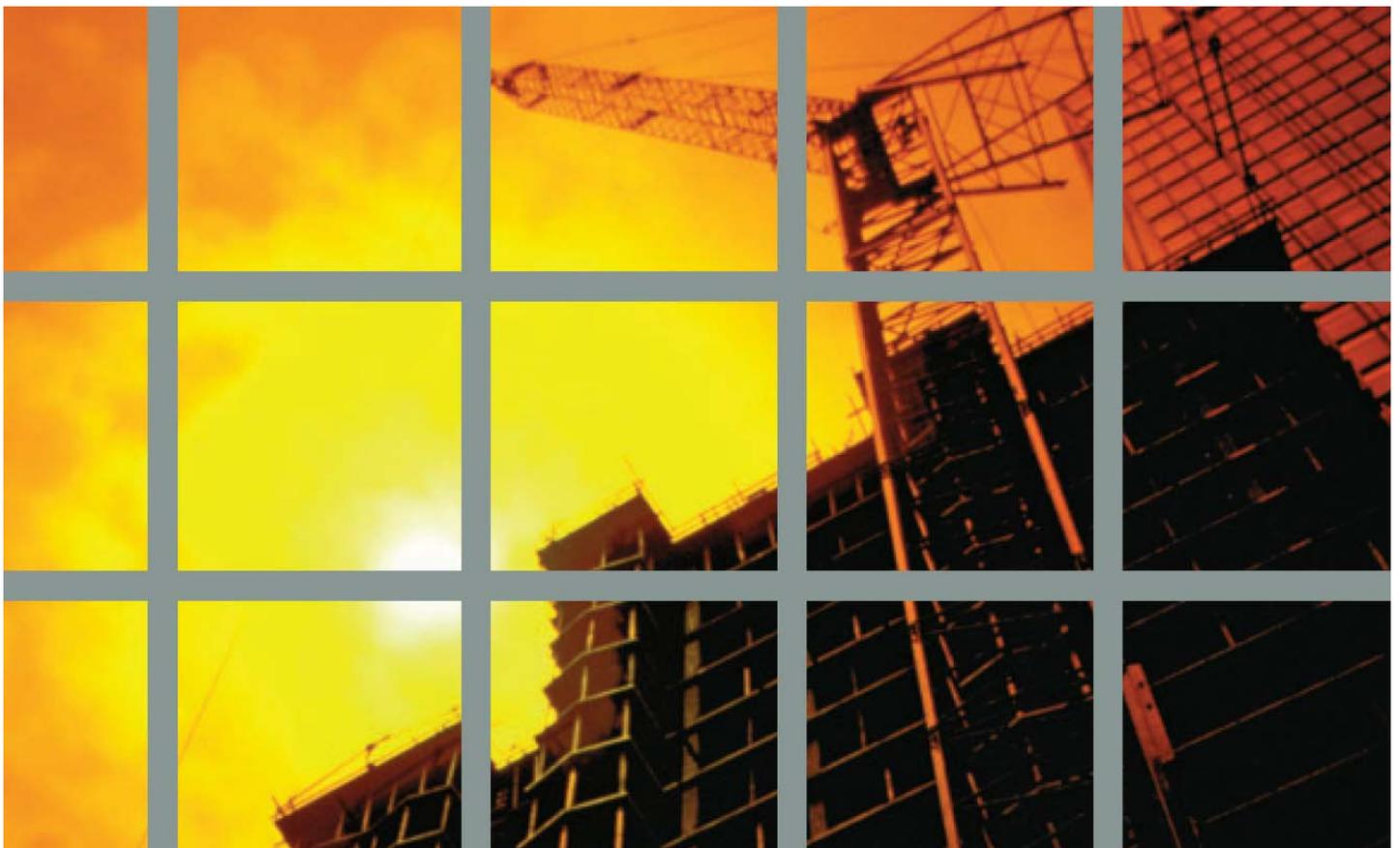


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The Construction, Real Estate and Community Association Law Firm of Florida





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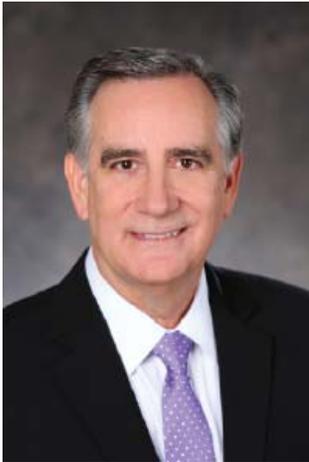
Steven M. Siegfried

