous national insurers. Rory joined Hinshaw in 2019 and is a member of the firm's Executive Committee.

Professional Memberships: The

Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC) The Council on Litigation Management (CLM) -Faculty at Annual Claims College, 2014 - Present -Extra Contractual Committee, 2012 -Present Defense Research Institute (DRI) Federal Bar Association The Florida Bar Loss Executives Association National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel New York Bar Association American Bar Association Broward County Bar Association -Legal Malpractice Summit Committee, Chairperson

KAVANAUGH, Samantha

King & Spalding LLP, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Samantha Kavanaugh defends corporate entities and individuals in federal and state courts around the country. She has extensive experience litigating securities class actions, and other complex litigation, including private equity matters, business torts and contract disputes. Ms. Kavanaugh's practice concentrates on defending clients in securities class actions alleging securities fraud, accounting fraud and breach of fiduciary duties. She has defended many securities class actions collectively seeking damages in the billions of dollars. Her defense of these cases often involves multiple related lawsuits and derivative claims. Samantha also has experience conducting internal investigations for both public and private companies.

KEINER, Jeffrey

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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution Environmental and Sustainability Law Appellate and Trial Support Insurance Defense Intellectual Property and Technology Patent Personal Injury Probate Product Liability and Toxic Tort Professional Liability Defense Technology Transactions Trademark Transportation Construction Entertainment and Sports Litigation Food Law

Professional Memberships: United States Supreme Court Florida State and Federal Courts Tennessee State and

Federal Courts New Hampshire State Courts Tennessee Bar Member Western District of Tennessee - Serves as a private judge upon request of the parties Northern District of Oklahoma Federal Courts Chair Ninth Judicial Circuit Professionalism Panel, The Florida Bar, Trial Lawyers, IP, Environmental Land Use, Sports Entertainment Sections American Bar Association, Forum Committee on Construction American Arbitration Association American Institute Architects American College of Barristers Million Dollar Advocates Forum Federal Bar Association College of Master Advocates and Barristers

Publications: Podcast, "The Lost Art of Professionalism," Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida, Open Ninth, June 17, 2019 Co-author, "What is Betterment?" Advisory Bulletin, Travelers Insurance, January 2018 "May It Please the Mediator: Strategies for Success in the Era of the Vanishing Jury Trial," Inside the Minds: Emerging Applications for ADR 29 (Aspatore Books, 2010) Co-author, "Mixed Use Condo Projects - Pitfalls," April 2005 "Mixed-Use Condominium Projects: Cautionary Tales," Lorman Construction Newsletter, March 2007

Personal: Jeff is originally from St. Louis, and grew up in Marion, Indiana. He earned his undergraduate degree from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, in 1968. From 1968 to 1971, he served as a communications officer and deck officer on U.S. Navy destroyer, USS Ault. After leaving the Navy, he went to law school, obtained his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1974, and began practicing law with Akerman, Senterfitt and Eidson in Orlando. Ten years later he became a founding partner with Fisher, Rushmer, Werrenrath, Keiner, Wack and Dickson, P.A. In June of 1995, he joined GrayRobinson as head of the firm's Litigation Department, concentrating on complex commercial, construction, professional liability, environmental and intellectual property litigation, arbitration and mediation. He remained head of the firm's litigation department for nearly 20 years and is now an executive shareholder. He is a frequent speaker and panelist on a wide range of litigation and professional practice issues, and consults with lawyers, house counsel and clients on matters of litigation tactics, procedure and strategy, and jury selection and trial simulations.

KEYES, Michael

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Michael Keyes' practice focuses on advising large public as well as privately-held companies on general corporate matters including with mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures, financings, key strategic relationships and other commercial issues. Michael counsels clients on a

broad range of commercial transactions and issues, including major commercial relationships and early and late stage equity financings and strategic transactions, as well as acting as outside general counsel to a number of companies with respect to business and legal matters. He has served as Issuer's counsel in connection with offerings of equity, debt, and trust-preferred securities in public and private offerings.

Career: Michael Keyes is a Shareholder and member of the firm's Board of Directors. He is based out of South Florida.

KLINER, Arlene K

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Arlene Kline is a veteran litigator defending labor and employment matters on behalf of banking, hospitality, healthcare, manufacturing, media, distribution, transportation, software, and non-profit sector clients. Clients value her comprehensive practice, including policy development, compliance, audits, litigation, and appeals. A significant aspect of her practice also includes counseling on compliance with the public accommodation provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (including its application to websites and mobile apps), and avoidance of such claims. In addition, she also routinely advises, trains, and counsels clients on issues involving discrimination, retaliation, and sexual harassment. Arlene litigates in state and federal courts, with experience defending claims involving Title VII, Section 1981, ADEA, FLSA, ADA (Titles I and III), FMLA, PDA, and the Florida Civil Rights Act. Clients also turn to her for appellate matters in state and federal courts, as they relate to employment claims. As part of a broader practice, Arlene litigates unfair competition and trade secrets, and she defends legal malpractice claims.

KNIGHT, Christopher E

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Featured in Transportation (USA – Nationwide), Litigation (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Aviation Commercial Litigation Corporate & Special Investigations Data Privacy & Cybersecurity Health Care Insurance Maritime Medical Malpractice Products Liability & Toxic Torts

Career: With over 35 years of experience, Christopher Knight handles a broad range of civil litigation matters and leads a large team comprised of senior and junior partners, as well as associates. Chris represents Fortune 500 companies, major insurance carriers, several airlines and manufacturers in state and federal courts. He has served as lead counsel in the defense of multi-district and class action litigation involving product liability, insurance and attorney general investigations. A skilled trial attorney, with the understanding of scientific and technical issues necessary to his

practice, Chris has tried numerous cases to verdict. His strategic approach to litigation involves the analysis of the benefits and risks associated with trial and settlement tactics, as well as the business impact and public relations concerns associated with high-profile, high-stakes litigation. PRACTICE FOCUS Chris devotes a significant portion of his practice to the defense of cruise lines, medical malpractice and health care-related claims. He has had tremendous success defending health care systems, institutions and practitioners in complex, multi-million dollar lawsuits. He also has experience successfully trying wrongful termination and whistleblower cases. Chris continues to serve as lead counsel for a major South Florida medical school in litigation and regulatory proceedings. As the leader of the Firm's Corporate & Special Investigations Practice Group, Chris guides and defends major corporations through their most sensitive and urgent issues by ensuring that their internal investigations limit exposure and identify future problematic issues. He also represents domestic and international airline carriers, aircraft and engine manufacturers and maintenance providers in litigation arising from mass disasters and aircraft accidents. Chris recently defended an airline against allegations of negligence and product defect resulting from a catastrophic accident that killed nearly 200 people in Brazil. In the products arena, Chris handles products liability and related litigation for notable manufacturers, distributors and retailers. He is experienced with the defense of products from various industries, such as agriculture, construction, medical and sports and recreation.

Professional Memberships: – International Association of Defense Counsel – American Board of Trial Advocates, Immediate Past-President of Miami Dade Chapter, 2023, President of Miami Dade County Chapter, 2022; President-Elect of Miami Dade County Chapter, 2020-2021 – American Bar Association – The Florida Bar, Trial Lawyers Section Executive Council, Special Advisor – The Florida Bar, Trial Lawyers Section Teachers Law School Committee, Past Speaker – Florida Defense Lawyers Association, Past Board Member – Dade County Bar Association – American Society for Healthcare Risk Management – Defense Research Institute – Litigation Counsel of America Fellow – Orange Bowl Committee, Past President

Publications: Co-Author, "Florida Insurance Compendium," ALFA International, 2023

KNIGHT, Tammy L

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Mergers and Acquisitions | Corporate Governance | Public Companies and Securities | Franchise

| Corporate Services | Representations and Warranties Insurance

Career: Tammy L. Knight is a partner in Holland & Knight's Fort Lauderdale office. She practices in the areas of corporate, securities and franchise law. Ms. Knight is experienced in a wide range of corporate and securities matters with an emphasis on advising clients in public offerings, private placements, M&A transactions, periodic reporting and compliance matters, and proxy contests. Her experience also includes advising boards of directors and their committees on disclosure, governance and compliance matters arising out of Securities and Exchange Commission regulations, stock exchange rules and corporate laws. Ms. Knight also represents franchisors in a broad range of legal services, including organizing and structuring franchise and other distribution programs, negotiating and preparing franchise agreements, representing franchisors in compliance with franchise disclosure and registration law, including preparation of franchise disclosure documents, registering, amending and renewing franchises with state authorities; mergers and acquisitions; preventing and resolving franchise disputes; assisting in franchise termination and renewal issues; and handling various other related corporate and business matters. Ms. Knight serves as a member of the firm's Directors Committee and Practice & Operations Committee. In addition, she is a Billing and Collections Partner and the AdvanceLaw Relationship Partner. Ms. Knight is also a graduate of the Rising Star program, an intensive year-long leadership program sponsored by the Women's Initiative.

KOBERT, Roy

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution Banking and Finance Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Hospitality Litigation

Career: Roy is a shareholder and resident in the Orlando and Tampa offices of GrayRobinson. He is a member of the firm's bankruptcy and creditors' rights practice group. Roy is a Certified Specialist in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, accredited by The Florida Bar, since 2003. He has lectured for The Florida Bar and The National Business Institute on bankruptcy and insolvency issues. Roy has served as a visiting Professor at the University of Florida College of Law, Florida A&M Law School, Florida Gulf Coast University and Mountain State University. In 2013, Roy was named a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America, a trial lawyer honorary society comprised of less than one-half of one percent of American lawyers. The fellowship is highly selective and by invitation only. Roy is a lifelong advocate for financial literacy. He is the founder of

the Credit Abuse Resistance Education of Central Florida Chapter, which educates high school and college students on the responsible use of credit and other fundamentals of financial literacy, as well as the potential consequences of poor money management and credit card and student loan abuse. Roy is active in the community and currently serves on the board of directors of the Downtown Orlando Breakfast Rotary Club. He devotes time to Blankner Elementary School Foundation and the Boone High School Foundation. In 2015, Roy served on The Florida Bar Diversity and Inclusion Committee and helped establish a two-day intensive trial skills program geared toward minority trial lawyers, the first of its kind offered in Orlando, featuring jurists from the State Circuit and Federal benches.

Professional Memberships: Florida Supreme Court – Certified Circuit Court Mediator American Bankruptcy Institute – Advisory Board for Winter Annual Seminar The Florida Bar – Alternative Dispute Resolution Section – Business Law Section – Bankruptcy/UCC Committee – Revisions to the Assignment of the Benefit of Creditors Statute, Past Chair – Inaugural Business Lawyers in the Courtroom, Steering Committee, Senior Member, 2015 – Board of Legal Specialization and Education, 2015 – Consumer and Bankruptcy Law Subcommittee, 2015 – Reviews all third-party National Accreditation applications American Board of Certification, 2007-2011 Bankruptcy Law Educational Series Foundation (Pro Bono, Middle District of Florida) – Incorporator and Registered Agent – Founding Executive Director Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association – Past President Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee, 2016 – Central Florida Bench/Bar Program

Publications: "Virtual Mediation 2.0," The Common Ground, Volume 5, Issue 1, Spring 2023 "ZOOMing Along...How to Get the Most Out of Your Next Virtual Mediation," The Cramdown, April 2021 "Five or 20 Years? Exactly What is the Deadline to Complete Post-Judgment Discovery to Collect on a Federal Money Judgment Pursued in the Sunshine State?" The Florida Bar Out-of-State Division Annual Report, Spring 2018

KOLAYA, Timothy A.

Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman PLLC, Miami
305-614-1405
tkolaya@sfslaw.com

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Timothy A. Kolaya concentrates on commercial litigation in federal and state courts, as well as arbitration panels. Tim counsels clients on a wide array of disputes involving commercial transactions, contract challenges, class actions, construction defects, real estate transactions, business torts, fraud, deceptive and unfair trade practices, fiduciary relationships, insurance, products liability, and personal injury claims.

Career: Prior to joining Stumphauzer Kolaya Nadler & Sloman, Tim worked

for more than 11 years at the Miami office of the international law firm of Greenberg Traurig, where he tried several cases and handled significant litigation matters on a local and national level for a variety of clients. From defending Fortune 500 companies in class action litigation to representing local companies in contract disputes, Tim understands the level of focus and preparation that is necessary for each matter he handles. Before returning to law school, Tim studied civil engineering at the University of Miami and continued on to obtain a Master's Degree in civil engineering and construction management from Georgia Tech. He then worked as a project manager for two of the top 100 largest construction companies in the country, overseeing all aspects of his projects, which included office buildings, condominium towers, restaurants, municipal buildings, and manufacturing facilities. With this technical background, Tim is quickly able to learn and understand his clients' business needs, and puts his analytical thinking to work when resolving his clients' legal matters.

Professional Memberships: In addition to his active law practice, Tim is a member of the Civil Rules Committee for the Florida Bar, and the Board of Directors of the University of Miami Law Alumni Association. Tim also dedicates significant time as a volunteer leader for the Parkinson's Foundation, where he serves as a member of the national Development Committee.

KOROGLU, Harris
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-harris-j-koroglu>

KRAVETZ, Scott
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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mr. Kravetz is managing partner of the firm's Miami office and a member of the firm's governing Partners Board. Mr. Kravetz focuses his practice in the area of civil litigation, with particular emphasis on real estate and construction litigation, including cost overrun, delay, design-defect and surety/bond litigation. He has represented numerous owners and developers in projects at all levels of complexity, from simple contract disputes to construction disputes with claims in excess of \$50 million.

Career: Duane Morris LLP: Partner, 2014-present; Daniels Kashtan P.A.: Partner, 2011-2014; Bilzin Sumberg: Partner, 1997-2010; Dunn, Lodish & Widom: Partner, 1989-1997

Personal: University of Miami School of Law, J.D., 1989; University of Florida, B.A., 1986

KRAZIEM, Faisal
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Financial Services | Latin America Practice | Private Equity | Healthcare Finance | Private Credit

Career: Faisal Kraziem is a finance attorney in Holland & Knight's Miami office and a member of the firm's Financial Services Team. Mr. Kraziem regularly represents financial institutions, banks, borrowers and other entities in complex domestic and cross-border lending transactions across all industries. He has experience in sponsor-led acquisition financings, cash flow-based facilities, asset-based facilities, shareholder loans and other similar financing matters. Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Mr. Kraziem was a member of the bank-finance group of a large international law firm where he represented premier financial institutions as agent and lead arranger in complex lending transactions in the broadly syndicated loan market.

KRIMSKY, Beth-Ann E.
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Litigation Class Action Defense Land Use & Zoning Entertainment & Sports

Career: Beth-Ann E. Krinsky is a seasoned commercial litigator and trial attorney whose practice includes a wide variety of business cases including complex real estate and land use litigation, commercial disputes, fraud-based litigation, class action defense, estate and probate law litigation and marketing, privacy and compliance matters throughout the nation. She has a history of defeating class actions at many stages of the process and bringing early resolution to cases that warrant it to save client time and money. Her practice includes trial work in both federal and state courts as well as alternative dispute resolution forums such as arbitration proceedings. While litigating at all levels of the court system, Ms. Krinsky also serves as a role model to attorneys she has helped to mentor both at Greenspoon Marder and in her more global community work. Ms. Krinsky's experience defending companies facing complex class actions has brought her to both state and federal courts throughout the country covering a broad range of industries, including retail promotions, credit card processing, social media, vacation sales and other industries operating under a significant regulatory program. Ms. Krinsky's land use and real estate litigation practice includes trial court litigation as well as representation of clients in quasi-judicial proceedings before city and county commissions and/or government bodies. She also has extensive experience pursuing, litigating and succeeding in claims under the Bert J. Harris Act and obtaining extra-

dinary writs of mandamus and petitions for writ of certiorari throughout the state. Ms. Krinsky also serves as local counsel for many out-of-state law firms and companies with Florida matters helping to address contract disputes, unfair and deceptive trade practice claims, fraud claims, bank disputes, technology-based claims (including social media and cryptocurrency) and real estate-related disputes by way of example. Ms. Krinsky's estate and probate litigation experience is based in Florida and she has addressed significant disputes at all stages of a potential claim for a variety of family members including assessing claims at the start and litigating claims to resolution. Ms. Krinsky has been named by the Daily Business Review, an ALM publication, as "Attorney of the Year," "Top 20 South Florida Women in Law," and as an "Influential Business Women" by the South Florida Business Journal. In 2010, she was awarded the "Key Partner" award by the South Florida Business Journal who found Ms. Krinsky to be among the best in her field by providing the highest quality of service to her clients while exhibiting the highest levels of professionalism and ethics.

Professional Memberships: Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Foundation and Memorial Hospital Foundation, Vice Chair, 2023-Present Executive Board Member, 2020-Present Board of Directors, 2019-Present Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, Leadership Council for I Care I Cure Childhood Cancer Foundation, 2020 I Care I Cure Childhood Cancer Foundation, President, 2008-2019 City of Plantation Planning and Zoning, Board Member Coalition Against Childhood Cancer (CAC2), Inaugural Board Member The Florida Bar Foundation, Fellow The Harvard Club of Broward County, Member The Harvard Law School Association of South Florida, Member Broward County Bar Association, Member Leadership Fort Lauderdale, Inaugural Class 25th Reunion, University of Rochester, Co-Chair Ramat Shalom, Executive Board of Directors

Publications: Co-Author, "Her Story: The Resilient Woman Lawyer's Guide to Conquering Obstacles, Book 2," January 12, 2024 Greenspoon Marder Client Alert: Where is the Injury and Where Does the TCPA Mention Texts? -Nowhere-, August 29, 2019 "Is Your Store, Shopping Center, Restaurant, Office or Other Place of Public Accommodation Ripe for Suit Under the ADA?," August 2004 "E-Mails: The Indestructible and Potentially Explosive (Paper) Trail," February 2005

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jeff Kucera is a partner in the firm's Finance practice. He helps clients to enforce, interpret, restructure, and renegotiate lending ar-

rangements. He is a litigator who focuses his practice on Bankruptcy, Debtors' and Creditors' Rights, and Commercial Litigation before U.S. District Courts and U.S. Bankruptcy Courts nationwide, as well as circuit courts throughout the state. In addition, Jeff brings his skills and experience to the table as a Supreme Court of Florida Certified Circuit Civil Mediator for cases pending in state, federal, and bankruptcy courts. He is also listed on the Register of Mediators for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida.

BANKRUPTCY Jeff has extensive experience representing parties in bankruptcy cases throughout Florida, Texas, Delaware, New York, and California. His clients have included: Debtors Secured creditors General unsecured creditors Mezzanine lenders Official committees of unsecured creditors DIP lenders Purchasers of estate property Mechanics' and materialmen's lienholders Lessees of real and personal property Financers of purchases through bankruptcy sales He has been involved in a wide variety of contested matters, including cash collateral motions; sale motions; and contested confirmations. **BANKRUPTCY LITIGATION** Jeff has represented parties in adversary proceedings in various courts, including: Defending preference and fraudulent transfer claims Defending general tort and contract claims brought by trustees and debtors in possession Claims litigation Relief from the automatic stay Motions to compel administrative and lease payments Administrative claim proceedings Assumption and rejection of executory contracts Claims by trustee in a fraud case against broker-dealer, including secondary claims against broker-dealer by investors filed in various state and federal courts Intercreditor agreements and disputes Withdrawal of the reference to the bankruptcy court

CREDITORS' AND DEBTORS' RIGHTS LITIGATION Jeff has extensive experience litigating creditors' and debtors' rights issues, and has represented: Borrowers Lenders secured by real estate Agricultural lenders Asset-based lenders Trade creditors Unsecured note holders Receivers Assignors for the Benefit of Creditors Participants and agents in syndicated loans Servicers and special servicers Issuers of credit default swaps Judgment creditors These representations have involved a wide range of cases, including: Mortgage foreclosures and deficiency actions Prejudgment relief including writs of replevin and attachment Garnishment actions Appointment of receivers UCC Article 9 notices to account debtors UCC sales Judgment collection and enforcement Proceedings supplementary Discovery in aid of execution Mortgage lien defense against "sovereign citizen" claims **GENERAL COMMERCIAL LITIGATION** Jeff has significant experience representing plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal court, including: Audit malpractice Prosecuting and defending business torts, including intentional interference with business

arrangements Fraud, including Ponzi scheme cases Negligence and negligent misrepresentation Securities fraud Commodities market claims Defense of auditors in connection with Sarbanes-Oxley and securities laws TILA and RESPA defense Piercing the corporate veil

Professional Memberships: ABA Business Law Section, Business Bankruptcy Committee, past co-vice-chair of Subcommittee on Bankruptcy Committees, current co-chair of Subcommittee on Avoidance Powers American Bar Association Member, Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Member, Business Law Section Member, Litigation Section Bankruptcy Bar Association, Member, Southern District of Florida City Theatre President of the Board of Directors (2005-2008) Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors (2004-2005) Member, Board of Directors (1999-2008) Dade County Bar Association

Publications: "How Are Courts Interpreting the New 'Reasonable Due Diligence' Requirement Under § 547(b)?" *Business Law Today*, June 2022 "Bankruptcy Code Changes Offer Lifeline to Small Businesses," *Miami Herald*, 14 August 2020 "No More Ad Lib: the Nuts and Bolts of Ad Hoc Bankruptcy Committees," Speaker, October 2014; also an article published in *Business Law Today*, December 2014 "Curbside Consult - Sole Proprietor Subject to Liens Against Accounts Receivable," *Florida Medical Business*, June 24, 2003 "Boardroom Bankruptcy Issues," *The Corporate Board*, May/June 2003 "Hotel Industry Faces Need for Restructuring," *The National Law Journal*, February 10, 2003 "Act Quickly to Cope With Deteriorating Financials," *South Florida Business Journal*, 2001 "Bankruptcy Concerns for Hotels," *Florida Real Estate Journal*, 2001

KUDMAN, Tama

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Practice Areas: Tama Beth Kudman represents individuals and companies under investigation and prosecution by Federal and State law enforcement. Focusing on complex, high-stakes matters in Government Enforcement, Compliance, Internal Investigations, Federal and State Criminal and White Collar Litigation; Federal and State Qui Tam Litigation; Criminal, Civil and Administrative Health Care Fraud Litigation; and Complex Commercial Litigation.

Professional Memberships: Ms.

Kudman is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, an active member of the American Bar Association (ABA) healthcare and criminal law sections, the Women's White Collar Defense Association (WWCDA), the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) where she is a member of the white-collar crime committee, the Federal Bar Association (FBA), where she is a member of the white-collar crime committee, the Florida Association of

Criminal Defense Lawyers (FACDL), and the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

KULEBA, Christopher

Reed Smith LLP, Miami

Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Chris, a partner in Reed Smith's Insurance Recovery Group, represents corporate, commercial, and individual policyholders in insurance recovery litigation in Florida and throughout the United States. He has successfully litigated and negotiated hundreds of insurance disputes with all major U.S. insurers and the London market. Chris' insurance coverage practice includes contractual and extra-contractual (unfair claims practices) disputes under commercial and high-end residential property, directors and officers, errors and omissions, employer practices liability, and commercial general liability policies on behalf of clients in a variety of industries, including manufacturing, oil and gas, financial services, private equity, real estate development, construction, transportation, food and beverage, entertainment/media, and others.

KURIAN, Sanjay

Becker & Poliakoff PA, Fort Myers +1 239.433.7707 skurian@bpollegal.com

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: BUSINESS LITIGATION • Insurance Coverage Disputes COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION • Disaster Recovery • Florida Community Association • Property Insurance Claims CONSTRUCTION LAW & LITIGATION • Chapter 558 Specialized Claims Team • Design & Construction Contracts • Design Professional Liability

Career: Sanjay Kurian is Board Certified in Construction Law and AV Rated Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell.