Steve Siegfried has practiced Construction Law since moving to Florida in 1976. He has a client-focused approach to his practice, and consults on all phases of the construction process. Mr. Siegfried earned his undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College in 1971 and his Juris Doctor from American University, Washington College of Law in 1974. Mr. Siegfried received an "AV" rating [the highest available for an individual] from Martindale-Hubbell, the national legal directory. He is listed among the International Who's Who of Construction Lawyers [2005]. In the South Florida Legal Guide he is listed as one of the top lawyers in his field, a "Super Lawyer", and is recognized as a "Best Lawyer in America" in the area of construction litigation. The Firm and Mr. Siegfried are also listed in the Chambers USA Publication of America's Leading Business Lawyers for 2003-2004. In 2007 he was honored with inclusion in the United Who's Who of Executives and Professionals. Mr. Siegfried is a member of the New York Bar, and the Florida Bar [U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida including Trial Bar]. He is a Board Certified Trial Attorney [1983], and Board Certified in Construction Law [2006]. He is also a founding Fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers.

"Our clients are successful, hardworking, down-to-earth businessmen and women who are dedicated to advancing the interests of the construction and development industry, and they expect to get tangible results from us, with a personal touch."

Since 1984 Mr. Siegfried has served as an adjunct professor of Construction Law at the University of Miami School of Law, introducing countless future attorneys to the field. He has published numerous books and articles on Construction Law including, Florida Construction Law [Aspen Publishers, 2001]; Florida Construction Lien Law, An Overview; and "Introduction to Construction Law" [AI/ABA, 1987 and 1989 supplement]. Mr. Siegfried also co-authored "Subcontractors' Agreements, Drafting Effective Construction Contracts: How to Determine Your Rights and Obligations," [The McGraw-Hill Construction Weekly, 1990]; "The Contractor's Default: Remedies of the Lender," Laws and Practice [Chapter 7, Wiley Law Publications, 1991]; "Protecting Subcontractor with Appropriate Contract Clauses," Design-Build Contracting Handbook [Chapter 7, Wiley Law Publications, 1992]; and "The Design Professional in the Construction Process," Construction Law [Chapter 5.04, Matthew Bender, 1986].

Mr. Siegfried has been active in many bar activities including the American Bar Association Forum Committee on the Construction Industry, and was Chairman of its Division 9 Steering Committee [1991-1994] and the Florida Bar Association's Subcommittee on Construction Law. Mr. Siegfried also served as Chairman of the Construction Law Committee of the Miami-Dade County Bar Association [1995].



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Oscar R. Rivera

Oscar R. Rivera, Esq. specializes in Real Property and Corporate Law and heads the Real Estate/Corporate Practice Group of the firm. He completed his undergraduate studies in accounting at the University of Miami and received his Juris Doctor from Georgetown University.

Since 1981 he has represented numerous developers, investment companies, business owners, municipalities, lenders, retailers and management companies throughout the United States and Latin America. His expertise lies in acquisition and sales, leasing, contract/lease enforcement, evictions, loan transactions, foreclosures and workouts. In his practice of law he upholds a personal commitment to being the best in his field and maintains an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

"There is a lot of continuity here. Clients get dedicated work from people who have specialized in this field, and been a part of this firm for many years."

Mr. Rivera has held several leadership positions within the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), the global trade association of the shopping center industry. He has served as the Florida State Director of the ICSC and been a member of the faculty at the ICSC University of Shopping Centers, Divisional Government Relations Chairman for the seven-state Southern Division and Florida Government Relations Committee Chairman.

He has also served as Conference Chairman of the Conference of the Americas, Florida Law Symposium and US Shopping Center Law Conference. He is a recipient of the ICSC Trustee Distinguished Service Award and is also a director and officer of the Florida Shopping Centers Political Action Committee. He is also a member of BOMA and NAIOP and has served on the Board of Directors of the South Florida Chapter of NAIOP.

Mr. Rivera lectures on various topics throughout the United States and South America. He is listed in Who's Who in American Law and Who's Who in Florida's Latin Community. His published works include "Anatomy of a Lease", "Entertainment Center Leases: Theater, Restaurant and Other Idiosyncratic Issues", "Rent, Operating Expenses, Marketing and Other Monetary Issues", "Basic Issues in Commercial Transactions/Leases", "Navigating Through the De-Malling Maze", "Formation and Preparation of the Governing Documents for Homeowners and Condominium Associations" and "Extend, Pretend or Workout".

He is admitted to the Florida Bar (US District Court, Southern District of Florida) and US Tax Court, and is a member of the Cuban-American Bar Association. Active in his community, Mr. Rivera is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Little Havana.



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Michael L. Hyman

Michael L. Hyman is the co-author of Florida Condominium Law & Practice, published in October, 1986, by Matthew Bender & Co., a comprehensive work in the area of condominium associations operations.