He has also been selected as a Super Lawyer in 2019, 2021, and 2022 which is a recognition by his peers of the top 5% of lawyers in Florida. Mr. Kurian has substantial experience representing community associations, owners and developers in a variety of construction and insurance issues. He also is a member of the firm's Disaster Recovery team and has handled numerous hurricane claims representing condominium associations against their own insurance carriers. He has extensive experience in drafting and negotiating construction contracts for owners and developers, including with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and Engineering Joint Contract Document Committee (EJCDC) contract forms. He has also drafted and negotiated numerous service contracts on behalf of Association clients. Mr. Kurian speaks and presents frequently on construction and insurance matters with an added interest in technology and the practice of law. He has presented on "iPad and the Construction Lawyer" at the Florida Bar Construction Law Institute in 2012 and 2013. He has lectured on AIA Owner-Contractor Contract Documents for the Construction Law Review Course in 2013. Additionally he has co-presented a webinar for the

Florida Bar on the Economic Loss Rule. He has also presented webinars on Hurricane preparedness and Post-hurricane Disaster Recovery. Additional topics Mr. Kurian has spoken on include insurance claims, mold issues, indemnification obligations, liquidated damages, consequential damages, statutory warranties and common law implied warranties. He is also a contributor on construction, contract, insurance and litigation issues to the Firm's Community Association & HOA law blog.

Professional Memberships: • RPPTL

Chair, Construction Law Committee • RPPTL Member, Insurance and Surety Committee (RPLISC) • RPLISC Chair, Legislative Subcommittee • RPPTL Co-Vice Chair, Construction Law Institute • Appointee, Professional Ethics Committee of The Florida Bar, 2020-2021 • 20th Circuit Judicial Nominating Committee, Appointed by Governor DeSantis, 2019

LA FLEUR, Deborah L

GrayRobinson, PA, Orlando

deborah.lafleur@gray-robinson.com

Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Labor and Employment OSHA Trade Secret Noncompete and Unfair Competition Cannabis Industry Insurance Defense Religious Organizations

Career: Deborah La Fleur is board certified in Labor and Employment Law by The Florida Bar and represents private and public sector employers in both labor and employment law matters. The majority of Deborah's background and experience is in advising and representing corporations, healthcare providers, non-profit entities, management and governmental entities. Deborah represents employers in federal and state courts and in front of governmental agencies, in connection with all employment-related matters including but not limited to: discrimination; Fair Labor Standards Act (including collective actions); state wage and hour claims; Family and Medical Leave Act claims; the enforcement of restrictive covenants, such as covenants not to compete; Americans With Disabilities Act (including its employment and accessibility provisions, such as Title III of the ADA); constitutional claims; torts; whistleblower litigation; compliance with the Office of Federal Contract Compliance; labor-related issues, including but not limited to, preparation and interpretation of collective bargaining agreements, assisting employers during the union election process and defending against unfair practice charges; preparation of employment handbooks, contracts and a variety of employment-related policies; and providing training on employment-related matters and workplace and public accommodation accessibility compliance. In addition, Deborah has experience in corporate matters, including the employment aspects of mergers and acquisitions and commercial litigation issues. Deborah also represents employers in state and federal courts, investigations, and in

the defense of charges of discrimination before the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Florida Commission on Human Relations, Florida's Division of Worker's Compensation, the U.S. Department of Labor and the Florida Public Employees Relations Commission.

Professional Memberships: The

Florida Bar, Board Certified in Labor and Employment Law State Bar of Michigan Orange County Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Committee Federal Bar Association Society for Human Resource Management Member Academy of Florida Management Attorneys Member

LAMB, Adam

Fox Rothschild, Miami

alamb@foxrothschild.com

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Adam is a seasoned trial lawyer who represents and defends individuals and businesses in a broad range of commercial and corporate litigation. With more than 25 years of experience in the state and federal courts, Adam approaches every

case as if it's destined to go to trial. He knows that the best strategy in litigation begins with being fully prepared to go before a jury, and that readiness to try the case improves his client's position in any settlement discussions. His litigation experience includes: Cannabis Commercial leasing Contracts Construction Corporate governance Equitable estoppel Fiduciary duty Intellectual property Legal malpractice Real Estate disputes Shareholder and partnership disputes Shareholder derivative actions Tortious interference Trademark infringement Zoning disputes Currently Adam is involved in two litigation matters regarding real estate and zoning disputes with the City of Miami. He is also particularly adept at representing shareholders or members of businesses when disputes arise over corporate governance or ownership, including closely held or family-owned businesses. He represents cannabis companies in a wide range of business-related litigation. Adam has also represented music companies both as plaintiff and defendant in copyright disputes and has defended numerous other companies in trademark infringement claims. In recent litigation, Adam secured a resolution valued at nearly \$8 million regarding a potential purchase of an auto dealership in Florida after litigation ensued over the contract. In other recent litigation, he secured a policy limits settlement of \$1.3 million regarding a legal malpractice claim pertaining to an underlying trusts and estates representation that included allegations of breach of fiduciary duty.

Career: Prior to joining Fox, Adam was a name partner in Hall, Lamb, Hall & Leto, P.A., a Florida-based, nationally recognized commercial litigation boutique where he had practiced for 20 years.

Professional Memberships: American Association for Justice | American

Bar Association | Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce | Miami-Dade County Bar Association

Personal: University of Florida College of Law (J.D., 1991) | University of Pennsylvania (B.A., 1988)

LASH, Alan D

LashGoldberg, Miami

alash@lashgoldberg.com

Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution Appellate Advocacy Class Action Litigation Complex Commercial Litigation Consumer Litigation Defense Corporate, Partnership & Shareholder Disputes Employment Litigation Health Care Litigation Health Care Operations Real Estate Litigation

Career: As a founding partner of LashGoldberg, Alan Lash brings more than 30 years of complex business litigation experience to the Firm. He serves clients in a variety of industries including health care, real estate, finance, aerospace and retail. Certified by the Florida Bar as a specialist in health law, Mr. Lash has litigated and arbitrated cases throughout the United States. He has appeared in court and arbitration proceedings in California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, North Carolina, Nevada, South Carolina and Tennessee. Mr. Lash manages an array of complex cases involving diverse and complex subject matters, ranging from the defense of claims asserting violation of federal consumer protection statutes such as the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, to the prosecution and defense of shareholder disputes and derivative actions. Mr. Lash has defended numerous class actions, as well as securities, antitrust and False Claims Act cases, and has extensive experience litigating and arbitrating large managed care and third-party payer disputes.

LAURO, John

Lauro & Singer, Tampa

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Featured in Litigation (USA - Nationwide), Litigation (Florida)

Career: JOHN F. LAURO is an accomplished trial lawyer with experience in complex criminal and commercial litigation. Mr. Lauro handles cases involving accounting, securities, conspiracy, healthcare and other white collar and commercial litigation issues. Throughout his career, he has concluded several high-profile matters that have generated considerable public attention and successful results for his clients. Mr. Lauro has obtained a Rule 29 acquittal in a high profile federal criminal case on behalf of the former president of a national healthcare company, who had been accused of violating the federal securities and conspiracy laws. Mr. Lauro has successfully represented an individual charged in the first "dot-com securities fraud" case brought in federal court in Manhattan, which resulted in a jury acquittal on all counts. Additionally, he has represented a well-known sports

figure, who had been charged with violating the federal wire fraud statute in connection with gambling activities. Mr. Lauro has also obtained a dismissal of all civil claims against a Middle Eastern banking institution in connection with the 9/11 litigation pending in New York. The case went to the Supreme Court, which denied review. Also, Mr. Lauro obtained a multi-million dollar judgment against a New York investment advisor for defrauding an international jewelry manufacturer in connection with an investment account. Mr. Lauro grew up in New York and later graduated from Georgetown University magna cum laude. While a college student, Mr. Lauro was elected to a position as an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner in the District of Columbia. As an elected official, he focused most of his attention on the development of the Georgetown waterfront and other constituent issues. He then attended Georgetown University Law Center and graduated magna cum laude. While a law student, Mr. Lauro was an editor of the Georgetown Law Journal. Following graduation from law school, Mr. Lauro returned to New York and began practicing with the international law firm of Morgan, Lewis, and Bockius. He later joined the criminal division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. After government service, Mr. Lauro established a practice in Florida, and became a partner with a national law firm. In 1994, he founded The Lauro Law Firm, (now known as Lauro & Singer) which has offices in New York and Florida with a national practice. Mr. Lauro is an active member within the legal community. He frequently participates in various continuing education and writing and speaking engagements involving environmental compliance, healthcare enforcement, trial evidence, Sarbanes-Oxley, securities compliance, federal sentencing, and other complex criminal and civil issues. He has been selected to be a Fellow in The American College of Trial Lawyers and has been continually selected by his peers to be included in The Best Lawyers in America and Florida Super Lawyers. Mr. Lauro is a graduate of The Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College and is a legal contributor to the Fox News Network, ABC News, MSNBC, and other news media.

LAYDEN, Andrew

BakerHostetler LLP, Orlando

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: North & Central)

Career: Andrew Layden is a board certified and Chambers ranked business restructuring attorney who concentrates his practice in commercial bankruptcy, troubled loan workouts, financial restructuring and commercial litigation. He represents financially distressed businesses and their owners in court supervised and out-of-court restructurings in a variety of industries, including energy, hospitality, retail,

healthcare and real estate. He also advises creditors, trustees, committees and distressed asset purchasers in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency and section 363 asset sales. From 2016 to 2020, Andrew served as the Orlando representative for the Local Rules Lawyers' Advisory Committee to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. He was elected as a member of the board of directors of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association from 2014 to 2021. Additionally, he serves in various capacities for the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and its Bankruptcy/UCC Committee. Prior to joining the firm, Andrew served as the judicial law clerk to the Honorable Caryl E. Delano, Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Middle District of Florida.

LEE, Bernice

Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, Miami

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Bankruptcy, Restructuring, Receiverships, Creditors' Rights and Insolvency Litigation

Career: Bernice Lee is a Partner at Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, and focuses her practice on bankruptcy, receiverships, and complex commercial litigation. She has extensive experience in all aspects of reorganizations, liquidations, receiverships, and insolvency related litigation. She regularly represents creditors, business debtors, investors, receivers, and trustees. Recently, Bernice has represented stakeholders in cases involving real estate, manufacturing, hospitality, retail, aviation, Ponzi schemes and other fraud, and mass tort claims. Bernice also serves as a court-appointed receiver in federal equity receiverships, including MJ Capital Funding, LLC and three related companies that were used to operate a \$200 million Ponzi scheme that defrauded thousands of investors, and Location Ventures, LLC, Urbin, LLC and 20 related companies that the SEC alleges that Rishi Kapoor used to raise over \$90 million for investment in real estate projects through a series of material misrepresentations and omissions in violation of securities laws.

Professional Memberships: Federal Court Practice Committee of the Florida Bar (Vice Chair); Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (Co-Chair), Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida (Past President); National Asian Pacific American Bar Association 2019 Leadership Advancement Program (Fellow); National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges 2016 NextGen Program (Fellow).

LEE, Gregory D

BakerHostetler LLP, Orlando

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Career: Gregory Lee has been involved in real estate development since 1994, and represents clients with regard to land use, local and state government, and real estate development matters. A large focal point of Gregory's practice involves the sports and entertainment industry, specifically sports facilities, as he works on all sides of the complex transactional structures associated with governmental approvals, development, construction, occupancy and sponsorships involving such facilities. His representation includes professional sports leagues and associations, as well as ownership groups and teams. Gregory is well positioned to assist clients with their needs and provides thoughtful and proactive counsel, using his knowledge and experience as both a real estate developer and an attorney. Gregory is the national Industry Team Chair for BakerHostetler and previously served as the leader of the Sports and Entertainment Industry practice team.

LEPPERT, Val

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Val Leppert is a first-chair appellate lawyer and legal strategist. He has handled dozens of appeals and obtained the reversal of numerous adverse judgments. Val has represented clients across an array of industries, including airline, automotive, energy, insurance, lending, medical device, pharmaceutical, private equity, technology, and transportation. But he has developed particular expertise in consumer products, having worked extensively in tobacco litigation while also representing companies in matters pertaining to alcohol and construction materials. In some matters, Val steps into the case on appeal. But in most instances, Val works alongside the trial teams from the inception of the case, devising the legal strategy from the pleadings stage through post-trial motions and appeal. Using this format, he frequently develops new and creative arguments and has attained a number of victories in pretrial proceedings, such as the dismissal of his clients before trial or limitations on the other side's claims. If a case makes it to trial, Val often serves as legal issues counsel, helping the team shape the case by obtaining favorable evidentiary rulings or jury instructions. This integrated approach, where Val is embedded with the trial team, is frequently the foundation for success in post-trial and appellate proceedings. Mr. Leppert was named the 2004 Upper Midwest Athletic Conference South Most Valuable Player on Offense after quarterbacking Westminster College (Mo) to consecutive football conference championships. He was inducted into the Westminster Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019.

LEPREE, Summer

Winston & Strawn LLP, Miami

Featured in Tax (Florida)

Practice Areas: Summer LePree represents businesses and their owners in a variety of transactional tax matters, with a particular focus on international planning and transactions. Summer is a tax partner in the Miami office. Her practice is focused on advising U.S. and foreign-based private and public companies in connection with their inbound and outbound US international tax planning. She constantly monitors developments in the U.S. and global tax laws, and thoughtfully advises clients on the relevant implications to their businesses. Summer regularly assists clients with Subpart F, GILTI, and FDII planning, FIRPTA issues, treaty planning and analysis, and overall structuring for tax optimization. Summer is a frequent speaker and author on a variety of cross-border income tax issues and, is actively involved in the ABA Tax Section, where she currently serves on the Council.

LESSER, Steven

Becker & Poliakoff PA, Fort Lauderdale 954.985.4137
SLESSER@beckerlawyers.com

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: BUSINESS LITIGATION • Alternative Dispute Resolution • Appellate CONSTRUCTION LAW & LITIGATION • Chapter 558 Specialized Claims Team • Construction Lien Law • Delay Claims • Design & Construction Contracts • Design Professional Liability • Surety Bonds

Career: Steven B. Lesser chairs the firm's national Construction Law and Litigation practice group. Mr. Lesser is Board Certified in Construction Law by the Florida Bar and devotes his practice exclusively to construction law and litigation, including governmental construction claims and defense and hotel/condominium disputes. He is a Fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers and in 2022, he was elected to the Board of Governors for a 3-year term. He has received a number of distinguished awards from the Florida Bar and American Bar Associations relative to his work in the construction industry. He is Past-Chair of the American Bar Association's Forum on Construction Law, a nationally prestigious organization devoted entirely to members of the construction industry. The Forum is the largest construction lawyer group in the world and is known for its scholarly publications and programs focusing on developments and trends in construction law. Mr. Lesser is Past-Chair of The Florida Bar Association's Board of Legal Specialization and Education ("BLSE") which administers the Bar's certification plan and provides oversight over all 27 certification committees that each focus upon a specific practice area. As part of its mission, the BLSE helps identify for the general public and the profession those attorneys who have substantial experience and have demonstrated special knowledge, skills, and proficiency in certified areas of practice and professionalism and ethics in the practice of law. He has further

served in the leadership of a variety of Florida Bar and American Bar Association Committees including Past-Chair of the Florida Bar Construction Law Certification Committee.

Professional Memberships: AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION • Standing Committee on Specialization, Member, 2016-2019; Chair, 2020-2023; Special Advisor, 2023-2024 • 2017-2019 Annual Meeting Program Planning Committee, Past-Chair • Council of the Fund for Justice and Education, Member, 2019-2020 • Building For Good, Founding Board Member • Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Scope and Correlation Standing Committee, Member, 2017-Present • Association Standing Committee on Membership and the Commission on the American Jury Project, Previous Member • Task Force on the Contingent Fee for the Tort and Insurance Practice Section, Past-Chair • Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section: Past Council Member • American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry Steering Committee on Owners and Lenders (Division 12), Past-Chair • Trial Techniques Committee of the Tort Trial and Insurance Law and Practice Section, Past-Chair • Committee on Law Office Economics of Tort, Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Past-Chair • Standing Committee on Professionalism for the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Past-Chair THE FLORIDA BAR • Vice Chair of the Grievance Mediation & Fee Arbitration Committee, 2022-2024 • Member of the Standing Committee on Professionalism, 2022, 2023-2024 • Board of Legal Specialization and Education ("BLSE"), Chair, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 • Judicial Nominating Procedures Committee, Member • Construction Law Certification Committee, Past-Chair • Florida Bar's Journal and News, Past-Chair • Bar's Grievance Committees 15(f) and 17(b), Past-Chair AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CONSTRUCTION LAWYERS • Fellow, Board of Governors, 2022-2025 INTERNATIONAL CONCRETE REPAIR INSTITUTE • Southeast Region, Vice President 2019 THE BROWARD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION • Construction Law Committee, Past-Chair LEGUS • Past-Chair FLORIDA COURTS • Certified Circuit Civil Mediator focusing on construction law disputes AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION • Certified Construction Arbitrator

Publications: • "Why In-House Corporate Counsel Should Hire a Board-Certified Lawyer," American Bar Association Business Law Section, July 2022. • "Avoiding Attack: The Arbitrator's Guide to Drafting a Bulletproof Reasoned Award," Journal of the American College of Construction Lawyers, Volume 2, Issue 2, Summer 2021. • Florida Bar Manual, "Florida Condominium and Community Association Law – Construction Defect Litigation," The Florida Bar, 2016. • "How to Comply with Chapter 558 Florida Statutes: Current Challenges and Future Changes," The Florida Bar, February 2009. • Florida Civil Practice Damages, The Florida Bar

Continuing Legal Education, "Damages in Commercial Cases," The Florida Bar, September 2006. • "The 2004 Amendments to Florida's Construction Defect Statute: Some Solutions, More Confusion," The Florida Bar, October 2004. • "Florida's New Construction Defect Statute: The Aggrieved Homeowner's Obstacle Course," The Florida Bar, October 2003. • "The Great Escape, How to Draft Exculpatory Clauses That Limit or Extinguish Liability," The Florida Bar, November 2001. • "Chipping Away of the Economic Loss Doctrine," The Florida Bar, October 1999. • "The Inadvertent Waiver of Mandatory Construction Arbitration Clauses," The Florida Bar, October 1997. • "The Validity, Force And Effect Of No Damage For Delay Clauses," The Florida Bar, January 1988. • "Discovery In Construction Litigation," The Florida Bar, December 1988. • "The Construction Lawyer's Guide To Chapter 558, Florida Statutes: A Practical Checklist," The Florida Bar, April 2016. • "Who Knew? The Misplaced Use of 'Time is of the Essence' Clauses in Construction Contracts," The Florida Bar, April 2018. • "My Favorite Mistakes: An Owner's Guide to Avoiding Disaster on Construction Projects," The Construction Lawyer, Spring 2017. • "Comments From The Chair, My Back Pages," The Construction Lawyer, September 2015. • "The Future of Our Forum," The Construction Lawyer, November 2014. • "The Twelve Deadly Sins: An Owner's Guide to Avoiding Liability for Implied Obligations During the Construction of a Project," The Construction Lawyer, Winter 2008. • "Risky Business: The Active Interference Exception to No Damage for Delay Clauses," The Construction Lawyer, Winter 2003. • "Economic Loss Doctrine and Its Impact Upon Construction Claims," The Construction Lawyer, August 1994. • "I Have Fallen and I Can't Get Up: The Inadvertent Waiver of Mandatory Construction Arbitration Clauses," The Construction Lawyer, October 1997. • "Staying Single: Preserving The Single-Purpose Entity For Construction Projects," Construction Litigation Reporter, January 2015. • "Design Professional Liability: Strategic Moves to Minimize Risk in Condominium Conversions," Construction Litigation Reporter, September 2011. • "Meet the 2007 A201: General Conditions of the Contract for Construction: Letting Go of Paper and Making Way for the 'IDM,'" Construction Litigation Reporter, April – May 2008. • "New Rules," Construction Litigation Reporter, April – May 2008. • "5 Tips to Use on the Lawyer's Road to Success," Daily Business Review, October 2017. • "Run Out Every Ground Ball – A Good Lesson for Lawyers," Daily Business Review, June 2019. • A201 Deskbook: Chapter 2: Article 2 "Owner," American Bar Association's Forum on Construction Law, 2017. • ABA Forum Construction Defects Book, Chapter 9 "Preparing the Case" (2020 Publication) • ABA Forum on Construction Law, Construction Checklists: A Guide to Frequently Encountered Construction Issues, Chapter 26 "How Owners Can

Avoid Litigation on Construction Projects," 2008 • "New Tactics For Navigating Florida Construction Defects Law," Law360, December 2015. • "Avoiding Faulty Building Claims," Construction Today, November – December 2015. • "Avoiding Attack: The Arbitrator's Guide to Drafting a Bulletproof Reasoned Award," Dispute Resolution Journal, American Arbitration Association, November 2020. • "For Better or Worse: The AIA Introduces the Initial Decision Maker in its Dispute Resolution Process," Dispute Resolution Journal, American Arbitration Association, February – April 2008. • "Beyond the Rules of Civil Procedure: The Use of Case Management Techniques in Complex Multi-Party Litigation," Trial Diplomacy Journal, 1992. • "Construction Lawyer's Guide to the 2007 AIA A201 'General Conditions of the Contract for Construction,'" Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law, American Bar Association, 2007. • "Report on Contingent Fees in Class Action Litigation," Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law, American Bar Association, 2006.

LEVENSON, Fred

McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Miami +1 305 347 6552 flevenson@mwe.com

Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Partner Frederic (Fred) L. Levenson is the co-head of the Firm's Private Equity Practice Group. He provides legal counsel to clients on a broad range of corporate counseling and sophisticated domestic and international transactions. He focuses primarily on private equity (leveraged buyouts), domestic and international mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, venture capital investments and financings, private and public offerings of equity and debt securities, restructurings, joint ventures, strategic alliances, and real estate acquisitions and financings. Fred is a practice area leader for the Healthcare Private Equity practice. Fred advises public and private companies, private equity firms and their portfolio companies, management groups, senior and subordinated lenders, real estate investment funds, and intermediaries in sophisticated, mergers and acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, financings, divestitures and going private transactions. He also represents issuers and underwriters in initial public offerings, secondary offerings and debt offerings. Fred draws on his experience with clients in a variety of industries and with diverse financial requirements to offer practical and creative advice. He has represented private equity firms, financial institutions, investment banks, start-ups, and Fortune 500 companies. Fred's industry experience includes health care, energy, manufacturing, services, retail, internet and technology, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, transportation, marketing, staffing, consumer electronics, and real estate. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/en/team/l/levenson-frederic-l>

Personal: University of Miami School of Law, JD; University of Miami School of Business, MBA.

LEWIS, Samuel A.
Cozen O'Connor, Miami
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Practice Areas: Samuel is the Co-Chair of Cozen O'Connor's Copyright Practice. His practice primarily involves intellectual property litigation, with a focus on copyrights, trade secrets, and patents involving a variety of technologies. He is also involved with data and information protection and enforcement, and licensing and transactional matters relating to computer software and technologies, including extensive open source licensing experience. Sam is certified by the Florida Supreme Court as a circuit mediator. He also serves as the Chair of the firm's Technology Committee.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association, American Intellectual Property Law Association, The Florida Bar Business Law Section, The Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section

Personal: University of Florida College of Law, J.D.; Florida State University, B.A. and M.A. Board Certified by the Florida Bar in Intellectual Property, 2007 to Present.

LICHTSTEIN, Jason
Akerman LLP, Tallahassee
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Featured in Environment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jason Lichtstein focuses his practice on the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields and other contaminated sites in the Southeast U.S. A Florida and Georgia Bar member, his practice includes a broad range of environmental transactional, environmental regulatory compliance, and state incentives matters and in emerging environmental law and policy developments relating to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG), climate change, and sustainability issues. A two-time President of the Florida Brownfields Association (FBA), he has significant experience in the cleanup, redevelopment, reuse, and repurposing of brownfields and a wide variety of contaminated properties. He has also been involved in the drafting, lobbying, and passage of brownfields legislation, expanding incentives for site cleanup and redevelopment. Jason is a member of the Steering Committee of the National Brownfields Coalition.

LIFSHITZ, Tal J.
Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, Miami
Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Complex Litigation, Antitrust Violations, Fraud and Ponzi Schemes, Deceptive Trade Practices, Corporate Shareholder Disputes, Securities Law Violations, Class and Group Actions
Career: Tal is an experienced litigator and former federal judicial law clerk

with federal jury trial experience, Tal is part of a team at KTT that handles "bet the company" cases and class actions. He has represented a wide range of sophisticated corporate and individual clients, including investors in high-stakes business disputes, investment and securities frauds, and Ponzi scheme litigation. Some of the cases Tal has worked on include representing 70% of victims of the \$1.2 billion Scott Rothstein South Florida Ponzi scheme, leading to a nearly 100% recovery of these victims' hundreds of millions of dollars in losses. More recently, Tal also had a leading role in securing a \$150 million settlement against Raymond James on behalf of EB-5 immigrant investors in the Jay Peak scheme that misappropriated more than \$350 million in investor funds, and in managing the litigation stemming from the tragic Champlain Towers South building collapse in Surfside, Fla., as part of KTT's court appointment as Co-Chair Lead Counsel in the *In re: Champlain Towers South Collapse Litigation*. In less than 15 months, the KTT-led plaintiffs secured over \$1.1 billion dollars in relief for the Surfside victims. Since 2019, Tal has been recognized by Super Lawyers in the area of Class Actions/ Mass Torts, and was included in the 2023 Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch. He has served as a Faculty Member for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), teaching multi-day trial and deposition technique programs using NITA's hands-on, "learn-by-doing" method, and recently concluded his term as President for the South Florida Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. In December 2023, he was featured in a Daily Business Review profile for his impact and influence at a young age. And this year Tal was recognized by the Daily Business Review's 2024 Florida Legal Awards as "On The Rise."

LINZER, Ross E.
King & Spalding LLP, Miami
rlinzer@kslaw.com

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Ross Linzer focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation and class action defense in state and federal courts. Ross represents corporate directors and officers in shareholder and derivative class actions involving allegations of securities fraud and breach of fiduciary duties. He also has significant experience representing insurance companies at the trial and appellate levels. Ross brings a diverse perspective and applies strategic considerations in helping clients to navigate their complex business challenges. Mr. Linzer has broad experience defending a variety of tort, environmental, and product liability cases in addition to his insurance defense and securities litigation experience.

LISS, Jeremy S.
Kirkland & Ellis, Chicago
1.312.862.2286
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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Jeremy advises private equity funds, leading companies, family offices and business owners on structuring and negotiating complex transactions, including domestic and cross-border transactions, divestitures, purchases and sales through bankruptcy and out-of-court restructuring, and equity financings. He helped pioneer the development and popularization of transactional risk insurance products, including representations and warranty insurance, and heads Kirkland's transactional risk insurance practice. Jeremy is a leader in Kirkland's initiative to use technology to develop innovative ways to deliver premium legal services and enhanced value to clients. Jeremy is business-oriented advisor who approaches negotiations with a win-win mindset and draws from his vast experience across industries and deal types to drive value. Further to this, Jeremy leads Kirkland's Miami office, which launched in 2022 and has already grown to approximately 50 attorneys. **Personal:** University of Michigan, B.A., 1995; University of Michigan Law School, J.D., 1998.

LOPEZ, Javier
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Commercial Litigation, Class Actions

Career: Javier has particular expertise in advising and representing clients in matters brought in U.S. federal and state courts. He has represented many high-profile corporations and individuals in contract and business disputes, commercial transactions, real estate, alter ego and piercing the corporate veil claims, class action, and intellectual property matters. He was appointed by the Court as Co-Lead Counsel in the class action involving the tragic Surfside building collapse case. He has handled trials and appeals on both the state and federal levels.

Professional Memberships: National Association of Legal Fee Analysis (NALFA) Past President of the Cuban American Bar Association Florida Bar

LOPEZ, Peter D.
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterton, P.A., Miami
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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Peter Lopez's practice focuses on all aspects of commercial real estate. Peter has extensive experience in acquisition, financing, development, construction, leasing and disposition of commercial real estate. His clients include buyers, sellers, lenders, investors, developers, and other owners and operators of real estate. **Career:** Peter Lopez is Shareholder and member of the Firm's Executive Committee and Board of Directors. **Professional Memberships:** Nicklaus Children's Hospital Foundation, Chair of Board of Directors.

LOTTERBERG, Geoffrey

Berger Singerman, Fort Lauderdale

Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Practice Areas: As lead of Berger Singerman's Intellectual Property Group and a Florida Bar Board Certified Intellectual Property attorney, Geoff handles a wide variety of matters, including IP procurement and enforcement, business and technology law, and complex commercial litigation. With a calculated approach, Geoff regularly litigates patent, trademark, and copyright disputes in Federal Court throughout the United States. He also handles a variety of technology-related commercial litigation matters including disputes over software contracts, non-compete agreements, and trade secrets. Geoff is also well-versed in Cybersecurity and Internet law including data privacy, data security, online defamation and reputation defense, and cyber-related forensic investigations. As a Registered Patent Attorney armed with a background in mechanical engineering, Geoff prosecutes domestic and foreign patents and renders opinions on a variety of cutting-edge technologies, including protective products, semi-conductor and server cooling, nanoparticles, artificial intelligence, automation, facial recognition technology, medical devices, emergency communication devices, software-based systems, and energy devices. Geoff also has hundreds of federal trademark applications and registrations under his belt. Geoff is an experienced transactional lawyer who works on broad array of corporate intellectual property matters including negotiating and preparing license agreements, software contracts, manufacturing and distribution agreements, and intellectual property asset transfers. Geoff is a key member of our firm's mergers and acquisitions team and provides support in restructuring and work out matters.

Professional Memberships: - American Intellectual Property Law Association, Member - International Trademark Association, Member - Chair, Florida Bar 17th Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "E" **Publications:** - Lottenberg, G. (2019a, April 5). Visual Search Engines: A New Side Door for Competitors or a Better Infringement Detection Tool?. IPWatchdog. <https://www.ipwatchdog.com/2019/04/05/visual-search-engines-a-new-side-door-for-competitors-or-a-better-infringement-detection-tool-id=107965/> - Lottenberg, G. (2019b, May 30). High Court Places Heavy Burden on Bankrupt TM Licensors. Law360. [https://www.law360.com/articles/1164180-lottenberg-g-\(2019c-august-6\)](https://www.law360.com/articles/1164180-lottenberg-g-(2019c-august-6).) - Five Practical Settlement Strategies to Get Your Client Out of Dodge. IPWatchdog.com. <https://ipwatchdog.com/2019/08/06/five-practical-settlement-strategies-get-client-dodge/id=111928/> - Lottenberg, G. (2020a, January 3). Imminent College Athlete Licensing Puts Cos.. on Notice. Law360. <https://www.law360.com/>

articles/1230577/imminent-college-athlete-licensing-puts-cos-on-notice -Lottenberg, G. (2020b, July 2). COVID-19 Telehealth Boom Demands Better Privacy Practices. Law360. <https://www.law360.com/articles/1287404> -Lottenberg, G. (2020c, October 21). Unexpectedly Active IP Legal Market Bucks Recession Trends and Boosts Outlook. IPWatchdog.com. <https://ip-watchdog.com/2020/10/19/unexpectedly-active-ip-legal-market-bucks-recession-trends-boosts-outlook/> id=126313/-Lottenberg, G. (2021a, March 22). Proposed Data Privacy Legislation Heightens Scrutiny on Fla. Businesses. Daily Business Review. <https://www.law.com/dailybusinessreview/2021/03/22/proposed-data-privacy-legislation-heightens-scrutiny-on-fla-businesses/> -Lottenberg, G. (2021b, April 9). It's Time to Modernize Amateurism in College Sports. Law360. <https://www.law360.com/articles/1373125> -Lottenberg, G. (2022, July 22). Big Awards Underscore Importance of Bolstering Your Company's Trade Secret Protocols. IPWatchdog.com. <https://ipwatchdog.com/2022/07/25/big-awards-underscore-importance-bolstering-companys-trade-secret-protocols/> id=150345/-Lottenberg, G. (2023, January 31). Middle Market Mindset: New Considerations for IP Audits in 2023. Daily Business Review. <https://www.law.com/dailybusinessreview/2023/01/31/middle-market-mindset-new-considerations-for-ip-audits-in-2023/> -Lottenberg, G., & Niles, M. J. (2019, May 19). SCOTUS Finally Clarifies Rights of Licensees of Bankrupt Brands. Berger Singerman LLP. <https://www.bergersingerman.com/news-insights/scotus-finally-clarifies-rights-of-licensees-of-bankrupt-brands>

LUMPKIN, R. Hugh
Reed Smith LLP, Miami
(786) 747-0200
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Featured in Insurance (Florida)
Practice Areas: Hugh, a partner in Reed Smith's Insurance Recovery Group, has represented policyholders in evaluating, settling and litigating insurance claims filed in state or federal court, trial of coverage and extra-contractual claims, as well as appellate work for over 40 years. He and others at Reed Smith advocated for businesses in relation to insurance coverage for the COVID-19 pandemic, including seeking coverage under property insurance, business interruption, contingent business interruption, civil authority, and general liability insurance coverages. He was also active in securing coverage for a principal defendant in the Champlain Towers tragedy. On two occasions, he has obtained eight-figure recoveries or awards in bad faith cases as well as multiple seven-figure recoveries in numerous first and third-party coverage actions. He has also briefed and argued more than 100 appeals. Hugh has written on insurance issues and has appeared as a frequent lecturer for the American Bar Association,

and other organizations that provide educational and business opportunities to professionals.

M STEVENSON, Allison
Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Products Liability; Tobacco & Vapor; Consumer Products Liability Litigation; Litigation

Career: Alli devotes her practice to working with product manufacturers and retailers to ensure they are protected against claims for personal injury, wrongful death, false or unfair marketing, and trade libel. She has successfully defended a diverse array of claims in state and federal courts, including in the cosmetics, medical device, tobacco, and home product litigation arenas. Her academic research is devoted to issues involving pay equality and workplace diversity. She chairs the National Association of Women Lawyers Advocacy Committee, is a member of the board of directors of the Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers, and has published and contributed to works centered on reducing the disparity in pay and mentorship among genders and ethnicities in a wide array of professions.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar Association's William Reece Smith, Jr. Leadership Academy National Association of Women Lawyers Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers American Bar Association Federal Bar Association Hillsborough County Bar Association Defense Research Institute Florida Association of Women Lawyers

MARCUS, Jeffrey
Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro LLP, Miami
305-400-4262
jmarcus@mnrlawfirm.com

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jeff's practice focuses on high stakes white collar and civil litigation. He has defended professional sports franchises, military and private security contractors and executives, financial institutions and officers, healthcare and pharmaceutical companies and executives, politicians, media and entertainment companies, and hospitals and physicians among others.

Career: Prior to being a Founding Member of MNR, Jeff was a shareholder at Kenny Nachwalter P.A. Before that, he was an AUSA in the SDFL. Prior to being an AUSA, Jeff practiced with Eckert Seamans in Boston. He also clerked for the Honorable Stanley Marcus of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the Honorable Donald M. Middlebrooks of the United States Court for the Southern District of Florida.

MARSH, Michael C.
Akerman LLP, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: An accomplished first chair trial lawyer and trusted counselor, Michael Marsh has extensive experience representing Fortune 500 companies and private equity firms in high stakes business disputes and providing strategic input and guidance on business issues. With a wide-ranging litigation practice in federal and state courts throughout the United States, he is an important resource for clients engaged in disputes involving sophisticated commercial contracts, securities and other class action defense, shareholder disputes, Mergers & Acquisitions, private equity, and D&O liability. Michael has served as lead trial counsel in many jury and bench trials across the country on behalf of clients in various industries. Outside of the courtroom, clients turn to Michael for counsel on day-to-day operations, high value employment matters, major restructurings, and navigating corporate governance and compliance issues, including federal and state agency investigations.

MASTERSON, Mark O
Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson, LLP, Maitland
407 622 5250
mmasterson@moopd.com

Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Construction. Extensive experience representing US and international contractors, construction managers, design-build firms, concessionaires and other construction-related participants throughout the United States in multi-million dollar contract reviews, contract negotiations, bid reviews and protests, claim preparation and disputes (dispute resolution boards, arbitrations and court).

Career: Board certified in construction law by The Florida Bar; admitted: Florida, Texas, Virginia, Senior Partner, Moye, O'Brien, Pickert, Dillon & Masterson, LLP, Florida; admitted to US District Court, Middle District of Florida; Eastern District of Virginia; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit; US Supreme Court.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association Florida Transportation Builders Association Orange County Bar Association The Florida Bar The Texas Bar The Virginia Bar Construction Lawyers Society of America
Personal: BA University of Florida, 1998; JD University of Florida, 2000.

MCCLELLAND, Dennis
Phelps Dunbar LLP, New Orleans
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Dennis McClelland is a board certified labor and employment lawyer who has practiced exclusively in the area of labor and employment for over 23 years. Dennis represents employers in civil court litigation, arbitrations and administrative proceedings regarding claims involving wage and hour, employment discrimination, family and medical leave, union-management relations, employee benefits, and various employment-related torts. In

particular, he has extensive experience representing companies in FLSA collective actions, mass individual and multi-plaintiff FLSA actions following decertification, and Department of Labor investigations. He also provides strategic consulting to companies regarding complex wage and hour law compliance matters.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association, Section of Labor and Employment Law; FLSA Subcommittee, Federal Labor Standards Legislation Committee of the Labor and Employment Law Section (Co-Chair, 2014-2016; Co-Chair of FLSA Subcommittee, 2009-2012) Wage and Hour Defense Institute - Litigation Counsel of America (2009-present) Academy of Florida Management Attorneys (Co-Chair of Wage and Hour Law Committee) State Bar of Florida -Labor and Employment Law Section Hillsborough County Bar Association (Board of Directors, 2003-2004; Young Lawyers Division, President, 2003-2004) Hillsborough County Bar Foundation (Board of Directors, 2005-2006) Litigation Counsel of America (Senior Fellow) Board Certified, Specialist in Labor and Employment Law, certified by The Florida Bar (2004-present)

MCDONOUGH, Brian

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami
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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Brian McDonough represents developers in real estate matters using federal low income housing tax credits and government loan programs including tax exempt bonds for multifamily housing developments. He represents buyers and sellers of tax credit projects ending their compliance periods in connection with re-syndication of such projects.

Career: Brian McDonough is a member of the firm's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. He chairs the Firm's Affordable Housing & Tax Credit Group and is based out of Miami, Florida.

Professional Memberships: Legal Counsel, Coalition of Affordable Housing Providers (organization of developers, lenders, tax credit syndicators, and other professionals involved in the acquisition, financing, and development of affordable housing in Florida); Founder & Executive Director, Give Kids A Chance (charitable organization providing scholarships to low-income students); Board of Directors, Camillus House (provider of housing and supportive services to homeless); Board of Directors, Casa Familia (provider of affordable housing and related services to intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals)

MCLAUGHLIN, Andrew

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami

Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Andrew W. McLaughlin assists clients in a variety

of employee benefits matters including their 401(k) plans, ESOPs, health benefits, executive compensation, Code Section 409A, and other matters arising under ERISA, the Affordable Care Act, and similar laws. Andy has successfully assisted clients in resolving matters involving the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Labor and Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. Andy also assists clients in labor and employment matters. He represents private, public and non-profit employers in labor, employment discrimination, restrictive covenant, minimum wage/overtime, employment contract, and employee benefits related litigation. Andy has an LL.M. in Taxation and a Certificate in Employee Benefits. Andy provides clients with proactive advice regarding their HR practices including assisting in the administration of their employee benefits plans.

Career: Andy McLaughlin is a Shareholder of the Firm and is based in Tampa, Florida.

Publications: Andy is a frequent writer, lecturer and panelist on various labor & employment and employee benefits issues. He is also a contributor to the firm's Labor & Employment Law Blog, BeLaborThePoint.com

MEAD, Grace

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Grace Mead is a trial and appellate lawyer in all areas of commercial litigation. She handles securities, corporate, mergers and acquisitions, real estate, government, and class action litigation under a wide range of federal and state laws, representing clients in the financial, hospitality and leisure, automobile, and real estate industries. She has represented clients in cases across the country and in arbitration.

Career: Grace Mead, a member of the Firm's Board of Directors, is based out of Miami, Florida. She is a trustee of The Miami Foundation, involved in various charities serving the LGBTQ+ community, and a Member of the American Law Institute.

Professional Memberships: Grace is admitted to the Florida and New York Bars, the U.S. District Courts for the Southern, Middle, and Northern Districts of Florida, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits.

Publications: Grace has written on topics including class actions, securities litigation, corporate law issues, and LGBTQ+ issues.

Personal: Law Clerk, Honorable Jerry E. Smith of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit (2001-2002). She was also Editor-in-Chief of The University of Chicago Law Review, wrote and published a novel, plays tennis, and has performed stand-up comedy.

MELAND, Mark

Meland Budwick, P.A., Miami

Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Real Estate, Corporate and Transactional Matters, Condominium, Multi-Family and Mixed-Use Development, Corporate Law

Career: Mark Meland co-founded the firm in 1993. Mark is an accomplished real estate lawyer handling the entire lifecycle of real estate transactions. His diverse client base includes sponsors, developers, entrepreneurs, individuals and lenders in commercial and residential multi-million transactions across the United States.

Professional Memberships: •

Member, American Bar Association • Member, Miami-Dade Bar • Chair of the Board of Trustees, Young Musicians Unite • Board of Trustees, Greater Miami Jewish Federation

MELE, Dennis

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Government Relations Land Use & Zoning Hospitality, Alcohol & Leisure Industry

Career: Dennis D. Mele is a partner and Chair of the Land Use & Zoning practice group. He is widely recognized for his work in land use, zoning, environmental and governmental law. Having experience as a land planner and a city manager, Mr. Mele has a unique understanding of the myriad issues developers, property owners and local governments face; and is able to advise clients on a wide range of complex matters.

Mr. Mele represents clients before federal, state, regional and local government agencies. He has extensive experience in land use, construction and budgeting issues pertaining to real estate development projects. In addition, he represents developers in obtaining approvals for Developments of Regional Impact (DRI's), land use plan amendments, dredge and fill/environmental resource permitting and other development projects. Mr. Mele also has experience in representing clients with regard to wetlands jurisdictional determinations. Utilizing his extensive experience with local government, Mr. Mele represents clients in the annexation of large land areas into municipalities, including the preparation of annexation agreements and special acts to protect property owners' rights. He also represents local government, developers and property owners seeking development entitlements and works closely with real estate attorneys on land use and environmental issues affecting real estate transactions. Mr. Mele frequently lectures on land use issues including environmental permitting and comprehensive planning.

Professional Memberships: City of Coconut Creek, City Manager South Florida Regional Planning Council, Broward County and City of Coconut Creek, Land Planner American Institute of

Certified Planners, Member American Planning Association, Member

MENDEZ, Rebecca

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami

Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Rebecca Mendez has particular experience representing institutional and non-institutional commercial real estate lenders, bridge lenders, investors and developers in connection with the financing, acquisition and disposition of commercial real estate assets including retail shopping centers, office buildings, apartment buildings, hotels, warehouse, industrial and mixed-use properties. In addition, Rebecca represents both institutional and non-institutional lenders in connection with the origination and securitization of commercial real estate loans. She also provides representation to institutional lenders in connection with the disposition of distressed real estate assets and distressed loans including loan modifications, workouts and loan sale transactions. Rebecca has experience with complex commercial real estate transactions involving lease negotiation, joint venture acquisitions, property development, community development districts, mortgage-backed securities and property management.

MENOR, Arthur J

Shutts & Bowen LLP, West Palm Beach
amenor@shutts.com

Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-arthur-j-menor>

MEROLA, Danielle L

BakerHostetler LLP, Orlando
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Danielle Merola concentrates her practice on commercial bankruptcy, financial restructuring and commercial litigation. She brings an in-depth understanding of judicial processes to her bankruptcy practice from previously serving as a law clerk at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. Danielle represents debtors, creditors, trustees, committees and asset purchasers in bankruptcy cases throughout the country. During her clerkship, she was the head writer on the Procedure Manual Committee and drafted and edited district-wide procedures consistent with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the Bankruptcy Code and local practices. This experience provides Danielle with a unique perspective on court-specific rules and practices nationwide.

MEYERS, Dawn

Berger Singerman, Fort Lauderdale
954-712-5147

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Featured in Environment (Florida)

Practice Areas: As the longest-serving member and former manager of Berger Singerman's Government and Regulatory Team, Dawn concentrates her practice on environmental and land

use law, government contracting and regulation. Dawn's primary focus has been the rehabilitation and redevelopment of environmentally impacted properties such as golf courses, old manufacturing sites, gas stations, and landfills. Her regulatory experience has included representation of clients in a variety of diverse industries including aviation, port and marine, manufacturers, solid waste disposal, venue management, land developers, construction, hotels, and restaurants. Dawn routinely represents clients before municipal, county, state and federal agencies and governing bodies. She also served as General Counsel to the Boca Raton Airport Authority, a special independent district, for more than a decade where she focused on matters such as ground leases, facility expansion, grant procurement and compliance, property acquisition, and development of public buildings, as well as capital projects, strategic planning, governance and policy development, procurement, code development and enforcement, and other matters relating to operating within a changing regulatory environment.

Additionally, Dawn puts her experience as a former Chief Hearing Officer at Florida's Department of Business and Professional Regulation to use in her representation of clients on a range of permitting, licensing and enforcement issues. Dawn is proud to be in her 30th year of practice with Berger Singerman, and considers being Berger Singerman's first female partner one of her proudest career achievements.

Professional Memberships: • The Florida Bar – Member, Environmental and Land Use Law Section – Member,

County and Local Government Law Sections – Broward County Bar Association, Government Law Section – Leadership Fort Lauderdale, Greater Fort Lauderdale – Chamber of Commerce, Class X Graduate and Class XIV Curriculum Chairperson

Publications: • Meyers, D. (2020a, March 23). Client Alert – COVID-19: SBA Loan Programs for Florida Small Businesses. Berger Singerman LLP. <https://www.bergersingerman.com/news-insights/client-alert---covid-19-sba-loan-programs-for-florida-small-businesses> • Meyers, D. (2020b, March 25). Client Alert: Economic Resources for Businesses Impacted by COVID-19. Berger Singerman LLP. <https://www.bergersingerman.com/news-insights/client-alert---covid-19-economic-resources-for-businesses-impacted-by-covid-19> • Meyers, D. (2020c, April 2). Client Alert – COVID-19: Treasury Department Issues Regulations Refining Paycheck Protection Program. Berger Singerman LLP. <https://www.bergersingerman.com/news-insights/client-alert-covid-19---treasury-department-issues-regulations-refining-paycheck-protection-program> • Meyers, D. (2020d, April 8). Client Alert – COVID-19: Federal Reserve Announces Main Street Lending Program. Berger Singerman LLP. <https://www.bergersingerman.com/news-insights/client-alert-covid-19---federal-reserve-announces-main-street-lending-program>

client-alert-covid-19---federal-reserve-announces-main-street-lending-program---Meyers, D. (2020e, April 23). Client Alert - COVID-19: Good Faith Certifications Under the Paycheck Protection Program. Berger Singerman LLP. [**MEYERS, Kathryn**
Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro LLP, Miami
305 422 1101
kmeyers@mnrlawfirm.com
Practice Areas: Kate Meyers has more than two decades of experience handling sophisticated criminal, civil, and regulatory matters. Her practice focuses on white collar criminal defense, with an emphasis on health care fraud, securities fraud, money laundering, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, mortgage fraud, and environmental law. Kate represents clients in internal investigations and in all phases of litigation, and has tried a number of cases to verdict. She has handled matters in state and federal courts in Florida and New York, and before the U.S. Securities Exchange Commission and the National Association of Securities Dealers. Prior to joining MNR, Kate worked in the New York office of a global law firm and later at a litigation boutique where she focused on white-collar and securities defense. Kate began her career as a judicial law clerk for the late Honorable Thomas Platt, who then served on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. A Miami native, Kate gives back to her community by serving on the boards of the Heckscher Foundation for Children and Breakthrough Miami.](https://construction-today.com/news/developer-beware/</p>
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MILLER, Alison W
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami
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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)
Practice Areas: Alison Miller is a corporate and securities lawyer with over 40 years of experience advising individuals, companies and financial institutions on all aspects of business activities and transactions, mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance. Alison brings a pragmatic approach to business issues and offers creative solutions to complex problems. Her clients are engaged in a wide range of industries, including banking and financial services, life sciences, real estate and hospitality.

Career: Alison joined the firm in 1976 and became a name partner in 1985 – a time when few women lawyers were practicing in Florida, and even fewer held leadership roles in law firms. Over the past four decades as a member of the Firm's Executive Committee, she has been instrumental in the growth and management of the firm.

Professional Memberships: The Miami Foundation, Board of Trustees, 2018-present; United Way of Miami-Dade, Former Director; Feeding South Florida, Former Board Member.

Publications: Alison frequently lectures on topics relating to banking, securities law, acquisitions, accounting topics and compliance issues, including AML-BSA compliance.

MILLER, Brian P
King & Spalding LLP, Miami
305-778-2308
bmillier@kslaw.com
Featured in Litigation (Florida)
Practice Areas: Brian Miller focuses his practice on securities class action defense, SEC investigations, internal investigations of whistleblower allegations, accounting fraud, fiduciary duties, and other commercial disputes. Brian has defended dozens of shareholder class actions alleging securities fraud, accounting fraud, and breach of fiduciary duty. Collectively, these matters have sought damages in the billions of dollars. Mr. Miller represents directors and officers of public companies, investment funds, and other individual and corporate clients facing SEC investigations and bet-the-company litigation involving securities fraud or fiduciary duty allegations. Brian draws upon his experience as a former SEC lawyer to represent his clients. Many of his cases involve multiple related lawsuits and pending government or regulatory investigations in different jurisdictions across the United States and internationally.

MOSES, Glenn D
Venable LLP, Miami
(305) 372-2522
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)
Practice Areas: Glenn Moses focuses on complex commercial bankruptcy, financial restructuring, and insolvency matters, including related litigation. Glenn represents Chapter 11 debtors-in-possession (DIP), official committees of unsecured creditors, Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 trustees, liquidating trusts, DIP lenders, secured creditors, commercial landlords, equity interest holders, strategic investors, and purchasers of assets from bankruptcy estates. He has substantial experience in litigating a wide variety of bankruptcy-related claims at both the trial and appellate levels, including avoidance litigation, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, and professional negligence claims. He also has significant experience representing franchisors in numerous franchisee bankruptcies throughout the country.

MULDOWNEY, Patrick M
BakerHostetler LLP, Orlando
407.649.4002
pmuldowney@bakerlaw.com
Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Career: Pat Muldowney brings more than 30 years of experience to advising and representing private- and public-sector management clients in connection with traditional labor and employment law issues. Dedicated to assisting his clients in all aspects of litigation or general counsel, Pat places a high premium on responsiveness and practices with a sensitivity to his clients' business needs. Clients appreciate Pat's attention to their matters, which is evidenced by his long-standing relationships with a variety of employers, ranging from established Fortune 500 companies to growing small and mid-sized businesses. A significant part of Pat's nationwide practice includes the defense of employers in class/collective actions. He also has defended clients before the National Labor Relations Board, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Florida Commission on Human Relations. Additionally, Pat provides legal advice to clients relating to their dealings with unions. In addition to having a busy law practice, Pat is an adjunct professor at Rollins College, where he teaches a course on labor and employment law in the Master of Human Resources program. He is also co-leader of BakerHostetler's Labor Relations team.

MUNOZ, Freddy
Peckar & Abramson, P.C., Miami
Featured in Construction (Florida)
Practice Areas: Business Litigation Construction & Infrastructure
Professional Memberships: Dade County Bar Association The Florida Bar Young Lawyer's Division
Publications: • "Soaring Construction Material Prices: Tips for Reducing Ever-Increasing Costs," P&A Client Alert, August 2021 (Co-Author) • "HR Issues - Coming Back to the New "Normal,"" South Florida Construction Financial Management Association general meeting, May 2021 (Speaker) • "Lessons Learned From One of Miami's First Zoom Bench Trials," Daily Business Review/Law.com, September 2020 (Co-Author) • "Don't Be Clueless, Careless or Criminal: How to Legally Operate a Construction Zone Drone," Daily Business Review, March 2018, (Co-Author).

NEILL, Anna
Kenny Nachwalt PA, Miami
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Featured in Antitrust (Florida)

Practice Areas: Anna Neill is a federal antitrust attorney, primarily representing plaintiffs. An experienced trial attorney, her practice focuses on bringing claims for large retail pharmacy chains against brand and generic pharmaceutical companies that engage in anticompetitive practices designed to thwart generic competition and thereby drive up the cost of prescription drugs. Anna has represented retailer plaintiffs in well over a dozen pharmaceutical reverse payment cases. In these cases, sometimes called "pay-for-delay" cases, brand drug manufacturers and their potential generic drug competitors conspire to have the brand manufacturer pay the generic company to refrain from introducing a competing generic drug for some period of time. During this period of delay, which may extend from several months to many years, both the brand and the generic manufacturer benefit financially by sharing the monopoly profits of the brand drug, while the purchasers of those drugs – including retailers, patients, and health insurers – are forced to pay higher

prices than they otherwise would in a competitive market.

Career: Anna was a member of the Miami Chapter of the ACLU of Florida from 2016 until 2023, serving as member of the chapter's legal panel and as Secretary of the chapter from 2021 through 2023. She has also served as a Vice-Chair of the Health Care & Pharmaceuticals Committee of the Antitrust Section of the ABA since 2022. Anna has an active pro bono practice, currently representing authors and schoolchildren in federal litigation against certain school boards in Florida in cases alleging First Amendment violations related to those boards' removal of the children's book *And Tango Makes Three* from school libraries based on its positive LGBTQ+ viewpoint. She also previously worked as a cooperating attorney with the ACLU in federal litigation to protect the rights of individuals experiencing homelessness. Following college, Anna earned a Ph.D. in Marine Biology from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California at San Diego. Her Ph.D. dissertation study focused on cellular signaling pathways involved in sea urchin fertilization, including work in cellular biology, protein biochemistry, and bioinformatics. Following the completion of her Ph.D., Anna attended Stanford Law School, completing her J.D. in 2008. She then clerked for the Honorable Rosemary Barkett on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. After her clerkship, she practiced with a large, international law firm primarily focused on intellectual property litigation before joining Kenny Nachwalter in 2012.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association – Antitrust Law Section – Litigation Section California Lawyers Association – Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section – Intellectual Property Law Section The Florida Bar – Business Law Section – Trial Lawyers Section

NEIMAN, Jeffrey
Marcus Neiman Rashbaum & Pineiro LLP, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida), Tax (USA – Nationwide), Tax (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jeffrey Neiman is an experienced trial lawyer who regularly defends individuals and corporations in white-collar criminal litigation, matters involving tax controversies, government regulatory enforcement matters, internal investigations, compliance counseling, and complex civil litigation. Jeff has tried more than a dozen white-collar matters in federal court. An alum of the US DOJ Attorney General's Honors Program, Jeff began his career working for the DOJ Tax Division and then the Criminal Division, Fraud Section in Washington, D.C. He then served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, where he received national recognition for handling complex, high profile matters

including the ground-breaking prosecution of Switzerland's largest bank, UBS AG, for aiding American citizens to commit tax fraud. For his efforts on the UBS investigation, Jeff was awarded the Attorney General's John Marshall Award for Outstanding Legal Achievement and the Internal Revenue Service Commissioner's Award. Jeff graduated with honors from the University of Florida and the University of Florida Levin College of Law where he was a member of the Order of the Coif. Jeff also is a frequent lecturer, panelist, and contributor at national conferences on topics including offshore tax evasion, tax fraud, Ponzi schemes, and trial practice.

NELSON, Gregory A.
Fox Rothschild, West Palm Beach
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gnelson@foxrothschild.com

Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Practice Areas: An experienced intellectual property attorney, Gregory provides strategic representation to his clients in all phases of patent, trademark and copyright law, including prosecution, licensing and litigation. His clients include technology companies and universities, which he assists in developing patent strategies related to medical devices, biotechnology, chemistry, materials science and computer and internet technology. Gregory has extensive experience in and a particular focus on biosciences, representing universities and a national laboratory in obtaining, evaluating and licensing patents. Gregory serves as the firm's West Palm Beach Office Managing Partner.

Career: Prior to joining Fox, Gregory was a partner at a national intellectual property law firm, where he served as co-chair of the Patent Prosecution Practice.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar | American Bar Association | BioFlorida | Licensing Executive Society | Palm Beach County Bar Association | American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)

Personal: University of Florida College of Law (J.D.) | University of Florida (B.S., chemical engineering)

NEUGEBAUER MACINNES, Nicole
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Tampa

Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Nicole Neugebauer focuses her practice on advising clients on a wide-range of complex land use permitting and entitlement issues, including comprehensive plans and amendments, rezonings, variances, special exceptions, code enforcement, Development of Regional Impact (DRI) review and other related aspects of securing development authorization. In addition to her land use practice, Nicole also represents clients in circuit court and appellate litigation on a variety of land development matters.

Professional Memberships: Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Tampa Bay, 2021-Present; Junior League of Tampa, 2020-Present

Publications: Nicole is a frequent author on various land development matters and has helped draft the firm's quarterly newsletter, What's Developing since 2017.

NILES, Michael
Berger Singerman, Tallahassee
Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Michael Niles is a partner on Berger Singerman's Business Reorganization Team and Business, Finance & Tax Team in its Tallahassee office. Mike focuses his practice on commercial bankruptcy and creditors' rights matters, bankruptcy litigation, and commercial real estate transactions. Mike's practice is primarily devoted to a wide range of insolvency matters, including representation of corporate and consumer clients in complex workouts, bankruptcies, assignment for the benefit of creditors and receiverships. He is an experienced practitioner representing debtors, creditors' committees, Chapter 7 trustees, and fiduciaries in fraud-related cases where he advocates for victims of Ponzi schemes and financial frauds. In addition, his practice encompasses both the prosecution and defense of all forms of complex bankruptcy litigation, including preference, fraudulent transfers, and complex contested matters. Additionally, Mike's practice extends to assisting property owners, developers, and lenders in commercial real estate, including the acquisition, sale, leasing, and development of real property.

NORDBY, Daniel
Shutts & Bowen LLP, Miami
Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-daniel-e-nordby>

OSORIO, Beatriz
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Featured in Immigration (Florida)

Practice Areas: Beatriz Osorio is the Founder and Managing Partner of Osorio P.A., a U.S. immigration law firm. We provide high-quality, efficient, responsive, and customized service to our clients. As a trusted advisor to her clients, Beatriz counsels individuals, entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals, as well as major corporations, multinationals, publicly traded corporations, and small and start-up businesses on a wide range of their U.S. immigration needs. Beatriz also frequently works with ultra-high-net-worth individuals, their family offices, and their institutional advisors on customized immigration strategies and understands their needs. Beatriz is involved in the preparation of employment based nonimmigrant and immigrant visa petitions, such as Investor Visa Applications, Professional/Specialty Occupation Petitions, Intracompany Transferee Petitions, Extraordinary Ability Petitions, Physician-Specific Immigration Applications/Petitions, and Consular Visa Applications. She also participates in counseling employers

regarding their compliance with U.S. immigration laws. In addition to business immigration matters, she also handles family-based petitions, student visas, and citizenship applications. Beatriz has exclusively dedicated her career to practicing U.S. immigration law. Prior to establishing her own firm, she was a Shareholder at one of the largest and oldest business law firms in Florida, where she represented corporate clients and individuals in a variety of complex business immigration matters.

Personal: As a Colombian native, Beatriz is fluent in Spanish and English, and frequently handles matters which are conducted and documented in Spanish. Her multi-cultural background adds depth to her understanding of the experiences of foreign nationals in the U.S. immigration processes

OSTROFF, Eric
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida), Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Trade Secrets & IP, Commercial Litigation, Employment, Trial Practice

Career: Eric Ostroff serves as Managing Partner of Meland Budwick and Chair of the firm's Trade Secrets and IP Group. He focuses his practice on intellectual property litigation and trade secrets and IP matters. He regularly litigates a broad range of business disputes, including cases involving breaches of contract, business torts, officer/director fiduciary duties, business defamation, civil conspiracy, unfair competition, false advertising, real estate, and deceptive and unfair trade practices. He also represents plaintiffs and defendants in trademark and copyright infringement actions. Eric is an experienced trial lawyer who has tried many cases to verdict, before judges, juries, and arbitration panels. Eric is nationally recognized for his expertise in trade-secrets and noncompete cases. He helps businesses protect their trade secrets and proprietary information, both before and during litigation. He works with businesses to identify their trade secrets and ensure that they are taking all steps necessary to protect this critical information.

Professional Memberships: The Sedona Conference Working Group on Trade Secrets, Steering Committee Member, Drafting Team Co-Chair, and Dialogue Leader American Intellectual Property Law Association, Trade Secrets Committee and Trademark Litigation Committee Section of Litigation, American Bar Association Trial Lawyers Section, The Florida Bar Member, Dade County Bar Association

Publications: • The Sedona Conference, Protecting Trade Secrets in Litigation About Them, March 2022
• "Protecting Trade Secrets" blog protectingtradesecrets.com • "Lessons for Employers from Obama's Push Back Against Noncompetes," Daily Business Review, December 9, 2016 • "The

'George Costanza Defense' to Stealing Trade Secrets, *Entrepreneur*, October 21, 2014 • "Avoid These 6 Mistakes When Safeguarding Proprietary Information," *Entrepreneur*, June 20, 2014 • "Seeking Trade Secret Protection? Don't Rely on a Label," *Entrepreneur*, May 12, 2014 • "5 Ways to Shrink the Threat of an Employee's Exit to Proprietary Info," *Entrepreneur*, April 29, 2014

OUTMAN, Nicholas

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Venture Capital & Private Equity; Mergers & Acquisitions; Securities & Corporate Governance; Corporate & Transactional

Career: Nicholas Outman practices in the areas of venture capital and private equity, mergers and acquisitions, banking and finance, and corporate governance. His principal focus is on representing venture capital investors and high-growth startups in investment and capital raising transactions at all sizes and stages. Nick also regularly counsels early-stage startups and angel investors in preparing for, structuring and executing equity and debt investments at the earliest stages, and continues to assist startup, venture/PE-backed, and other private and public companies with general corporate, financing, and commercial matters throughout the business lifecycle. He also has extensive experience advising private equity funds, private and public companies, and financial institutions in leveraged buyout and recapitalization financings, as well as asset-based, cash flow, and other commercial loans.

Professional Memberships: Florida Venture Forum: Board of Directors American Bar Association, Private Equity & Venture Capital Committee Tampa Bay Wave: Board of Directors; Chair, Capital & Investor Relations Committee (2019–Present)

PARKER, Clayton

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Clayton Parker is a partner in the firm's corporate/securities and international practice. He has a broad experience in representing public and private companies in North America, Latin America, the European Union, Asia (with particular experience in The People's Republic of China) and Australia. Clayton also represents private equity firms, and their portfolio clients', hedge funds, venture capital funds and entrepreneurs in diverse legal matters with a particular emphasis on initial public offerings, secondary offerings, SEC filings, Sarbanes-Oxley compliance, mergers and acquisitions, reverse merger transactions, private placements, secured lending, antitrust, employment issues, licensing and leasing agreements, distribution agree-

ments, and joint ventures. The industries in which Clayton has significant involvement include, telecommunications, manufacturing, shipping, internet based services, alternative energy, tobacco, software, government contracting, biotech and beverages. His experience includes representation of corporations, partnerships and joint ventures, asset and stock acquisitions and dispositions, employment issues, commercial lending, security agreements, guarantees, mortgages, loan agreements, mergers, compliance, antitrust, patents, trademarks, copyrights, licensing and leasing agreements, reorganizations, director and officer representation, distribution agreements, due diligence, environmental counseling, franchising, private placements, public offerings and proxy contests.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Certified Public Accountant Dade County Bar Association Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

PARRISH, Jimmy D

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: North & Central)

Career: Jimmy Parrish practices on the Restructuring and Bankruptcy team and has extensive experience in a broad range of insolvency and business bankruptcy matters. Jimmy is board certified in business bankruptcy by the American Board of Certification and has represented corporate debtors, committees, trustees, secured lenders and other creditors in virtually every industry, including agriculture, airline, energy, healthcare, manufacturing, communications, real estate and hospitality.

PATEL, Pravin

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, New York
Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Pravin Patel is a Partner in Weil's Miami Office, where he leads the Complex Commercial Litigation practice. He is a go-to class action and commercial litigator, leading cases that implicate billions in claims that involve significant product defect, consumer fraud, and other allegations. He has significant experience litigating a broad range of other bet-the-company complex commercial disputes, including product liability, sports and entertainment, antitrust, business torts, breach of contract, fraud, bankruptcy, healthcare, and environmental cases, in state and federal courts in Florida and around the country. Some of his recent notable clients have included Repsol, Saks Fifth Avenue, Creative Artists Agency, Hilton, Goldman Sachs, Burger King, PetroChina Co. Ltd., Dometic Corporation, and Catalina Marketing Corp., along with NBA All-Star Zion Williamson and baseball superstar Shohei Ohtani.

Professional Memberships: Co-chair of the ABA's Mass Torts and Class Actions Discovery Strategies Commit-

tee; Deputy Editor of Weil's Class Action Monitor.

Personal: University of Miami (BA, *summa cum laude*); University of Chicago Law School (JD).

PATTON, Doug

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Featured in Antitrust (Florida)

Practice Areas: Doug has over 35 years of experience practicing commercial litigation. His practice focuses on representing plaintiffs in high-stakes antitrust cases and complex commercial litigation. He represents clients seeking individualized relief rather than participating in class-action litigation. Most of his cases involve federal multidistrict litigation in venues throughout the country. Doug has represented aggrieved clients in both domestic price-fixing and international cartel actions. For over two decades he has been ranked AV Preeminent by his peers in Martindale-Hubbell and listed in Best Lawyers in America, Antitrust Law, 2013–present.

Career: Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Doug attended Poly Prep Country Day School and traveled west where he enrolled at Utah State University and received a B.S. in Political Science with minors in English and Philosophy. He returned home and graduated from Brooklyn Law School in 1988. Before joining Kenny Nachwalter, Doug practiced law in Salt Lake City for several years. His experience in 35 of practice includes successfully trying cases in both federal and state courts on behalf of plaintiffs and defendants. His trial experience reflects an equal commitment to trials as short as a week and more complex trials that have lasted several weeks and months. "The trial lasted over a month. Mr. Patton, as lead counsel for Safeway, performed admirably. He writes clearly and concisely and is articulate and convincing in his arguments before the court and jury." Honorable David Sam, U.S. District Court Judge.

Professional Memberships: New York State Bar Association The District of Columbia Bar The Utah State Bar Massachusetts Bar Association American Bar Association

PENCE, William L

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Featured in Environment (Florida)

Career: Bill Pence focuses his practice on environmental and energy representation. He represents utilities, municipalities, bulk fuel storage and pipeline companies, and industry before state and federal environmental regulatory agencies. His practice includes managing the investigation and remediation of contaminated properties, using his extensive knowledge of this science-driven field to provide reliable advice to his clients on cost-effective remedial alternatives; negotiating applicable cleanup criteria with regulatory

bodies; and representing clients in the defense and pursuit of enforcement and cost recovery claims under CERCLA, RCRA and similar state laws. He also represents clients in connection with permitting-and compliance-related matters pertaining to petroleum pipelines, terminal facilities and tank farms.

PENNEKAMP, J. Michael

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Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Alternative Dispute Resolution Appellate Aviation Catastrophic Flood Events Commercial Litigation Federal Practice Insurance International Maritime Products Liability & Toxic Torts

Career: A South Florida native, J. Michael (Mike) Pennekamp's is Chair of the firm's Insurance Practice Group. His practice focuses on providing counsel to clients on virtually every aspect of the maritime and aviation industries and he presently serves as outside U.S. counsel to several international and domestic marine and airline passenger and cargo carriers and related companies assisting them with transactions, international and domestic regulatory compliance and administrative actions while maintaining a heavy litigation practice. Mike's litigation practice over the past 30 years has focused primarily on marine and aviation matters. Mike has litigated personal injury, wrongful death, commercial and other significant exposure matters as well as first and third party insurance coverage disputes and bad faith claims. Due to his extensive federal court litigation experience, Mike has represented a significant number of large domestic insurers in the defense of large loss litigation, mass tort litigation and litigation following natural disasters in Florida, New York, New Jersey, Louisiana and Texas. Mike is a member of the Florida Bar and is admitted to practice in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second and Eleventh Circuits and the U.S. District Courts for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia College and his Juris Doctor degree from Florida State University College of Law. Thereafter, he served as a Judicial Clerk to the Honorable Peter T. Fay of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar Dade County Bar Association Fort Lauderdale Mariner's Club Marine Industries of South Florida Florida Yacht Broker's Association Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute Maritime Law Association of the United States U.S. Superyacht Association Aviation Insurance Association Greater Miami Aviation Association Disaster Protocols Committee Member, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS), University of Denver

PERKO, Gary V

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Featured in Environment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Gary Perko is a partner with Holtzman Vogel, focusing his practice on counseling clients on matters involving numerous state and federal environmental laws; and litigating environmental cases in both courts and administrative forums. Notably, since 1994, Gary has represented farmers within the Everglades Agricultural Area on environmental issues before federal courts, state courts, and state agencies. He has defended utility companies facing enforcement actions. He has sited numerous power plants and has represented utilities before Florida's Public Service Commission. He also has handled several complex administrative cases. Most of Gary's administrative cases required extensive expert testimony, and many of them involved important policy issues, particularly in the areas of environmental and energy policy. Gary also has extensive experience in civil litigation before both state and federal courts. These cases have centered on diverse subjects, including constitutional law, environmental regulation, public financing, and state taxation. Most recently, he has served on a team of lawyers representing Florida's Secretary of State in a series of high-profile federal lawsuits challenging Florida's election laws. Gary also has been involved in appeals before the Florida Supreme Court and each of Florida's five District Courts of Appeal, as well as the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Eleventh and D.C. Circuits.

PERLING, Lester J.
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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Healthcare
Healthcare Compliance & Operations
Healthcare Government Investigations & Litigation
Healthcare Providers & Suppliers
Healthcare Qui Tam Investigations & Litigation

Career: Lester J. Perling counsels healthcare providers on a variety of regulatory, compliance, enforcement and reimbursement matters, with particular focus on fraud and abuse compliance and investigations. Board-certified in health law by The Florida Bar and certified in healthcare compliance by the Health Care Compliance Association, Lester leverages decades of health industry experience to provide strategic and business-centric counsel to providers engaging in transactions, addressing compliance matters or when facing government and private payor audits, as well as federal and state administrative, civil and criminal investigations. He is particularly experienced in helping clients address regulatory and billing compliance matters. In addition to his long career in the legal space, Lester has 10 years of experience as a healthcare executive, which allows him to develop creative approaches to complex legal issues that take best business practices and compliance into account. Lester regularly writes and

speaks on fraud and abuse matters and healthcare compliance issues for state and national organizations, including the Health Care Compliance Association, American Health Lawyers Association, American Bar Association and The Florida Bar. He has also served as an adjunct faculty member at Florida International University teaching Health Law within its Healthcare MBA Program. Read full biography: <https://www.mwe.com/people/perling-lester-j/>

Professional Memberships:
Member, The Florida Bar · Member and Past Chair, Health Law Section · Member and Past Chair, Health Law Certification Committee Member, American Bar Association · Health Law Section Member, American Health Lawyers Association

Personal: University of Miami School of Law, JD, magna cum laude (1994)
Georgia State University, MHA, Master of Health Administration (1980)
Georgia State University, BA (1976)

PFEIFFER, Brian
White & Case LLP, Miami
Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: To read more, visit: whitecase.com/people/brian-pfeiffer

PINEIRO, Michael
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Practice Areas: Michael Pineiro is an experienced litigator whose practice focuses on complex business litigation, securities, and investor fraud, trust and estates disputes, professional negligence, and regulatory litigation. Mr. Pineiro represents both plaintiffs and defendants in high-profile civil litigation, and in recent years has recovered over \$40 million on behalf of his clients. Prior to MNR, Mr. Pineiro was an associate at an AmLaw 100 firm, where his practice focused on securities litigation, government enforcement defense, and complex commercial litigation. Mr. Pineiro also served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Adalberto Jordan, who served on the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Mr. Pineiro previously served on the Ad Hoc Committee on Rules and Procedures for the U.S. District Court for Southern District of Florida, and he was appointed by then-Governor Rick Scott to serve as a commissioner on the Judicial Nominating Commission for the Third District Court of Appeals. Mr. Pineiro received his A.B., cum laude, from Harvard University, and his J.D. from Columbia Law School, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.

POLENBERG, Jon
Becker & Poliakoff PA, Fort Lauderdale
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: BUSINESS LITIGATION · Alternative Dispute Resolution · Business & Contract Disputes · Cross-Border Litigation · Real Estate Disputes
REAL ESTATE TRUSTS & ESTATES

Career: Jon has a well-established litigation career in state and federal courts, as well as pursuing alternative dispute resolution methods such as arbitration on behalf of his clients when the situation warrants. Jon is client-focused while maintaining the highest professional standards. Before becoming an attorney, Mr. Polenberg pursued a business management career, where he gained valuable insight into the business challenges facing today's companies. He was a member of a prominent New York law firm, and then started his own firm that engaged in litigating cases involving business torts, class actions, construction, contracts, employment, fraud, insurance coverage, lender liability, and securities litigation.

Professional Memberships: · Member of the Board of Directors for Gilda's Club South Florida · Co-Chair of the Business Law Task Force, a committee of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar · Past Chair of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar · Past Chair of the Business Litigation Committee of the Business Law Section · Past Chair of the Legislative Committee of the Business Law Section · Past Chair of the Federal Court Practice Committee · Past Chair of the Federal Judicial Round Table for the Federal Court Practice Committee · Member of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure Committee · Chair of the Government Affairs Committee of the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce · Past Chair of the Washington Summit Legislative Initiatives for the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce · Member of the Board of Directors for the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce · Member of the Executive Committee for the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce · Past Chair of the Board for the Transplant Foundation

Publications: · "Interpleaders," Florida Civil Practice Before Trial, Ch. 23 (14th ed. 2022) · "Commercial Arbitration," Business Litigation in Florida, Ch. 4 (11th ed. 2022) · "Direct Versus Derivative in Shareholder Litigation," Today's General Counsel, Winter 2019 · "Commercial Arbitration," Business Litigation in Florida, Ch. 4 (9th ed. 2017) · Jon Polenberg & Quinn Smith, Can Parties Play Games with Arbitration Awards? How Mattel May Put an End to Prolonged Gamesmanship, Fla. B.J., May 2009, at 36

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-woodrow-woody-h-pollack>

PONCE, Ingrid
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: For over 25 years, Ingrid Ponce has represented employers of all sizes in labor and employment matters. Her clients come from diverse industries and include major sports

franchises, international restaurant chains, and educational institutions. An experienced litigator, Ingrid has served as lead counsel on a number of large class and collective actions alleging wage and hour issues, such as off-the-clock work, improper wage deductions, tip pooling and exemption misclassification. Ingrid routinely defends clients in litigation involving all forms of employment issues, such as harassment/hostile work environment, discrimination, retaliation and whistleblower claims. On the counseling side, Ingrid partners with clients to develop innovative approaches to solving employee issues and provides training to managers and employees on preventing workplace harassment, EEO compliance, FMLA, ADA, workplace violence, and litigation prevention. Ingrid also assists clients with investigations and frequently appears before federal agencies, such as the Department of Labor, the EEOC, and OSHA.

Career: Ingrid Ponce is a Shareholder and member of firm's Board of Directors. She is based out of Miami, Florida.

Publications: Ingrid is a frequent speaker on labor/employment law topics and a contributor of the Firm's Labor & Employment Law Blog, BeLaborThePoint.com.

PONZOLI, Michael
Kenny Nachwalter PA, Miami
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Featured in Antitrust (Florida)

Practice Areas: Michael's antitrust practice focuses on cartels in restraint of trade. In those matters, he has represented clients in numerous industries, including pharmaceuticals, various retail grocery products and railroads. He represents clients seeking individualized relief rather than participation in class action litigation, generally through claims centralized in federal multidistrict litigation.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar The District of Columbia Bar American Bar Association

Personal: Born and raised in Miami, Florida, Michael is a member of the Florida Bar, the District of Columbia Bar, and the American Bar Association. Michael graduated from the University of Michigan Law School, cum laude. He is a graduate of Bowdoin College, summa cum laude, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

PREMO, Kathleen
Epstein Becker & Green PC, New York

Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: For more than 20 years, attorney Kathleen Premo has served as a legal and strategic advisor for a diverse range of health care and business clients, including Fortune 500 companies, hospital and health systems, Medicare Advantage provider groups, and entrepreneurial privately held companies. Kathleen's clients appreciate her sophisticated business acumen and insightful, real-world legal counseling, honed while serving as a legal advisor, strategist, and health care executive during her years as General

Counsel and Chief Legal Officer for various health care clients. Kathleen advises a full spectrum of health care industry service providers and businesses, including such risk-bearing organizations as medical service organizations, independent practice associations, accountable care organizations, physician organizations and large medical groups, hospitalist and post-acute providers (including hospices, nursing homes, and home health agencies), specialty care networks, among others. <https://www.ebglaw.com/people/kathleen-m-premo/>

PRIOR, Kimberly

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Kimberly Prior is a member of the Financial Services Practice Group and Co-Chair of the firm's Digital Assets and Blockchain Technology Group. She specializes in regulatory, transactional, corporate, and enforcement matters for domestic and international financial services firms and businesses, including banks, broker-dealers, investment advisers, and private equity funds. Kimberly also advises financial institutions, FinTechs, and other businesses regarding regulatory, licensing, corporate, and compliance issues in the FinTech, digital asset, and blockchain technology space. Kimberly advises governmental and regulatory officials on digital asset technology and regulation, and regularly speaks on regulatory issues affecting the financial industry. Since 2018, Kimberly has taught a popular course on the regulation of blockchain and digital assets at the University of Miami School of Law. Additionally, she is the co-author of Digital Assets and Blockchain Technology: US Law and Regulation (Elgar 2020), a first-of-its-kind legal textbook that examines the legal and regulatory approaches regarding the most important issues impacting the blockchain space. Kimberly is a member of the firm's Bank Receivership Task Force, created in March 2023. She previously served as an adjunct professor at the University of Miami School of Law, teaching an advanced seminar focused on current issues in financial institution mergers and acquisitions. Kimberly is the co-author of a chapter on recent developments in cross-border securities law and is former general counsel to the Financial & International Business Association.

Professional Memberships: -Former General Counsel and Co-Chair of the Legal Regulatory Affairs Committee, Financial & International Business Association (FIBA) -Former Chair, Legal and Regulatory Affairs Committee, Financial & International Business Association (FIBA) -Active Member, Orange Bowl Committee -Member, The Digital Chamber, Token Alliance and Consumer Innovation Working Groups

Publications: -Co-author, "Classifying Creditors in Digital Asset Bankruptcy Cases," Bloomberg Law (September

2022) -Co-author, "Recovering Digital Assets in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy," Bloomberg Law (July 2022) -Co-author, "El Salvador's 'Bitcoin Law' Forces Governments and Businesses to Contend with Digital Assets," Global Banking & Finance Review (September 2021) -Co-author, Digital Assets and Blockchain Technology: US Law and Regulation, Edward Elgar Publishing (2020) -Co-author, "The Cross-Border Securities Business: Recent Changes and Continuing Uncertainties," Inside the Minds: New Developments in Securities Law (2015 ed.) -Kimberly Prior mentioned in articles on bank deal: "Espirito Santo Bank in deal to be sold to Venezuelan group," South Florida Business Journal (January 5, 2015) and "3 details on the Venezuelan group buying Espirito Santo," South Florida Business Journal (May 11, 2015)

PUPO, Roberto R

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Colombia Practice | Financial Services | Corporate Services | Corporate Governance | Mergers and Acquisitions | Healthcare & Life Sciences | Healthcare Transactions | International and Cross-Border Transactions | Latin America Practice | Cuba Action Team | Risk and Crisis Management | Hospitals and Health Systems | Private Equity | Representations and Warranties Insurance | Managed Care | Value-Based Care | Nearshoring
Career: Roberto R. Pupo is an attorney in Holland & Knight's Miami office and co-chair of the South Florida Corporate, M&A and Securities Practice Group, as well as co-chair of the Latin America Practice Group. He has substantial experience in complex domestic and international mergers and acquisition matters, corporate financings, joint ventures and cross-border transactions. Mr. Pupo represents large U.S., Canadian, European and Latin American corporations, private equity and venture capital funds, corporate groups and family offices in a wide range of corporate transactions, cross-border acquisitions, joint ventures and affiliations. He is also a frequent speaker on a wide range of legal industry matters.

QUINTANA, Marlene

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution Government Labor and Employment Trade Secret, Noncompete and Unfair Competition Government Affairs and Lobbying
Career: Marlene Quintana is board certified in Labor and Employment Law by The Florida Bar and represents private and public sector employers in both labor and employment law matters. Marlene has litigated and advised clients in federal civil rights issues (e.g., Title VII, Americans With Disabilities Act, Age

Discrimination in Employment Act and Sections 1981-1985) and other federal and state employment matters such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act and the federal and state whistleblower statutes. Marlene also has experience defending clients in federal and state court cases arising under the First and Fourteenth amendments and 42 U.S.C. Section 1983. Marlene has proven herself to be an effective mediator, having mediated over 1500 federal and state court cases. She is a certified civil circuit mediator and certified in the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. Marlene's lobbying experience includes providing government relations counseling to a diverse group of clients that include nonprofit advocacy organizations and national corporations. Marlene has developed effective legislative strategies, built coalitions and effectively organized grassroots communications. Not only is Marlene recognized as an extremely effective labor and employment attorney and mediator, but she has given countless hours to advancing causes important to her local community. More than a decade ago she launched the Cuban American Bar Association's (CABA) first mentoring program and later served as President of CABA in 2008. Marlene also chaired the Eleventh Judicial Nominating Commission. She served as President of Miami Bridge Youth and Family Services, an organization she has supported in varying capacities for a number of years, including serving as the chair or the organization's annual gala. Marlene has received numerous accolades for her achievements, including Hispanic Woman of Distinction, the Cuban American Bar Association Presidential Award, named to HispanicBusiness' 50 Influentials List, the Diversity Council's Most Powerful and Influential Woman Award for Florida as well as being named a top lawyer by Chambers USA, Best Lawyers in America, South Florida Legal Guide, Florida Trend and Super Lawyers.

Professional Memberships: Certified Circuit Civil Mediator The Florida Bar Cuban American Bar Association Latin Builders Association Dade County Bar Association Florida Association for Women Lawyers

RAHAGHI, Peter

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-peter-a-rahaghi>

RANDALL, Geoffrey

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-geoffrey-randall>

RANDALL, Samuel

Kenny Nachwalters PA, Miami
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Featured in Antitrust (Florida)

Practice Areas: Sam is a veteran federal trial lawyer who has tried more than twenty jury cases to verdict. A shareholder at Kenny Nachwalters, Sam specializes in antitrust litigation, with a focus on prosecuting claims on behalf of companies that have been victims of domestic and international price-fixing conspiracies. Sam has assisted clients in obtaining substantial recoveries from cartels in a wide variety of industries including polyurethane foam, eggs, cathode ray tubes, packaged seafood, lithium ion batteries, and broiler chickens. He is currently prosecuting cartels in the pork, beef, and generic drug industries.

Career: Sam joined Kenny Nachwalters in 2013 after serving as an Assistant Federal Public Defender and as a law clerk for the Honorable Adalberto Jordan in the Southern District of Florida. Sam has also taught evidence as an adjunct professor at the University of Miami.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar The Massachusetts Bar American Bar Association -Antitrust Section

RAPKIN, Eric D

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Eric Rapkin is chair of Akerman's Real Estate Practice Group. A consummate dealmaker, his practice focuses on sophisticated commercial real estate transactions, including the leasing, acquisition, disposition, and financing of office towers, shopping centers, industrial properties, hotels, and medical office buildings for top developers, institutional investors, and investment funds. Eric has finalized deals for many millions of square feet of office, retail, industrial, and mixed-use projects. He is well versed in build-to-suit projects, possessing a detailed knowledge of the complex construction provisions that are central to these deals. Eric is also experienced in office tower acquisitions and dispositions and major public-private partnership transactions. He has served in numerous leadership roles in the real estate sector, including the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) and NAIOP Commercial Real Estate Development Association.

RASHBAUM, Daniel L

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Daniel Rashbaum focuses his practice on white-collar criminal defense, internal investigations, regulatory enforcement, and qui tam litigation. He represents individuals and institutions in high-profile matters including those involving alleged violations of the federal securities and commodities laws, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, price-fixing, alleged violations of anti-bribery and

anti-kickback statutes, insider trading, money laundering offenses, export violations, and fraud against health care benefit programs. Dan has represented a countless number of individuals and companies around the globe in inquiries brought by agencies including the U.S. Department of Justice, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, the Office of Foreign Assets Control, and local United States Attorney's Offices and State Attorney Generals' offices. Prior to MNR, Dan was a principal at a global law firm. Before that, he served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida where he tried more than 30 cases to verdict, all of which resulted in convictions, and argued several cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Dan began his career at Skadden, Arps and later worked at Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason & Anello, P.C.

REDMOND, Patricia
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Patricia Redmond's practice focuses on Chapter 11 reorganizations, out-of-court restructuring, and bankruptcy litigation and appeals. Patricia represents debtors and secured/unsecured creditors/committees in significant Florida insolvencies and related appeals. She specializes in cases requiring novel and creative solutions and strategies using bankruptcy options to reach beneficial outcomes.

Career: Patricia Redmond is a Shareholder of the firm and based out of South Florida. Patricia has been an Adjunct Professor since 1999 and won Outstanding Professor Award twice.

Professional Memberships: For decades, Patricia has served on the Board of Directors and held various leadership roles including President for the American Bankruptcy Institute ("ABI") and the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida ("BBASDFL"). She also served as Chair of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the American Bar Association. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, where she is the current President, having formerly served as the Chair of the Board of Regents. Patricia also founded the Bankruptcy Assistance Clinic at St. Thomas University School of Law and the University of Miami. Patricia also served on the Uniform Law Commission's Drafting Committee on Assignment for Benefit of Creditors from 2023–Present.

Publications: Patricia is the author of various articles on ethics, individual Chapter 11 and equitable subordination. She has also recently written on the modernization of local rules requiring "wet ink" signatures and the impact of

COVID-related decisions on the Chevron deference.

REINERT, Ryan
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: North & Central)
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Featured in Construction (Florida)
Practice Areas: Construction & Infrastructure Construction Dispute Resolution Contracts, Project Documentation and Risk Management Business Litigation Public-Private Partnerships Government Contracts Residential and Multi-Family

Career: Stephen Reisman is Vice Chair and general counsel of Peckar & Abramson and serves on the firm's Executive Committee. Steve's primary area of practice is Construction Law and he is certified by the Florida Bar as a Construction Law Specialist. His practice includes the representation of general contractors, construction managers, and other construction professionals in the negotiation and preparation of construction documents, as well as in the negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and litigation of claims involving construction contracts, construction and design defects, insurance, surety bonds, and related matters. Steve also assists with project administration on construction projects to identify and achieve early resolution of potential conflicts and disputes. Steve has represented clients in all aspects of the procurement process for both public and private construction projects, including airports, seaports, state and federal courthouses, prisons, roads, bridges, hotels, retail centers, mixed-use facilities, hospitals, condominiums and high-rise residential rental projects. He has litigated and arbitrated cases involving building cladding systems, roofing, foundations, concrete construction (reinforced, pre-stressed, post-tensioned), drywall assemblies, masonry construction, stucco systems, EIFS systems, piping (metal, PVC, CPVC), fire protection, and many other building systems and components. He has also litigated and arbitrated delay and impact claims, and presented requests for equitable adjustment on public works.

As an active member of the American Arbitration Association Panel of Construction Arbitrators, Steve has served as Arbitrator in many domestic and international construction disputes, and has also facilitated the resolution of numerous construction and commercial disputes in the role of Mediator. Steve is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits, the United States District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida, the United

States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida, and all courts of the State of Florida. Steve is AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell and since 2003 has been recognized by Chambers USA among the highest ranked construction lawyers in Florida. He was recently named to City & State Florida's Construction Power 100 list. Steve was also selected for inclusion in publications such as Best Lawyers (chosen as "Lawyer of the Year" in Miami for Construction Law in 2012, 2016, and 2018, and for Litigation-Construction in 2014, 2017, 2019, and 2024), The International Who's Who of Construction Lawyers, The Legal 500: United States, and Florida Super Lawyers. He previously served on the Construction Advisory Council of the American Arbitration Association. Steve is a fellow in the American College of Construction Lawyers and is a member of the American Bar Association (Forum on Construction Law, Litigation Section and Law Practice Division), the Florida Bar (Litigation, Business Law and Real Property Sections), the Construction Association of South Florida, the Associated General Contractors of America, and the University of Miami School of Architecture –Masters of Construction Management Program Advisory Board. Steve serves on the faculty of the University of Miami as an Adjunct Professor in the Masters of Construction Management program for post-graduate and executive Masters students in the School of Architecture. He was an author and speaker for the program presented at the 2014 Fall Meeting of the American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law "Bulldozers, Cranes and Claims –Challenges of Rebuilding the Construction Industry" and is the Co-Editor of "Construction Defects" published in April 2012 by the American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law. He was an instructor for the Florida Bar's Construction Law Certification Course and has also authored numerous articles and conducted seminars on various Construction law topics for the Florida Bar, National Business Institute, Construction Specifications Institute, Construction Association of South Florida, Southeast Construction, and Lorman Education Services. Steve is a graduate of Emory University and the University of Miami School of Law.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association (Forum on Construction Law and Litigation Section) American College of Construction Lawyers Florida Bar (Litigation, Business Law and Real Property Sections) American Arbitration Association Panel of Arbitrators Construction Association of South Florida Associated General Contractors University of Miami School of Architecture (Construction Management Program Advisory Board)
Publications: "Decision Further Erodes Florida's Statute of Repose for Latent Construction Defects," Daily Business Review, January 2019 (co-author) "Teaming Arrangements on Infrastructure Projects", Journal of

the American College of Construction Lawyers –Summer 2015 (co-author). "The Perfect Pair or the Odd Couple –Challenges of Teaming Arrangements", American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law, 2014 (co-author and speaker) "Construction Liens", Florida Real Property Litigation, Florida Bar Publications, 1993, 2001, 2011, 2013 (co-author). "Completion and Turnover of the Condominium-Exit Strategy" and "Managing Risk in Condominium Construction" Condominium Construction Issues in Florida, Lorman Educational Services, 2006 (author and lecturer). "Construction Mediation," Conflict Management in Construction, American Arbitration Association, 2004 (author and panelist). "The Problem Owner: Contractor's Perspective on Termination and Other Alternatives," Florida Construction Law –Creative Strategies for Project Completion & Litigation Avoidance, Lorman Educational Services, 1999 (author and lecturer). "Contractor's Responsibility for Design Failures," Construction Inkl, 1999 (co-author). "Florida Construction Law," National Business Institute, 1993 and 1997 (author and lecturer). "Legal Consequences of Construction and Design Failures," Construction Specifications Institute, 1995 (author and lecturer). "Construction Qualifiers Liability," Construction Financial Management Association, 1992 (author). "Rights and Liabilities of the General Contractor, Subcontractors, Suppliers and Materialmen", Construction Litigation in Florida, Florida Bar Publications, 1983 (co-author).

REITER, Jack
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Appellate and Trial Support Litigation Insurance Defense
Career: Jack Reiter leads the GrayRobinson Appellate and Trial Support Team (nationally ranked Tier 1 by U.S. News –Best Lawyers® in 2023) and has briefed and argued hundreds of appeals over the span of his nearly 30-year career. He is Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Appellate Practice and former chair of the Florida Bar Appellate Court Rules Committee and the Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section. Jack collaborates with clients and co-counsel to provide strategic legal direction for the arc of each case, advising on the post-trial preservation process, and developing and arguing dispositive motions. His practice includes experience in a wide array of commercial and business disputes, insurance issues, and product liability matters. Jack's diverse experience and dedication to the evolving nature of law allows him to blend swiftly and seamlessly with trial counsel at a moment's notice to deliver litigation support during the pretrial, trial, and post-trial stages. He handles trial support proceedings in state and federal courts throughout Florida, as well as jurisdictions outside the state. His experience includes preparing

and arguing complex trial motions to dismiss and for summary judgment, as well as motions in limine and for directed verdict. Jack teams regularly with colleagues within and outside GrayRobinson across various practice areas. He provides appellate and trial support, as well as a fresh perspective on a variety of litigation matters, including products liability, toxic tort, construction, negligence, insurance, and maritime law, among others. He is sought after for his expertise in the subtlety and nuance of appellate practice.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association, Tort and Insurance Practice Section Defense Research Institute International Association of Defense Counsel The Florida Bar – Standard Civil Jury Instruction Committee – Appellate Practice Section; Appellate Court Rules Committee Dade County Bar Association Third District Court of Appeal Historical Society
Publications: "Brief Writing for the Third DCA," Appellate Practice Section of The Florida Bar Practicing Before the Florida Third District Court of Appeal 2022 seminar, October 28, 2022 "Finality of Judgments," PINCUS Professional Education's Advanced Appellate Practice, April 5, 2022 "New Florida Supreme Court Rule Amendment Could Be Game-Changer for Punitive Damages," Daily Business Review, January 21, 2022; January 25, 2022, print edition "Preserving the Appellate Record at Trial: Balancing Trial Advocacy and Strategy with Preserving the Appellate Record," International Association of Defense Counsel Webinar, January 27, 2021 "How to Gain the Technological Edge in Appeals," Dade County Bar Association's Appellate Court Committee Seminar, April 6, 2018

RISI, Nicholas

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami

Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Nick Risi handles general corporate and tax matters, including mergers and acquisitions, drafting and negotiation of general corporate and finance-related agreements, corporate governance, and federal and state tax planning. Nicholas has a particular focus on the representation of clients in the real estate and hospitality industries in structuring and drafting complex joint venture arrangements, structuring and offering of interests in pooled investment funds, and sophisticated debt, equity and mezzanine financing transactions.

RIVERA, Luis

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Law Banking and Finance Litigation

Career: Luis Rivera helps clients navigate some of the most difficult situations faced by businesses, including

complex business litigation, bankruptcy, creditors' rights, and insolvency matters. A trusted advisor, Luis is one of only ten attorneys in Florida who is board certified in Business Bankruptcy Law and Consumer Bankruptcy by the American Board of Certification and one of only two court-appointed fiduciaries who administers Chapter 7 bankruptcy cases in Southwest Florida. Among his peers, Luis is known for his deep industry knowledge and established relationships within Florida courts. He is praised by clients for his thorough understanding of complex financial matters and his ability to simplify the complicated bankruptcy process and creditors' rights. Luis' bankruptcy experience includes representation of lenders, individuals, and financial institutions in both consumer (Chapter 7 and 13) and Chapter 11 reorganization cases, as well as involuntary and discharge proceedings. He also has extensive experience in a variety of business and general civil litigation matters, including contract disputes, real property litigation, mortgage foreclosure, landlord/tenant disputes, and title insurance litigation. In addition to his work with clients, Luis also uses his financial and legal experience throughout his community and has most recently been appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to the Florida Gulf Coast University Board of Trustees.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar, Twentieth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "C," 2018-2021 U.S. District Court, Bench Bar Fund Committee Supreme Court of Florida, Mediator Qualifications and Discipline Review Board, 2021-2024 Lee County Bar Association, Law Week Committee, Blood Drive Chair Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association, Past-President The Middle District of Florida Pro Se Bankruptcy Legal Assistance Clinic, Inc., Board of Directors Bankruptcy Law Educational Series Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Middle District of Florida, District-Wide Steering Committee, Local Rules Committee Hispanic Institute at Hodges University, Past-Chair of the Advisory Board Lee County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board, Past-Chair Lee County Charter Review Committee, Former Member Chamber of Southwest Florida Leadership Lee, 2010 Class
Publications: "Do You Know Our Board Of Trustees?" Eagle News, January 16, 2023

ROBBINS JR, R James

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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Real Estate; Real Estate Acquisition & Development; Commercial Leasing; Real Estate Finance; Automotive Corporate & Tax; Automotive Real Estate & Finance

Career: Jim Robbins is one of the founding attorneys and serves as

President and Managing Shareholder of Hill Ward Henderson. His practice primarily involves business and real estate transactions. Jim has experience in a wide range of sophisticated commercial business and real estate matters, including land acquisition and development, mergers and acquisitions, leasing and financing transactions. He also regularly acts as outside general counsel to a variety of clients. Jim has actively represented automobile dealerships, with a particular emphasis on dealership acquisitions and dispositions, as well as related real property transactions. Jim has represented a NYSE dealership group in multiple acquisitions of significant auto dealership real estate portfolios. Jim represents a number of significant owners of real estate, as well as national and local development entities in their real estate matters. Jim was the lead attorney on the sale of nearly 30,000 acres of real property located in Central Florida, one of the largest single land transfers in the state. He also completed a sales transaction including more than 7,000 acres of citrus and related agricultural properties. Jim recently completed the sale of an approximate 1,000,000 square foot warehouse facility and has been very active in the acquisition and development of distribution facilities for a major internet retailer.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Council of 100, Member American College of Real Estate Lawyers American Bar Foundation: Life Fellow American Bar Association: Business Section, Real Estate Section, Tax Section The Florida Bar: Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section, Executive Council

RODRIGUEZ, Julissa

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-julissa-rodriguez>

ROGERS, Adam

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Featured in Healthcare (Florida)

Practice Areas: Partner Adam Rogers represents private equity funds, strategic investors, entrepreneurs and other operators as they pursue and execute mergers and acquisitions and other complex corporate transactions driving innovation within the health care industry. He is particularly experienced in transactions in the health care services and health information technology sectors, helping clients find the right partners and deal structures to succeed in this rapidly changing and competitive space. Adam is the managing partner of the Miami office. Adam is also a Florida Board Certified Specialist in Health Law and regularly advises clients across the United States on regulatory issues that can affect their operations and deals. Adam's deep experience in both health care transactions and health care regu-

latory law allows him to take a strategic approach to compliance and proactively mitigate risk when evaluating targets and documenting joint venture, professional services and management service organization arrangements. Adam practiced as a licensed physical therapist prior to practicing law. While at Duke University School of Law, he served as the senior editor for the *Journal of Law and Contemporary Problems*. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/rogers-adam/>

Professional Memberships: Florida Bar, Health Law Section, Health Law Certification Committee American Health Lawyers Association

ROGERS, Daniel B.

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP, Miami

Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Product Liability; Appellate; Class Action and Complex Litigation; Employment Litigation and Policy; Privacy and Data Security; Business Litigation; Cannabis Law

Career: Dan is the Managing Partner of Shook's Miami Office. He is an appellate, class action and commercial litigator whose diverse practice runs the gamut of complex civil litigation. Appeals. A Board Certified Specialist in Appellate Practice since 2013, Dan has briefed or presented oral argument in more than 75 appeals across the country. He has handled appellate matters in the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the 3d, 4th, 5th, 9th, 11th, and D.C. Circuits and the state appellate courts of Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, Tennessee and Utah. Dan's appellate victories have included significant issues of first impression and the use of creative, precedent-setting appellate strategies. Class Actions. Dan's class action practice focuses on defending product manufacturers and retailers from claims alleging deceptive and unfair trade practices. He has successfully defended dozens of consumer class actions, securing multiple dismissals and orders denying class certification. Where appropriate, Dan has also helped clients eliminate class-action risk by negotiating favorable individual and classwide resolutions. Commercial Litigation. When not litigating class actions or appeals, Dan has successfully represented individuals, small businesses and multinational companies as both plaintiffs and defendants in matters involving product liability, employment, real estate and the full spectrum of business disputes. He has tried jury and non-jury cases in state, federal and administrative courts. Professional and Community Involvement. Dan has written and lectured about class actions, appeals, legal ethics, expert witnesses and emerging issues in environmental law. He has also been involved with the Florida Standard Jury Instructions Committee for Civil Cases since 2011, and the Florida Supreme Court appointed him chair of the Committee. In addition, Dan has devoted significant time to pro bono efforts, helping those who

cannot afford legal representation with their criminal, immigration, probate and family law problems. He also volunteers his time as an appointed member of the Miami-Dade County Planning Advisory Board, the county's designated local planning agency and the main advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners on matters related to land use, municipal annexations and incorporations. In years past, Dan served on the Board of the 11th Judicial Circuit Historical Society, including as its Chair, working to preserve and educate others about South Florida's legal heritage. He also served multiple terms as Chair of the Dade County Bar Appellate Court Committee.

Professional Memberships: Florida Supreme Court, Standard Jury Instructions in Civil Cases Committee, Chair (2022-2023); Vice Chair (2020-2021); Member (2014-Present); Reporter (2011-2013) The Florida Bar, Section of Appellate Practice Dade County Bar Association, Appellate Court Committee, Chair (2014-2016); Co-Chair (2013-2014); Vice-Chair (2012-2013) American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Product Liability Litigation Committee, Appellate Practice Committee (Appellate Rules and Statutes Subcommittee)

Publications: Money and Clients: Attorneys Divided on Florida Supreme Court Stance on Non-Lawyer Ownership, Daily Business Review, April 5, 2022. Time to Revisit Trial Strategy as Florida Supreme Court Changes Final Authority on Jury Instructions, Daily Business Review, November 21, 2021. Evidence of Nothing Overcomes No Evidence, Drug & Device Law, June 4, 2020. Tufts Must Face Suit Over Patient's Infection Death, Law360, June 1, 2020. For a full list of publications, presentations and media, visit <https://www.shb.com/professionals/r/rogers-daniel>

ROLANDO, Margaret A
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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: South)

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ROSENDORF, David L
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Commercial Bankruptcy, Fraud and Insolvency Related Litigation, Corporate Restructuring, Creditors' Rights, Assignments for Benefit of Creditors and Receiverships, Complex Litigation, Appeals

Career: For more than thirty years David has focused his practice on representing parties in commercial bankruptcy matters and other insolvency-related litigation. David regularly advises corporate entities and individuals in pre-bankruptcy workouts and related matters, bankruptcy reorganizations and liquidations, involuntary bankruptcies, receiverships and assignments for

the benefit of creditors, prosecution and defense of fraudulent transfer "clawback" actions and other claims brought by trustees and receivers, and post-bankruptcy matters. David's practice frequently involves litigation arising from Ponzi schemes and other frauds, as well as insolvencies of a variety of businesses including condominium developers, asbestos manufacturers, viatical settlement providers, and companies in the hospitality industry, among others.

Professional Memberships: Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida (Past President); American Bankruptcy Institute (Southeast Workshop Advisory Board)

ROSS, Ian M.
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: IAN ROSS represents clients in business disputes, commercial and securities litigation, government investigations, and class actions. Ian has extensive experience defending his clients in high-stakes commercial and securities litigation, nationwide class actions, shareholder derivative suits, breach of fiduciary actions, state securities actions, and government investigations. He has defended his clients through trial in cases involving challenging financial, corporate governance, and damages issues. Ian has prevailed on dispositive motions, defeated class certification, and successfully won appeals on novel issues of materiality, reliance, and causation under Florida law. He writes frequently on emerging issues in securities and class action litigation, and his analysis has been featured in the Florida Bar Journal, the Journal of Health and Life Sciences Law, Law360, and the Daily Business Review. Ian also serves on the editorial board of the Enhanced Scrutiny blog, where the Sidley team provides timely updates and analysis on M&A and corporate governance matters from the Delaware courts.

RUBINGER, Jeffrey
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Featured in Tax (Florida)

Practice Areas: Jeff Rubinger is known worldwide as the lawyer to seek out when companies require a creative, sophisticated solution to a complex international tax situation. Jeff is a tax partner in the Miami office. A skilled legal practitioner with more than 25 years of international tax experience, he also served for many years as a certified public accountant at a major accounting firm, giving him a unique and thorough understanding of the business issues his clients face every day. Jeff has been recognized as one of America's leading tax lawyers by Chambers USA. From U.S. companies expanding overseas to foreign businesses investing in the United States, clients turn to Jeff for his extensive knowledge of the tax

laws in a wide variety of jurisdictions, including countries in South America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Jeff is distinctive in Florida for his significant experience with outbound matters.

RUSSELL, Reed L
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Reed Russell handles employment counseling and litigation for clients in a wide variety of sectors and industries. As employment laws evolve, Reed's counseling keeps clients updated and gives them peace of mind in an area fraught with uncertainty. His counseling practice spans a variety of employment issues facing employers, especially wage and hour and equal employment opportunity law. When litigation arises, Reed is a thoughtful and strategic advocate for his clients, helping them achieve resolution consistent with their goals and the risks presented. Clients value his willingness and ability to view the matters from both sides and give clear-eyed assessments of risks and opportunities. He represents employers in collective and class action litigation and other complex litigation matters. He also represents employers in single-plaintiff employment litigation and administrative proceedings, and provides advice on employment practices, including through policy audits and advice on statistical analyses.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association, Labor & Employment Law - FLSL Subcommittee and EEO Subcommittee Florida Bar District of Columbia Bar Hillsborough County Bar Association Wage and Hour Defense Institute Litigation Counsel of America

SAIZ, Emilio
Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, Miami
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Emilio Saiz is Chair of Hughes Hubbard & Reed's Latin America practice group and Managing Partner of the Miami office. He is also a member of the firm's Finance, Aviation and Corporate practices. He regularly advises corporations and financial institutions in corporate and structured finance transactions, including syndicated and credit enhanced loan facilities, sustainability-linked and green loan facilities, domestic and cross-border aircraft lending/leasing, acquisition financings, project financings, trade financings, convertible loans, restructurings and derivative products. Emilio also advises corporations and financial institutions in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, product distribution and other general corporate and commercial matters. Emilio has particular experience in matters that are international in nature, most notably in Latin America.

SALES, Erin M
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: A fast learner with sharp attention to detail, Erin Sales efficiently manages large caseloads and discovery initiatives. Erin represents clients of all sizes in state and federal court on employment, civil rights and contractual issues, including matters that arise under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title II of the Civil Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and comparable state statutes. She also represents clients in administrative proceedings before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and equivalent state administrative agencies. In addition, Erin serves as outside employment counsel to clients on day-to-day matters, such as wage and hour questions, layoffs, discrimination and harassment complaints and investigations, training and new legislation. Erin's prior clerkship in federal district court allowed her to obtain valuable experience and insight on judicial processes, legal research and writing, and courtroom procedures. Additionally, her experience as an Assistant U.S. Attorney provides her with a unique understanding of the correlation between civil and criminal law. Having professional experience working with high-profile individuals in collegiate athletics, Erin is also familiar with the necessary review and application of compliance measures and is comfortable handling matters in the public eye. Erin applies her skills in team settings, collaborating and strategizing with other attorneys to provide clients with effective representation of the full scope of their matter. She is committed to prompt and open communication with her clients.

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: JOSHUA SAMEK focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions, capital markets and financing transactions, and general corporate and securities matters. He has extensive experience advising private equity funds and their portfolio companies, public companies, and founders across a wide range of industries, with a concentration on the healthcare, technology, and life sciences sectors. He also acts for public company boards of directors and executive management on U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission reporting and corporate governance matters.

SAMMATARO, James

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Featured in Media & Entertainment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Pryor Cashman Partner James G. Sammataro, co-chair of the firm's Music Group and Media + Entertainment Litigation Practice, is one of the music industry's top attorneys, having represented Eminem, Justin Bieber, Enrique Iglesias, Karol G, Don Omar, the Estate of Chris Cornell, Chris Brown, Dr. Dre, Becky G, Luis Fonsi, Lil Baby, Pitbull, Paulo Londra, Roddy Ricch, Universal Music Group, Sony Music Entertainment, Warner Music, Interscope Records, BMG, Spotify, and Kobalt in high profile music-related disputes. James has defended a number of iconic works, including Luis Fonsi's "Despacito," Pitbull's "Give Me Everything," Karol G's remix of "Dame to Cosita," and Da Baby's "Rockstar." James' trial success has resulted in Billboard repeated recognition of him as one of the nation's top music lawyers, and being dubbed the "go-to" litigator in the Latin music space. Beyond music, James has represented Netflix, CBS, Fremantle, Televisa Univision, Jerry Bruckheimer Films, S2BN (helmed by former Live Nation CEO, Michael Cohl), and Warner Bros. in film and television disputes.

SAMOLE, David

Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, Miami
305-728-2926
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida)

Practice Areas: Bankruptcy, Creditor's Rights, Corporate Restructuring, Workouts, Insolvency Litigation, Complex Litigation, Receivingships/Trusteeships

Career: David focuses his practice on corporate bankruptcy cases and insolvency-related litigation matters. He represents parties in corporate reorganization, liquidation, workouts and financially-distressed transactions, and serves as a fiduciary Assignee in state court liquidation matters. David handles many of the firm's larger, more complex trustee matters, including in bank holding and Ponzi scheme/fraud litigation contexts. He also frequently represents commercial landlords, asset purchasers, healthcare-related entities, logistics companies, and other larger creditor/equity groups and committees in Chapter 11 cases throughout the country.

Professional Memberships: Past President –University of Chicago Alumni Club of South Florida; Contributing Author – ABI Journal; Past President –Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida; Guest Lecturer –University of Florida School of Law; Guest Lecturer –Florida International University School of Law.

Publications: Retail Lessons Learned: Savvy Landlords, Commercial Tenants are in This Together (Daily Business Review); Managing the Minefield of

Post-Confirmation Suits and Jurisdiction (American Bankruptcy Institute Journal); Who is Left Holding the Bag for Latent Damage Claims? (Law Journal Newsletter); Stepping Into the Shoes of the IRS to Pursue Otherwise Time-Barred Avoidance Actions Under Fraudulent Transfer Statutes (The Bankruptcy Strategist); The Ten Commandments of Landlords and Commercial Tenants in Bankruptcy (Daily Business Review).

SAMUELS, Leonard K

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: As a partner at Berger Singerman, Leonard Samuels handles complex business litigation matters often arising out of employment related or ownership related disputes. Mr. Samuels' litigation experience includes handling non-compete litigation throughout the United States and Florida-based and essential multi-state matters involving theft of trade secrets, computer theft and abuse, tortious interference with business relationships and contracts. He has also represented companies and executives in a wide variety of matters ranging from claims involving breach of contract, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty to various types of alleged discriminatory conduct.

Professional Memberships: –The Florida Bar Business Law Section, subcommittee reviewing Florida law on Restrictive Covenants –Member, Commercial Panel for the American Arbitration Association –Chair, Jewish Federation of Broward County Judicial Reception –Board, Jewish Federation –Finance Co-Chair, Fair Districts of Florida –Board Member, Broward Business for the Arts

Publications: –Samuels, L. (2018, February 24). Are corporate whistleblowers protected under federal law?. The Hill. <https://thehill.com/opinion/judiciary/375411-are-corporate-whistleblowers-protected-under-federal-law/> –Samuels, L. (2019, March 19). Trump's NDA Use Raises 1st Amendment Questions. Law360. <https://www.law360.com/articles/1139255/trump-s-nda-use-raises-1st-amendment-questions> –Samuels, L., & Zelmanowitz, A. (2020, March 17). The Wary Employer's Guide to Key Coronavirus Concerns. Law360. https://www.law360.com/health/articles/1253899?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=section

SANCHEZ, Fausto

Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Complex Commercial Litigation

Career: Fausto began his career as a prosecutor in Broward County, Florida, where he handled thousands of criminal cases ranging from complex financial crimes to violent first-degree felonies. After trying dozens of cases and mastering his craft in the courtroom, he was awarded Board Certification in

Criminal Trial Law by the State of Florida. In 2013, Fausto transitioned to the world of commercial litigation, where he represented business entities and high net worth individuals, both foreign and domestic, in international fraud disputes. During his time as a partner at a prominent international litigation firm, he successfully represented clients across various industries, including hospitality, retail, automotive, gaming, and finance. In 2019, Fausto co-founded Sanchez Fischer Levine, LLP, a law firm focused on providing a modern approach to business litigation focused on effectiveness and efficiency. At SFL, Fausto serves as Managing Partner and heads several of the firm's prominent commercial litigation cases.

SCHATZMAN, Robert

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Banking & Finance Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights Bankruptcy Litigation

Career: Robert has practiced business bankruptcy Chapter 11 and out-of-court workout and restructuring law for more than 40 years. He has represented debtors, court-appointed committees, secured creditors, asset acquisitions in 363 sales, chapter 11 plan proponents, and various special interests in high-profile and public cases in Florida and Delaware as well as in other bankruptcy courts in other jurisdictions. He has litigated and defended bankruptcy Chapter 5 causes of action. In addition to his bankruptcy practice, he has represented both debtors' and creditors' committees in sophisticated out-of-court workouts. Robert has represented both assignees and assignors in assignments for the benefit of creditors in state courts. Since 1991, he has been listed as a leading Florida attorney in Best Lawyers in America in the field of bankruptcy law. In 1999, he was the recipient of the prestigious President's Cup Award from the Commercial Law League of America. Robert presently serves as a mediator on the Bankruptcy Court Panel of Mediation in Delaware.

He provides services in mediations for complex Chapter 11 controversies, confirmation issues and adversary proceedings, including avoidance actions. **Professional Memberships:** The Florida Bar The American Bar Association Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, Member and Past President U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware American Bankruptcy Institute, Member Economic Society of South Florida, Member Progress Board of Miami, President University of Miami, Citizens Board University of Miami President's Council American Jewish Committee, Board of Directors, Executive Committee

SCHIMMEL, Seth M

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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: Seth Schimmel practices in the areas of construction and commercial litigation. He represents both plaintiffs and defendants in design and construction disputes and complex commercial litigation throughout the state of Florida. In his construction practice, Seth represents engineers, architects, commercial and residential developers, owners and general contractors in a range of litigation matters which include construction defect and delay claims, professional liability and errors and omissions, warranty claims and other contractual disputes. He regularly appears in Florida's state and federal courts and before the American Arbitration Association and is a certified mediator. Seth also has substantial experience in drafting and negotiating construction contracts and counseling owners, developers, engineers and contractors on their administration. He has experience in both commercial and residential projects, including condominiums, office buildings, shopping malls, public facilities, power plants and highways.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar, Business Law and Trial Lawyers Section Hillsborough County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division –Past Treasurer and Board of Directors American Bar Association, Forum on the Construction Industry Florida Bar Grievance Committee 13D American Inn of Court, Tampa Bay Chapter

SCHRIER, Martin

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Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: For the past 25 years, Marty has been a leading attorney in the Florida market providing strategic advice to public and private companies, venture and private equity funds, and entrepreneurs. His expertise centers on growth strategies, venture financings, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, public and private offerings, and counsel on corporate governance and executive compensation matters. He represents all market stakeholders, including buyers, sellers, major investors, private investment funds, and management teams. Marty represents clients across various industries, with a particular focus on software, digital media, managed care organizations, automotive, and financial services.

Career: Marty serves as Cozen O'Connor's chief strategy partner and is responsible for working with the firm's CEO and Managing Partner to develop and execute on client-centric growth strategies aligned with the firm's objectives.

SCHWARTZ, Adam

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Practice Areas: Mr. Schwartz represents companies and individuals in matters involving the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), the Department for Health and Human Services ("HHS"), and other criminal law enforcement and civil regulatory authorities. Mr. Schwartz also counsels financial institutions and professionals on compliance with SEC regulations, FINRA rules, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), and anti-money laundering laws. Mr. Schwartz has extensive criminal litigation experience, having served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida. During his time as a federal prosecutor, Mr. Schwartz represented the United States in numerous criminal jury trials and investigations involving allegations of health care fraud, mail and wire fraud, major fraud against the United States, bribery, extortion, money laundering, identity theft and alien smuggling. Of note, Mr. Schwartz prosecuted a defense procurement fraud case, United States v. AEY, Inc., that was featured on the front page of The New York Times and more recently the CNBC television program "American Greed," and the highly fictionalized feature film "War Dogs." Previously in his career, Mr. Schwartz served as Senior Trial Counsel for the Securities and Exchange Commission's Division of Enforcement. In this role, Mr. Schwartz served as lead counsel for the SEC in cases alleging violations of the federal securities laws against, among others, bank holding companies, private equity funds, hedge funds, investment advisers, public companies, and their respective executives. Mr. Schwartz previously served as a law clerk to Chief Judge Cecilia M. Altonaga of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Mr. Schwartz received his law degree from Stanford Law School, and his bachelor's degree from Cornell University, summa cum laude, with distinction in research.

Professional Memberships:
Member of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Rules and Procedures for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida

SCHWARTZ, Jurate

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)
Practice Areas: Jurate Schwartz is a senior counsel in Proskauer's Labor & Employment Law Department. She devotes her practice to counseling clients in employment matters, as well as representing employers in federal and state litigations, arbitrations and administrative proceedings. Jurate's practice includes providing advice on compliance with various laws affecting the workplace, including the FMLA,

ADEA, Title VII, ADA, FLSA and similar state and local laws. She counsels clients on developing, implementing and enforcing personnel policies and procedures and reviewing and revising multi-state employee handbooks under federal, state and local laws. Jurate also advises clients on policy and training issues, including discrimination, harassment, retaliation, wage and hour, employee classification, accommodation of religious beliefs, pregnancy and disability, and leaves of absence, including vacation and paid time off policies, multi-state paid sick and safe leave laws and paid family and medical leave laws. Jurate is experienced in conducting wage-and-hour audits under federal and state wage-hour laws and advising clients on classification issues. She also assists clients in drafting employment, independent contractor, consulting and separation agreements as well as various restrictive covenants. In addition to counseling, Jurate litigates employment disputes of all types, including claims of employment discrimination, harassment, retaliation, whistleblowing, breach of contract, employment-related torts and claims under federal and state wage-and-hour laws. Jurate also assists clients in matters involving trade secrets and non-competes, as well as nonsolicitation, nondisclosure agreements and other restrictive covenants. Jurate's pro bono work includes service on the HR committee of a not-for-profit organization, the YMCA of South Palm Beach County, Florida, and assisting other not-for-profit organizations with employment matters, as well as her successful representation of an unaccompanied immigrant child in an asylum proceeding referred by the National Center for Refugee & Immigrant Children.

SCOTT, Patrick

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution Religious Organizations Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Banking and Finance Appellate and Trial Support

Career: Pat is a bankruptcy law attorney admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in Florida, including the bankruptcy courts of all three districts. He holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in Best Lawyers in America. During the past 45 years, Pat has represented debtors, creditors, creditors' committees and trustees in virtually every type of chapters 7 and 11 case. He has experience with health care, manufacturing, construction, real estate and retail cases, as well as cases involving stockbroker (SIPC) liquidations, Ponzi schemes, and offshore schemes. He has also tried hundreds of cases and evidentiary hearings in the bankruptcy courts and has more than 40 decisions in his clients' favor published in West's Bankruptcy

Reporter. Pat successfully represented the defendant in the only jury trial that has been held in the Southern District of Florida bankruptcy courts. A lecturer on topics of bankruptcy and commercial litigation, he is the author of a Sanders Award-winning article on mortgage foreclosures as fraudulent transfers. He has particular experience in bankruptcy cases involving fraud, fraudulent transfers, misappropriations and exemption planning.

Professional Memberships:

American Board of Certification – Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law
The Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, Past Presidents Council The American Bankruptcy Institute Broward County Bar Association

Publications: Pat has written articles in the insolvency field since 1991.

SELF, Floyd R

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Florida)

Practice Areas: Floyd R. Self is a member of the Florida and Tennessee Bar Associations, and is Board Certified by The Florida Bar as an expert in State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice. His energy, telecommunications, water, and land use practice includes representation of regulated utilities, associations, users, and technology companies. He provides regulatory representation, financing and acquisition due diligence reviews, oversight and compliance with agency regulations, Attorney General investigation defense, legislative drafting and testimony, procurement and purchasing disputes, rulemaking, anti-trust and anti-competitive conduct, show cause, performance measures and standards, and lobbying services. He often serves as local counsel to out of state firms requiring local counsel representation in Florida and Tennessee. Floyd is the only Board Certified attorney who regularly practices before the Florida Public Service Commission. In addition to the PSC, his practice includes representation before Florida state and federal courts, the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings, the Florida Legislature, and various state and local government agencies. His public utility regulatory work includes extensive work before the Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, and Arkansas state Public Utility Commissions on issues ranging from rate setting, certification of need or public convenience, utility customer disputes, interconnection negotiation and disputes, capital budget and infrastructure investments, tariffs and special contracts, natural gas pipelines, solar power siting, CNG and LNG facilities, and pole attachments. He is the President-Elect of the Energy Bar Association (EBA) for 2024-2025, and pursuant to the EBA Bylaws he will automatically become President for 2025-2026. He is a past President of the EBA Southern Chapter, where he remains active in providing leadership

on a variety of energy and public utility law issues.

Professional Memberships:

President-Elect President 2024-2025; President 2025-2026–Southern Chapter of the Energy Bar Association, Past President and continuing Board Member – Member, Law360 Telecommunications Editorial Advisory Board – Board Certified State and Federal Government and Administrative Practice Lawyer – Federal Communications Bar Association – The Florida Bar (Public Utilities Law Committee; Administrative Law Section; Government Lawyer Section; Environmental & Land Use Law Section) – Challenger Learning Center of Tallahassee Board of Directors, Past Chair – Leadership Tallahassee Class 20 graduate – Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America) national volunteer training staff leader for youth leadership training program – Community Catalyst with the Knight Creative Communities Institute – Youth Leadership Tallahassee Class 2 Curriculum Chair – Leadership Tallahassee Class 24 Curriculum Chair – Suwannee River Area Council Silver Beaver award for outstanding service to youth – Leadership Tallahassee Board of Governors, Past Chair – Greater Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors – Scouting America Troop Scoutmaster, National Jamboree Scoutmaster, and Philmont Crew Advisor – National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience Course Director, Scouting America, Philmont Scout Ranch

Publications: – Self, F. R. (2019). (rep.). Report of the State Commission Practice Committee (pp. 5-10). Tallahassee, FL: Energy Bar Association. – Self, F. R. (2022, May 2). Electric Utilities Have Critical Role in Broadband Infrastructure Deployment. POWER Magazine. <https://www.powermag.com/electric-utilities-have-critical-role-in-broadband-infrastructure-deployment/>

SHAPIRO, Ethen

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Featured in Litigation (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Medical Malpractice; Hospital Liability; Long Term Care/ Nursing Home; Professional Liability; Healthcare Litigation & Administrative Proceedings; Drug & Medical Device; Products Liability; Personal Injury; COVID-19 Response Team; Litigation

Career: Ethen Shapiro has prevailed in jury trials for national and local healthcare providers, and has obtained important appellate decisions related to punitive damages for industry clients. Ethen's focus is in the defense of medical malpractice, hospital liability, nursing home and long-term care facilities, professional liability, premises liability, and handling a diverse array of personal injury claims. He has successfully defended hospitals, physicians, nursing homes, and pharmaceutical companies at the local, state and national levels. Ethen has been active in professional activities, including service as program

chair, faculty member and invited speaker with the Defense Research Institute's (DRI) Medical Liability and Healthcare Law Committee. Locally, he has served as acting chief coordinator for the Hillsborough County High School Mock Trial Competition and as a youth basketball coach. In law school, Ethen received the Pro Bono Service Award for dedication and service to those unable to afford legal services, as well as the prestigious American Jurisprudence ("Book") Award for excellence in Intellectual Property.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association The Florida Bar Hillsborough County Bar Association Florida Hospital Association International Association of Defense Counsel Florida Defense Lawyers Association Defense Research Institute

SHAUGHNESSY, Kevin W
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Career: Fortune 50 and other clients turn to Kevin Shaughnessy in a crisis, be it a class or collective action challenging the client's pay practices or an accusation of pattern and practice discrimination, a governmental investigation or lawsuit, or the handling of sensitive whistleblower claims. Through advice and counsel, and a unique approach to litigation, Kevin helps clients avoid the potential negative impact of bet-the-company cases and simultaneously assists them in creating and preserving productive working environments. Kevin is creative, a good listener and dedicated to his clients. As a counselor and a class action litigator, he focuses on each client's specific needs and develops unique strategies to place them in the best light, both legally and publicly, while handling litigation and non-litigation matters efficiently and effectively. Clients trust Kevin's counsel on business and legal issues because he listens to their concerns and understands their operations and corporate culture. This investment in each client's business and its particular goals and objectives, and Kevin's appreciation for the personal and professional challenges clients face every day, makes him a highly-valued advisor and litigator, and has led to 25+ year relationships with numerous clients. Through these relationships, he has handled class action and government-initiated litigation throughout the United States. This broad experience enables him to draw from the laws and procedures in different jurisdictions when developing key strategies for each case, regardless of where it is pending.

SHAW-WILDER, Detra
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Complex Litigation, Corporate Shareholder Disputes, Deceptive Trade Practices, Professional Services Malpractice

Career: Detra concentrates on complex commercial litigation, business law matters, corporate shareholder disputes and high-level contract and commercial financing disputes. She regularly litigates in state and federal court. Having been involved in significant litigation, she has a broad range of trial experience in commercial cases. Detra frequently participates in panel discussions on complex litigation matters and trial skills programs. She is currently Chairperson of the Business Litigation Committee of the Florida Bar Business Law Section and Vice President of the University of Miami Law Alumni Association. She is a past Board Member and Region XI Director for the National Bar Association. She is also a member of the Federal Grievance Committee for the US District Court for the Southern District of Florida and previously served on the Florida Bar Grievance Committee for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida.

SILVA, Michael
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Featured in Tax (Florida)

Practice Areas: Michael Silva focuses his practice on international tax law, with an emphasis on US investment structures, cross-border transactions, tax treaty planning and US activities of foreign banks. He has significant experience forming investment funds and advising family offices. Michael currently serves as head of the Miami Tax practice and co-head of the Latin America practice. Michael also advises Brazilian and Asian investors on investments in US real estate projects, and assists multinational corporations on establishing a business presence in the United States. Maintaining an active private client practice, Michael regularly advises families on trusts and private trusts companies and other techniques to transfer wealth and business assets. Michael advises foreign clients on the US income, estate and gift tax consequences of alternative inbound investment structures while utilizing income, estate and gift tax treaties to minimize tax and regulatory burdens. He coordinates the formation of foreign trusts, corporations and advises clients the US reporting requirements imposed on foreign trusts with US beneficiaries. Michael also assists international banks and trustees on dealing with US clients. Michael represents financial institutions, insurers, broker-dealers, custodians, funds, fund advisers and managers, trust companies and other financial intermediaries in connection with the requisite protocols and procedures to validate compliance with FATCA requirements. Michael is board-certified by the Florida Bar in Tax Law and in International Law, and is a Certified Public Accountant. Michael previously served as adjunct professor of Law in the University of Miami Law School Graduate Tax Program. View

more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/silva-michael/>

Professional Memberships: Certified Public Accountant

SILVER, Eric J
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Eric Silver handles complex commercial restructuring and related litigation matters in federal and state courts. He represents court appointed fiduciaries, secured and unsecured creditors, and purchasers of distressed assets and serves as court appointed fiduciary. He is counsel to directors and officers in breach of fiduciary duty and related claims stemming from insolvency proceedings.

Career: Eric Silver is a Shareholder and member of firm's Board of Directors. He is based out of South Florida. Prior to joining the firm in 2010, Eric served as a law clerk to the Honorable Robert A. Mark in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. Eric earned his J.D., magna cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law, jointly with his M.B.A. from the School of Business Administration.

Professional Memberships: Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, Past President; American Bankruptcy Institute; Admitted to Florida, U.S. District Courts (Southern, Middle, Northern Districts of Florida), U.S. Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit.

SILVERMAN, Lawrence D
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Featured in Antitrust (Florida)

Practice Areas: LARRY SILVERMAN is a trial lawyer with vast experience in antitrust, class action, mass action and commercial litigation matters, particularly in the state of Florida. His antitrust practice focuses on distribution law issues (such as MAP, resale, and unilateral pricing policies, internet sales restrictions, and dealer agreements), state, federal, and civil cartel investigations, and governmental premerger approvals.

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Adept at navigating complex labor and employment matters, Scott Silverman's range of experience includes representation of employers in administrative proceedings, federal and state court litigation, and arbitrations. Although he has worked on a variety of labor and employment issues throughout his career, his practice has emphasized on labor management relations, employment discrimination, non-compete/trade secret, wage and hour, and retaliation claims. Complementing his litigation practice,

Scott advises employers on day-to-day employment issues and drafts manuals and contracts for his clients. Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Labor and Employment Law, he frequently lectures and publishes articles on current developments in labor and employment law.

SINGERMAN, Paul Steven

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (USA - Nationwide), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida), Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Paul Singerman is co-chair of Berger Singerman. His extraordinary attentiveness to and empathy for clients have helped him earn a reputation as one of the most effective restructuring lawyers in the state of Florida. Paul's other practice areas include complex bankruptcy and commercial litigation, representation of fiduciaries in fraud cases, corporate governance, and distressed business mergers and acquisitions. Prior to his legal career, Paul was in business for eight years. His business experience informs his approach to problem-solving in legal matters. The clients with which he works appreciate his sensitivity to the business challenges they face. His understanding for many clients dealing with lawyers and legal issues—primarily litigation related—is viewed as costly and a distraction and is often very stressful. Paul routinely urges clients to focus on their self-care in working through material legal challenges to most effectively contribute to the best outcome of the case or matter and set the right tone at the client's business.

Paul has been significantly involved in some of the highest-profile and most significant restructuring matters in Florida for over three decades. He represented Piper Aircraft Corporation in its extraordinarily successful chapter 11 case filed in 1991. Starting in 2000, he was lead counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the CHS Electronics case, and post-confirmation, he was lead counsel to the Liquidating Trustee. Starting in 2009, Paul was lead counsel to the Chapter 11 trustee in the \$1.3 billion Ponzi scheme case of the Rothstein, Rosenfeldt & Adler law firm. This case is the only Ponzi scheme case in the United States in which unsubordinated unsecured creditors received full payment on their claims. In that same year, he commenced the representation of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the chapter 11 case of Taylor Bean & Whitaker, then the largest non-bank mortgage originator in the country. That case involved more than \$11.5 billion in claims. Most recently, Paul served as lead counsel to the court-appointed receiver in the tragic case of the collapse of the Champlain Towers South condominium building, which resulted in 98 deaths. Additionally, he is serving as general counsel to James S. Feltman,

the court-appointed receiver in the case filed by Citizens Bank N.A., against Elliot S. Smerling who was engaged in a massive fraudulent scheme over a number of years involving federally insured banks with losses exceeding over \$136 million. Above all, Paul strives to listen to and be sensitive to the needs of his clients. He has a daily meditation practice, and every day seeks to be better in all of his efforts than he was the day before.

Professional Memberships: –Fellow, The American College of Bankruptcy –Fellow, American Bar Foundation –Member, The American Law Institute –Member, American Bankruptcy Institute –Member, Commercial Law League of America –Member, The Spellman-Hoever American Inn of Court –Member, Miami-Dade County and American Bar Associations –Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce –Mount Sinai Medical Center, Advisory Board of Trustees, Executive Board of Trustees –The Florida Bar, Member, Executive Council of the Business Law Section, Member, Pro Bono Committee

Publications: –Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2019, May 8). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). –Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2020, June 7). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency (3rd edition). Restructuring & Insolvency (4th edition). –Singerman, P. S. (2021, February 16).

Avoid bankruptcy: 7 tips to save a financially distressed business during a pandemic. South Florida Business Journal. <https://partners.bizjournals.com/doing-business-in-florida/avoid-bankruptcy-7-tips-to-save-a-financially-distressed-business-during-a-pandemic/> –Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2022, July 26). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency. The Legal 500: Country Comparative Guides. <https://www.legal500.com/guides/chapter/united-states-restructuring-insolvency/> –Singerman, P. S., Homer, I. M., Guso, J., & Jarvinen, C. A. (2022, December 5). United States: Restructuring & Insolvency. The Legal 500: Country Comparative Guides. <https://www.legal500.com/guides/chapter/united-states-restructuring-insolvency/>

SIRVEN, José E
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Featured in *Banking & Finance (Florida)*

Practice Areas: Financial Services | Mergers and Acquisitions | International and Cross-Border Transactions | Banking Law | Commercial Lending | Latin America Practice | Cuba Action Team | Risk and Crisis Management | International Financial Regulations | Financial Services Regulations

Career: Jose E. Sirven is a partner in Holland & Knight's Miami office. He has practiced in the financial services, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and cross-border fields for more than 35 years. A significant part of his

cross-border work has involved Latin American and Caribbean jurisdictions, including Mexico and nearly every country in South and Central America. Mr. Sirven regularly conducts complex negotiations and drafts documents in the Spanish language. At Holland & Knight, Mr. Sirven is the chair of the Business Section. Previously, he led or co-led the Financial Services Practice Group. He also served on the firm's Directors Committee for more than a decade, including chairing a number of committees such as the Budget and Finance Committee and the Managing Partner Compensation Committee. Additionally, Mr. Sirven served as the executive partner of the Miami office. At the University of Miami School of Law, he served as Articles & Comments Editor for the University of Miami Law Review.

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Featured in *Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)*

Practice Areas: Harris Siskind is global head of McDermott's Transactions Practice Group. He advises clients on private equity transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and general corporate matters. Harris has handled many complex transactions, including acquisitions and divestitures, on behalf of private equity sponsors. He has also represented numerous strategic buyers, public corporations and private companies in connections with acquisitions, sales and a broad range of other corporate transactions. View more at: <https://www.mwe.com/people/siskind-harris-c/>

Professional Memberships: Admitted to practice in Florida. Feeding South Florida, Chairman

Personal: Education: University of Florida Levin College of Law, JD, with honors, 1993 Dartmouth College, BA, 1990

SITTERTON, Curtis
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami
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Featured in *Tax (Florida)*

Practice Areas: Curtis Sitterson has primary responsibility within the firm for the tax structuring of all mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, and reorganizations.

Career: Curtis Sitterson is a Shareholder and member of the firm's Board of Directors. He serves as the Chair of Firm's Tax department and is based out of Miami, Florida. He served as the Managing Director of the firm from 1993-1998.

SOLOMON, Steven J
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Featured in *Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Florida: South)*

Practice Areas: Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Banking and Finance

Career: Steven is the Managing Shareholder of GrayRobinson's Miami Office and Chair of the firm's Bankruptcy Section. He has more than 30 years of experience in business insolvencies, including bankruptcy, receiverships, dissolutions, assignments for the benefit of creditors and liquidations. Among others, he represents debtors, creditors, committees, trustees, assignees, board members, liquidating officers, and other appointed fiduciaries. Steven regularly represents parties in connection with liquidations, distressed asset sales, preference and fraudulent transfer actions, fiduciary litigation as well as other litigation arising out of or related to troubled businesses, including matters related to corporate governance. Prior to practicing law, Steven practiced accounting in the tax department of Arthur Andersen LLP. After earning his law degree, Steven joined Arthur Andersen LLP as a Senior Director of Corporate Recovery Services providing financial and restructuring advisory services to troubled companies, debtors-in-possession, and Official Committees of Unsecured Creditors. Steven is a problem solver who is invested in client relationships and achieving positive outcomes.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida Florida Blue Key American Bankruptcy Institute, Asset Sales Committee

SOMERSTEIN, Barry
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Featured in *Real Estate (Florida: South)*

Practice Areas: Banking & Finance Construction Corporate Hospitality, Alcohol & Leisure Industry Group Land Use & Zoning Real Estate Timeshare & Resort Bankruptcy and Reorganization

Career: Barry E. Somerstein concentrates his practice in the area of real estate transactional law, finance, leasing, general corporate sports law and land use. Mr. Somerstein has represented many clients in the negotiation, structuring and documenting of real estate asset transactions, primarily, in connection with hotels, condominium buildings, shopping centers, and office buildings. Additionally, he works with developer clients in connection with the acquisition, permitting, land use planning, finance and development of large tracts of real estate. His extensive background has enabled him to assist numerous clients in taking a raw piece of real estate and developing it into a finished product. A substantial part of Mr. Somerstein's practice involves all aspects of leasing and leasehold financing. Mr. Somerstein represents numerous landlords in connection with the leasing of office buildings, shopping centers and warehouses. He also represents numerous clients in negotiating leases on behalf of tenants. Mr. Somerstein has structured long-term ground leases to enable clients to

develop on real estate based on the use of long-term ground leases on both a subordinated and unsubordinated basis. Mr. Somerstein has spent a considerable period of time representing both lenders and borrowers in connection with real estate and asset-based financing. He has had extensive experience in loan workout and reorganizations. Mr. Somerstein is involved in structuring corporations, general partnerships, limited partnerships and joint ventures. Mr. Somerstein has spoken at various seminars on office and industrial leasing and growth management.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association, Member Broward County Bar Association, Member Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Executive Committee and General Counsel Broward Performing Arts Authority Foundation, Past President and Board Member Nova Southeastern University, Ambassador's Board, Member Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law, Board of Trustees, Former Member Broward County Commission for the Homeless, Member Kids in Distress, Former Board Member

Publications: Author, "Homelessness Is Not A Crime, and Broward's Working On Solutions," Sun Sentinel, September 26, 2018

SPRADLEY, Susan
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Featured in *Labor & Employment (Florida)*

Practice Areas: Labor and Employment Litigation Higher Education Religious Organizations Trade Secret, Noncompete and Unfair Competition

Career: A dedicated advisor and commanding litigator, Susan Spradley has been guiding and protecting employers, HR professionals, and in-house counsel throughout Florida for more than thirty years. Her expertise encompasses all aspects of management employment law, including day-to-day preventative counseling, training, litigation, and representation before state and local agencies. Susan works with private and public employers across various sectors, including health care, higher education, religious and nonprofit, transportation, and government, among others. Focused on personal connection and building long-term relationships, Susan advises business clients on matters involving discrimination (e.g., gender, race, national origin, religion, age, and housing), all forms of retaliation, the Fair Labor Standard Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the National Labor Relations Act, unemployment compensation, and wage garnishments. Susan also guides clients through internal and third-party workplace investigations, as well as agency and court proceedings. The cornerstone of Susan's preventative approach is providing detailed and timely client communications on evolving legislative changes, regulatory issues, and other key industry developments impact-

ing employers, including COVID-19 workplace laws. Susan appreciates that legal considerations and practical advice go hand in hand when working to avoid and defend employment claims. Her practice includes drafting, negotiating, and litigating employment-related agreements, including restrictive covenants (noncompetition, nondisclosure, and nonsolicitation), advising on workplace best practices, preparing policy manuals and handbooks, and conducting management training. Complex employment law matters often intersect with adjacent practice areas and require industry specificity. When such occasions arise, Susan collaborates regularly with GrayRobinson professionals in the alcohol beverage, health care, corporate, tax, real estate practices and is often called upon to assist with due diligence and disclosure schedules related to corporate mergers and acquisitions. Susan also serves as a Member of the Board of Directors and was firm liaison for 16 years for the Employment Law Alliance.

Professional Memberships: Academy of Florida Management Attorneys, 2000-present American Bar Association, 1990-present Employment Law Alliance: Board of Directors, 2021-present, Firm Liaison, 2007-present The Federal Bar Association, 2000-present The Florida Bar: Labor and Employment Law Section, City, County and Local Government Law Section Orange County Bar Association, 1989-present Society for Human Resource Management, 1998-present

STEARNS, Eugene

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Miami
305.789.3400
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Eugene Stearns has 50 years of experience as a trial and appellate lawyer in jury and non-jury trials in federal and state courts, and in arbitration and administrative law proceedings. He has argued appeals to Florida's Districts Courts of Appeal, the Florida Supreme Court, and in the federal system to the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the 5th, 11th, 9th and 3rd Circuits, enjoying an enviable list of clients for whom he has achieved considerable success. Please visit www.stearnsweaver.com for Eugene Stearns' full biography.

Career: Eugene Stearns is the Chairman of the firm's Board of Directors and Litigation Department. He is based in South Florida.

Professional Memberships:

Admitted to the Bars of the State of Florida, U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals (5th, 11th, 9th and 3rd Circuits), U.S. Tax Court, U.S. District Court (Southern and Middle Districts of Florida).

STEIN, Gary M

Peckar & Abramson, P.C., Miami
305.358.2600
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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas:

Construction & Infrastructure Construction Dispute Resolution Business Litigation Government Contracts Residential and Multi-Family **Career:** Gary M. Stein is co-managing partner of Peckar & Abramson's Miami office and serves on the firm's Executive Committee. He also currently serves as general counsel for the South Florida Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America (South Florida AGC). Gary's primary area of practice is construction law and he is certified by the Florida Bar as a Construction Law Specialist. His practice includes the representation of general contractors, construction managers, subcontractors, owner/developers and other construction professionals in the litigation, arbitration and mediation of construction and design defect claims, contract claims, construction lien claims, delay-and-impact claims, surety bond claims, insurance claims and related matters on low-rise, mid-rise and high-rise residential, commercial and municipal projects. His practice also includes the representation of civil infrastructure contractors on claims involving tunnels, bridges, roads and highways and energy infrastructure contractors on claims involving power plants, including nuclear power plants. Gary is also highly experienced in the negotiation and preparation of construction documents, as well as project administration assistance during construction for the early identification and resolution of conflicts and disputes. Gary has represented clients in litigation and arbitration involving delays, liens, bonds, wrongful termination, differing site conditions and construction defects involving foundations, reinforced and post-tension concrete construction, masonry, roofing, drywall assemblies, stucco, EIFS systems, curtain wall systems, railings, paint, mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, fire sprinkler systems, drilled shafts and many other building systems and components in both domestic and international cases. As lead counsel, Gary has successfully handled jury and non-jury trials, arbitrations and appeals. He has served as an arbitrator through the American Arbitration Association since 1989 and as a mediator in many large complex construction and commercial disputes. Gary's general litigation practice includes real estate, contract and business-related disputes. Gary teaches a course on legal issues in construction for the Masters of Construction Management Program at the University of Miami's School of Architecture. He has authored numerous articles on various construction-related topics for Southeast Construction, the American Bar Association, the American Arbitration Association and others. Gary has also conducted seminars on various construction law topics for the National Business Institute, Lorman Educational Services, the Florida Construction Law Institute and the Miami-Dade County Bar Association.

Professional Memberships:

South Florida Associated General Contractors, Board of Directors Associated General Contractors of America Construction Association of South Florida American Bar Association (Forum on the Construction Industry and Litigation Section) American Trial Lawyers Association Miami-Dade County Bar Association

Publications: Authored articles for Southeast Construction, the American Bar Association and American Arbitration Association

STEKLOF, Cary

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, Miami
Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mr. Steklaf is an experienced litigator and advisor who represents policyholders in all types of insurance coverage and bad faith disputes. With experience in the areas of insurance litigation, insurer bad faith and unfair insurance practices, he concentrates his practice on advising policyholders in connection with director and officer, error and omission, cyber, commercial general liability and commercial property insurance policies. Mr. Steklaf has directed litigation and handled claims across the spectrum of insurance products and has assisted his clients in obtaining tens of millions of dollars in coverage over the course of his career. In addition to litigating and securing substantial recoveries, Mr. Steklaf has reviewed the insurance programs of domestic and international companies to provide advice on mitigating risks and gaps in insurance coverage. This has included negotiating directly with insurance underwriters to assist clients in seeking the most comprehensive coverage that is commercially available. As a trusted resource for his clients, Mr. Steklaf frequently provides advice to in-house counsel, company executives, and risk managers regarding complex insurance litigation, sources of business exposure, and contract negotiations. Mr. Steklaf also has extensive experience representing bankruptcy trustees, receivers, assignees and corporate entities in disputes with all types of insurers.

SUAREZ, Jesus

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Practice Areas: Jesus M. Suarez is a Chambers USA ranked trial lawyer who excels at counseling clients through challenging legal situations. Jesus has broad experience in matters involving complex legal and financial disputes, including controversies involving bankruptcies, civil and criminal litigation, and related governmental inquiries. Jesus often represents parties in litigation matters arising from business disputes, business reorganizations, liquidations, Ponzi schemes, and other fraudulent and insolvent enterprises. He also counsels clients before various municipal, state and federal governments and agencies. In addition to being recognized by Chambers &

Partners USA in the Florida: Bankruptcy Litigation category, he is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and has been recognized as a Rising Star by Florida Super Lawyers and a Top Up and Comer by Florida Trend. He is a graduate of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (National Session). Jesus is a member of the Florida Bar and admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court and U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Florida College of Law and inducted into Florida Blue Key. Jesus earned his Bachelor of Business Administration, cum laude, from Loyola University Chicago, where he majored in finance and international business. Jesus is a member of the Belen Jesuit Alumni Association and the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. In June 2021, Jesus was appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission.

SWERDLOFF, Nicolas

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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Nicolas Swerdloff is a senior counsel who focuses on the litigation and arbitration of complex cross-border business disputes. He was previously a partner in the Litigation Department as well as Managing Partner of the Miami Office and a member of the firm's Executive Committee. Nick concentrates on financial, license, joint-venture, securities, professional liability, sovereign, and sports disputes. He has litigated such disputes in federal and state court throughout the U.S. and before the major arbitral institutions. Nick is ranked in Chambers and Partners, which reports that he "regularly acts as counsel in complex commercial litigation and offers significant experience in cases with cross-border elements." Chambers and Partners also reports that he "represents clients in arbitrations" and "serv[es] as an arbitrator." He is Board Certified in International Litigation and Arbitration by the Florida Bar. He is also a member of the Panel of Neutrals of the ICDR and AAA.

TANDY, Heidi

Berger Singerman, Miami
001 305-926-2227
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)

Practice Areas: Heidi Tandy is a partner in Berger Singerman's Miami office where she sits on both the Business/Financial Team and the Dispute Resolution Team. Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Intellectual Property Law and a Member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, Heidi has almost thirty years of experience in intellectual property with a focus on copyrights and trademarks, tech, online privacy, licensing and media law, handling matters involving social media, privacy, and internet and tech law for

large and small corporate clients and individuals. Her clients range from retail stores to groundbreaking online content creators and off-Broadway plays, as well as hotels and condominiums, restaurants, jewelry designers, fan events, educators, podcasters, website and app developers, novelists, and an Emmy-award winning makeup artist. She's worked with content creators, technology builders, individual business owners, and large corporations to successfully protect websites, apps, copyrights and trademarks. Since the 1990s, Heidi's work has included the creation of terms of service and privacy policies and best practices, as well as creating website accessibility policies, internet policies, employee manuals and managerial procedures for companies such as The Bump, PsychoBunny, the Organization for Transformative Works and Delivery Dudes. Heidi Tandy began her career at The New York Times, and has since filed hundreds of trademark applications, litigated before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, the World Intellectual Property Organization and in federal and Florida courts, created and negotiated license agreements and assignments, and protected the rights of clients around the world. Heidi is an alum of the University of Pennsylvania, where she earned her BA in history at the College and communications at the Annenberg School of Communications, and American University's Washington College of Law, where she focused on tech and IP law; she is currently on the board of the University of Pennsylvania Press and a member of the Trustees' Council of Penn Women, and sits on WCL's advisory council for the school's Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property. She is also a member of WIN (Women in IP Network) and BMI's Bayshore chapter, and has been a panelist on legal issues at San Diego Comic Con, Florida Supercon, South By Southwest, DragonCon, the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce, Wharton's Stevens Center for Innovation in Finance's Cypher Accelerator, and annual Forums for Women Leaders in IP Law, as well as numerous podcasts. She has taught social media law at Whittier Law School and Nova Southeastern University.

Professional Memberships: -Member, INTA's unREAL Campaign Committee -Member, Penn Press External Board of Advisors

Publications: -Tandy, H. (2018, May 10). Make sure your business is compliant with new EU data protection regulations. Inside Business. http://www.pilotonline.com/inside-business/news/columns/article_829fc186-5524-11e8-939b-cb01b61d92b7.html -Tandy, H. (2020a, April 17). Emergency Distance Learning and Fair Use. IPWatchdog.com. <https://ipwatchdog.com/2020/04/02/emergency-distance-learning-fair-use/id=120328/> -Tandy, H. (2020b, April 27). Home Learning. Intellectual Property Magazine. <https://www.intellectualpropertymagazine.com/Covid19/home-learning-1.htm?origin=internalSearch>

THANNER, Christopher J
McGuireWoods LLP, Jacksonville
cthanner@mcguirewoods.com
Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Practice Areas: Chris's practice covers many aspects of commercial real estate law, including big-box and shopping center retail, industrial, office and multifamily development, construction contracts, commercial lending and leasing, land use, and development law. He guides sellers, purchasers, landlords and tenants through real estate acquisitions, dispositions and leasing transactions. He also counsels clients on negotiating the maze of governmental regulations affecting development in Florida, including concurrency, platting and permitting issues. In the banking and finance area, Chris represents institutional lenders and corporate borrowers in real estate and other asset-based financing transactions and frequently serves as local counsel on state and national financing matters. Additionally, Chris works with special asset managers of lending institutions and special servicers of Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities loans on commercial loan workouts and forbearance agreements, foreclosures of real and personal property, guaranty enforcement actions, deeds in lieu of foreclosure, and state court receivership proceedings. He has also represented lenders in the workout and foreclosure of incomplete construction and development projects. And, as a member of the firm's transportation industry team, Chris regularly assists railroads in the acquisition, disposition, leasing and development of railroad right of way and related rail and intermodal facilities.

TILLMAN, Jodi-Ann
Shutts & Bowen LLP, Miami
Featured in Intellectual Property (Florida)
Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals/jodi-ann-tillman>

TILTON, Erin
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A., Tallahassee
Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)
Practice Areas: Erin Tilton represents private and public sector clients before local, regional, and state agencies, courts, and elected bodies on environmental, real estate development, and land use matters. She has experience advising clients on a wide-range of complex land use permitting and entitlement issues, including comprehensive plans and amendments, rezonings, variances, concurrency and development agreements, Development of Regional Impact (DRI) review and rescission, and other related aspects of securing development authorization. She is skilled in developing and implementing litigation strategy as it relates to obtaining, challenging, and defending development approvals. In addition to her land development practice, Erin also maintains a broad litigation practice where she represents

clients in administrative, circuit court, and appellate litigation on a variety of matters, including complex business, real estate, contract, and private property rights disputes. She also has extensive experience litigating issues under Florida's Public Records Act on behalf of both private and public sector clients.

Professional Memberships: Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors; Urban Land Institute (ULI) Capital Region Leadership Council; Stetson Lawyers Alumni Association Advisory Council; Tallahassee Bar Association, Past President, Board of Directors; The Florida Bar, Real Property, Probate & Trust Law Section (RPPTL), Development and Land Use Planning Committee

TOBIN, Jennifer Slone
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Featured in Real Estate (Florida: North & Central)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-jennifer-slone-tobin>

TRAVERS, Jessica T
Littler Mendelson, PC, Orlando
jtravers@littler.com
Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Class Action; Discrimination and Harassment; Litigation and Trials; Wage and Hour; Whistleblowing, Compliance and Investigations
Career: Jessica has extensive experience counseling and advising employers on a wide range of cutting-edge workplace issues, including employment policies and procedures; internal investigations; accommodation requirements; leaves of absence; wage and hour compliance and remediation; employment-related agreements; terminations; discipline; disability access laws; and manager and employee training. She works with employers of all sizes in an array of industries, including energy, hospitality, retail, e-commerce, technology, real estate, and transportation and logistics. Travers is known for identifying and resolving potential areas of liability and exposure in a proactive but practical way. She has successfully defended clients in class, multiplaintiff, and single-plaintiff actions in federal and state courts and agencies, appellate courts, and arbitral forums. Travers has successfully enforced arbitration agreements, obtained denials of class certification, and has had conditionally certified collectives decertified. She has experience handling legally complex and factually challenging cases and has obtained awards of summary judgment in favor of employers in numerous cases. Travers has had numerous appellate court victories, including claims brought under Title VII, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Fair Labor Standards Act. She has also litigated whistleblower claims under Sarbanes-Oxley and AIR21 and handled investigations and enforcement actions with numerous other federal agencies,

including the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA, and the OFCCP.

TROTMAN, Greta E. M.
Shutts & Bowen LLP, Tampa
1305 415-9044
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-greta-e-m-trotman>

VAN DUSEN, Susan
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305-577-9711
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Susan has practiced as a criminal defense attorney since 1980. She and her former law partner the late Albert J. Krieger gained a national reputation representing individuals and corporations in complex federal conspiracy, money laundering, and racketeering prosecutions, and other government enforcement matters, such as U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission proceedings. She has extensive jury trial experience and has litigated matters throughout the United States and in multiple foreign jurisdictions.

Professional Memberships: Susan is a long time Fellow of the American Board of Criminal Lawyers, and a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), and the American Bar Association. She also serves as the Co-Chair of the Lawyers' Assistance Strike Force for the NACDL and a faculty member of the Trial Skills Academy of the Institute for Criminal Defense Advocacy, and has published and lectured extensively throughout the country on issues of ethics and trial advocacy.

VANCE, Kevin
Duane Morris LLP, Boca Raton
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Florida)

Practice Areas: Mr. Vance represents businesses in litigation matters, including those involving employees. He also advises businesses on compliance with federal, state, and local laws involving the employment relationship. He represents businesses in a wide variety of litigation matters, including matters alleging breach of contract, breach of non-compete covenants, misappropriation of trade secrets, wrongful termination, whistleblowing, employment discrimination/retaliation, negligence, and unpaid wages. He has particular experience representing companies engaged in the health-care, transportation, manufacturing, staffing, and hospitality industries. He also represents businesses in ERISA litigation matters and ADA public accommodation lawsuits. In addition to litigation in state and federal courts, he represents businesses before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the National Labor Relations Board, the U.S. Department of Labor, and various state and local agencies. He counsels businesses on a wide variety of labor and employment matters, and drafts employee handbooks, employment

agreements, releases, settlement agreements and opinion letters.

Career: Duane Morris LLP: Partner, 2010-present; Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.: Associate, 2005-2008, Partner, 2009-2010; Greenspoon Marder, P.A.: Associate, 2003-2005

Professional Memberships: Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce; Academy of Florida Management Attorneys, Director; American Bar Association; The Florida Bar; Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce

Personal: University of Cincinnati College of Law, J.D., 1998; Vanderbilt University, B.A., 1995

WAKSHLAG, Stanley

Kenny Nachwalt PA, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: For over 40 years, Mr. Wakshlag's practice has spanned class action litigation, securities litigation, director and officer representation, complex business litigation, deceptive practices, Securities and Exchange Commission and regulatory enforcement proceedings, professional malpractice and litigation with the FDIC arising from distressed and failed banking institutions. Mr. Wakshlag has counseled boards of directors, special board committees and audit committees. He has also advised management in defense of derivative claims and the institution of remedial corporate governance measures. Mr. Wakshlag has also lectured to professional groups including lawyers and accountants on various issues including professional ethics, effective expert testimony under Daubert and demonstrative evidence.

Professional Memberships: Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. Board of Directors Executive Committee Legal Services of Greater Miami Foundation, Inc. President, Board of Directors Innocence Project of Florida Board of Directors The Florida Bar Grievance Committee, Eleventh Judicial Circuit Florida Board of Bar Examiners Member American Inns of Court, Honorable Eugene P. Spellman Chapter

Personal: Born in Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Wakshlag earned his B.A., magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Brandeis University in 1974 and his J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1978.

WATKINS, Nicolas J

GrayRobinson, PA, Miami
305 416 6880
nicolas.watkins@gray-robinson.com

Featured in Immigration (Florida)

Practice Areas: Immigration Real Estate

Career: Born and raised in England, Nic has more than 35 years of experience in his practice areas of immigration and nationality law and real estate law. Nic heads up GrayRobinson's business immigration law practice group. Nic's immigration practice focuses on nonimmigrant (temporary) and immigrant (permanent/residency) visa petitions and applications on behalf

of investors, executives, managerial and other skilled foreign workers and their employers. This includes E, H, L, O and P temporary worker visas, among others, as well as applications for temporary and permanent employment certification and residency applications under the Immigrant Investor (EB-5) Visa Program. Nic also represents employers in connection with immigration-related regulatory compliance proceedings in the employment setting (employment eligibility verification, E-verify and I-9 audits) as well as individuals in naturalization proceedings and consular matters. Nic's real property law practice is both broad and varied. He represents individual and institutional clients alike and has extensive experience in commercial and residential transactions, from acquisition through financing, development and disposition, including purchases, sales, leases, condominiums, title examination and title insurance matters, and construction and permanent lending. He also has experience with refinancings, loan renegotiations, workouts and foreclosures, as well as construction law matters, including design and construction contract drafting and negotiation.

Professional Memberships: The Florida Bar - Real Property Law Section, Member, 1987-present - Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee, Member, 1999-2002 - Grievance Committee, Member, 1993-1996 American Immigration Lawyers Association, Member, 1984-present American Immigration Lawyers Association, South Florida Chapter, Member, Board of Directors, 1989-1990

Publications: "Episode 247: Foreign Travel and the Issuance of Visas to Foreign Nationals Amidst COVID-19," Employment Law Alliance, Employment Matters Podcast, May 17, 2021 Immigration E-Alert: New H-1B Rules: "Salary Increases for H-1B Workers, But Fewer Will Qualify," October 16, 2020 GrayRobinson COVID-19 Task Force E-Alert: "COVID-19: Will Foreign Students Still Be Able to Graduate?" July 13, 2020 GrayRobinson COVID-19 Task Force E-Alert: "President Trump's Proclamation Suspending Entry into the United States for Certain Temporary Foreign Workers," June 26, 2020 Immigration E-Alert: "Employers: The Impact of Changes in Working Conditions on Foreign Temporary Workers in Our COVID-19 World," April 21, 2020 Immigration E-Alert: "Update on H-1B Registration Lottery in the COVID-19 World," April 1, 2020 Immigration E-Alert: "Immigration and the COVID-19 World: The Facts," March 28, 2020 "Hiring a Foreign Worker? No Problem. You Just Need to Know What to Expect," Daily Business Review, January 23, 2020

WATT, Zachary W

Hill Ward Henderson, Tampa

Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Practice Areas: General Corporate Advice; Securities & Corporate Governance; Mergers & Acquisitions; Corporate & Transactional; Financial Services

Career: Zach Watt advises clients on a variety of corporate and transactional matters, including commercial lending, securities, mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance. He has represented financial institutions and borrowers in numerous commercial lending transactions, including secured and unsecured revolving credit and term loan facilities, syndicated facilities, asset-based financings, acquisition financings, tax-exempt bond financings, and letter of credit issuances. He also represents companies in public offerings and private placements, preparation and review of SEC filings, other securities law compliance, and general governance matters.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association The Florida Bar Hillsborough County Bar Association The Pennsylvania Bar

WEAVER, Matthew

Reed Smith LLP, Miami

Featured in Insurance (Florida)

Practice Areas: Matt, partner in Reed Smith's Insurance Recovery Group, is a commercial litigator and represents corporate, municipal, and individual policyholders in disputes regarding insurance coverage, unfair insurance practices, and insurer bad faith. He has extensive experience seeking recovery for policyholders under all types of policies, including commercial general liability, directors and officers liability, professional liability, commercial and residential property, and commercial crime. Matt is also represents healthcare providers in tort and contact disputes with health insurers stemming from claims underpayment and harmful business practices. He also prosecutes insurer bad faith cases on behalf of policyholders, including those seeking punitive damages for an insurer's wrongful general business practices in both state and federal court. He is the recipient of several awards for advocacy, including the Best Brief Award at the Robert Orseck Memorial Moot Court Competition, and was selected as a member of the Order of Barristers.

WEINTRAUB, Lee

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Featured in Construction (Florida)

Practice Areas: CONSTRUCTION LAW & LITIGATION • Chapter 558 Specialized Claims Team • Construction Licensing • Construction Lien Law • Delay Claims • Surety Bonds PUBLIC, PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (P3)

Career: At age 46, Lee Weintraub was the youngest recipient ever of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Bar's Construction Law Committee. Mr. Weintraub is also an adjunct professor of law at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law teaching construction law. In 2009, 2013, and 2022 Florida Trend magazine named him one of Florida's Legal Elite, an honor bestowed on only the top 2% of Florida lawyers. In the 2020 edition of The Best Lawyers in America®, Mr.

Weintraub was recognized as Lawyer of the Year in Construction Litigation, an honor only bestowed upon one attorney for each specialty practice and location. Additionally, he has been voted by his peers as one of the Best Lawyers in America® every year since 2006. He has also been selected by Florida Super Lawyers every year since 2007, which names Florida's top 5% of lawyers as chosen by their peers. Mr. Weintraub has been recognized by Chambers USA

- America's Leading Business Lawyers every year since 2003. Chambers USA noted he focuses on licensing and construction defect litigation, but is particularly renowned for his expertise in the Construction Lien Law. Mr. Weintraub is Board Certified in Construction Law by the Florida Bar and serves as Vice Chair of the Firm's Construction Law Practice Group. Since passing the construction law board certification exam, he has served as a board certification exam course instructor every year the course has been offered. He is a certified arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association and, as a lawyer, represents owners, developers, contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, bond sureties and other commercial entities in litigation, arbitration and transactions. He is a frequent lecturer statewide, nationally and internationally on construction related topics. The Firm's Public, Private Partnership (P3) practice team is led by Mr. Weintraub along with Vice Chair Jennifer Drake. This multi-disciplinary team of professionals is experienced in development, construction, government, real estate, corporate, finance, procurement, and land use. Mr. Weintraub helped draft, negotiate and advocate for the P3 legislation that became law in Florida in 2013 and all its subsequent amendments. He is a frequent lecturer and author on the nuances of how to structure P3 projects. He is also a founding member and former Chair of the Florida Council for Public/Private Partnerships, a non-profit consortium of public and private sector organizations working together to further P3 opportunities. In 2019, Mr. Weintraub was invited by the United States Department of Commerce Commercial Law Development Program to travel with them to Asia to train the governments of eight Asian countries in public/private partnerships. His experience has included meetings with the President of the Maldives, Parliament of Nepal, and government officials in Singapore, Bangladesh, and Mongolia. Most recently, he was invited to train Kenyan government on P3 initiatives.

Professional Memberships: An active member of the legal and civic community, Mr. Weintraub currently serves on the Executive Committee of The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate & Trust Law (RPPTL) Section - the largest Section of the Bar that includes, among other things, the state's construction and development lawyers. He previously served two terms as Chair of the Florida Bar's Construction Law Committee and one term as Chair of the

Broward County Construction Law Committee. • An active member of the legal and civic community, Mr. Weintraub served two terms as Chair of the Florida Bar's Construction Law Committee and one term as Chair of the Broward County Construction Law Committee. • He is the creator and chair for the first three years of the Florida Bar's Construction Law Institute, one of the largest State Bar run construction law conferences in the country. • In 2017, Mr. Weintraub was elected Fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers for his outstanding legal ability, experience and high standards of professional and ethical conduct in the practice of real estate law. • Lee Weintraub founded the firm's charity Becker Helping Hands in 2003. The non-profit helps hospitalized children and their families year round and statewide by delivering high-end toys and gifts. Learn more by visiting www.beckerhelpinghands.org.

WELLS, Bryan

Shutts & Bowen LLP, Miami
305-347-7300
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Florida)

Career: <https://www.shutts.com/professionals-bryan-wells>

WELLS, David

Winston & Strawn LLP, Miami
dwells@winston.com

Featured in Corporate/M&A (Florida: South)

Practice Areas: Mergers & Acquisitions Corporate Life Sciences & Medical Technology Capital Markets Food, Beverage & Agribusiness
Career: David Wells advises public and private companies on mergers and

acquisitions and corporate finance transactions in a variety of industries. "David is very commercial and has always represented his clients strongly."

—Chambers USA David focuses on advising public and private companies on mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance transactions. He has worked on a wide variety of mergers and acquisitions, including public company mergers, going-private transactions, strategic and financial investments and divestitures, public and private leveraged acquisitions and spin-offs, exchange offers, tender offers, and hostile-takeovers and defenses. Mr. Wells routinely assists clients with corporate finance transactions, including public and private securities offerings, including Regulation D and offshore offerings, IPOs, registered direct offerings, secondary offerings, PIPEs, and registered shelf offerings. David has received numerous awards for his securities and mergers and acquisitions work. He also provides guidance on corporate governance, securities law compliance, securities exchange (NYSE, NASDAQ and OTC) compliance, director fiduciary duties and executive compensation, equity compensation plans, self-tender offers, stock repurchases, and accelerated stock repurchase programs. From startups to Fortune 500 companies, David has represented a wide variety of public and private clients in various industries, such as health care, medical device, life sciences, video games, telecommunications, hi-tech equipment and services, software as a service, internet-based retailers, alternative experiential marketing, regulated and unregulated financial services, REITs,

real estate development, private investment funds, alternative energy, poultry production, premium spirits and other consumer brands, airport development, and manufacturing and distribution. His unique financial and legal background has assisted a number of small companies grow into large, established private or public companies.

Professional Memberships: Member, Business Law Section of the Florida Bar Board Member, Association for Corporate Growth, South Florida Chapter Member, American Bar Association Member, The Florida Bar

Personal: J.D., University of Michigan Law School, 1991 M.B.A., University of Michigan Business School, 1991 B.A., Economics, magna cum laude, Colgate University, 1987; Phi Beta Kappa

WIDLANSKI, Benjamin

Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, Miami
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Featured in Litigation (Florida)

Practice Areas: Complex Commercial Litigation; Class Actions

Career: After graduating law school, he served for almost five years in the United States Army as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, where he advised various commanders on military justice matters and other legal issues, litigated in federal court and military courts martial, and received numerous medals and distinctions, including a Bronze Star. After his time in the Army, he served as an Assistant United States Attorney at the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida. During that time, he prosecuted and investigated hundreds of federal crimes, including labor

trafficking, sex trafficking, sex tourism, narcotics trafficking, violent organized gangs, aggravated identity theft, money laundering, wire and mail fraud, cyber crimes and crimes involving the Dark Web and cryptocurrencies, armed robbery, international kidnapping, and murder. He also briefed and argued multiple matters before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and managed large investigative teams from virtually every federal law enforcement agency.

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Practice Areas: Richard Winston structures and analyzes cross-border transactions for US and non-US multinationals doing business in Latin America and Europe. He has a primary focus on cross-border taxation.

Professional Memberships: IFA

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