A graduate of the University of Florida, Mr. Hyman received his Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law. He is an "AV" rated attorney.

Since 1970, Mr. Hyman has been actively engaged in the representation of community associations [condominium and homeowners groups]. In 1972, he was appointed by Governor Reuben Askew (by recommendation of the Florida Bar) to the first Florida Condominium Commission.

He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Miami Chapter of Community Associations Institute for seven [?] terms, he is the author of the Florida Bar Journal article "Alternatives to Recreation Lease Litigation – Structuring the Buy-Out." A frequent speaker at several of the University of Miami Condominium & Cluster Housing Seminars, he has lectured at various CAI National Conferences and has served as a member of the faculty of the Community Association Law Seminar in New Orleans, Newport Beach, San Francisco and Los Angeles, California, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Orlando, Florida.

Mr. Hyman was a director of the Commercial Law Section of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers and was a member of The Florida Bar's Committee on Condominiums and Cooperatives. He is admitted to the Trial Bar of the Federal District Court.

In 1994 Michael L. Hyman was inducted into the Community Association Law Institute College of Community Association Lawyers as a member of the Charter Class. This is an elite group of Community Association member attorneys who have distinguished themselves by exhibiting the highest standards of professional and ethical conduct.

In 2002, Mr. Hyman was designated a facilitator for a series of educational programs provided by CAI and the State of Florida Department of Professional and Business Regulation, Division of Florida Land Sales, Condominium and Mobile Homes.



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Lisa Lerner

Lisa Lerner is an accessible attorney who delivers responsive, personalized attention to all her clients. Ms. Lerner is a Community Association Law Specialist who has been managing real-life issues affecting people and their homes since she joined the firm in 1983. She earned a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from Tulane University and received her Juris Doctor from the National Law Center, George Washington University. She maintains an "AV" rating [the highest available for an individual] from Martindale-Hubbell, the national legal directory. Ms. Lerner was listed in the South Florida Legal Guide as one of the top lawyers in her field in South Florida.

Ms. Lerner has written and spoken on a number of Community Association Law topics. She was a contributing author of Florida Condominium Association Operations, A Legal Perspective. She has spoken at the University of Miami Institute of Condominiums and Cluster Development on topics such as "Tort Liabilities of Condominium or Homeowners Associations, Unit Owners and their Directors" and "Preparing for and assuming turnover of control - Developer and Association Perspectives."

"More than just being their attorney, there is a bond you develop with clients that comes from the fact that you are talking about their homes. So I try to be accessible and available and responsive to the needs of the community associations with whom we work."

She is a member and former director of the Greater Miami Chapter of the Community Association Institute and has contributed articles to the Institute's newsletter. Ms. Lerner is a member of the Florida and Miami-Dade County Bar Association, as well as the American Bar Association.



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Helio De La Torre

Helio De La Torre practices in the areas of Community Association Law and Construction Litigation. Mr. De La Torre received his Bachelor of Arts in English, magna cum laude, in 1977 from Florida International University and his Juris Doctor, cum laude, in 1980 from Florida State University. He is a member of the College of Community Association Lawyers for the Community Association Institute (CCAI). The CCAI was established by the Community Association Institute (CAI) for attorneys who have distinguished themselves through contributions to the evolution of the practice of Community Association Law. He is also a member of the Million Dollar Advocates forum, and maintains an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

He is a past president of CAI's Greater Miami Chapter and was active as chairman of the Chapter's Florida Legislative Action Committee. Mr. De La Torre has served as an instructor at many of the CAI leadership training programs, and has been a frequent speaker at community association seminars such as the University of Miami's Institute on Condominium and Cluster Development. He has been approved as an instructor for community association licensing courses by the State of Florida.

Mr. De La Torre is a frequent speaker at seminars, including "The Nuts and Bolts of Condo Litigation", "Recent Statutory Amendments Effecting Community Associations", "Update on the Law in Mold Litigation and Recent Case Laws", FIU - Legal Studies Institute - Paralegal Program, "Law for Non-Lawyers" for the International Council of Shopping Centers, Common Interest Realty Associations Conference for the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and "Update on the Law in Mold Claims, Issues & Trends" at Ralph E. Boyer Institutes on Condominium & Cluster Development and Real Property. Mr. De La Torre is admitted to the Florida Bar and admitted to the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida. He is certified by the Supreme Court as a Circuit and County Mediator.

Active in the legal community, Mr. De La Torre is a member of the Miami-Dade County, Coral Gables, and Cuban-American Bar Associations, as well as the Miami-Dade County Trial Lawyers Association. He is an affiliate of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution (SPIDR) and the Florida Academy of Professional Mediators, Inc.

"We're well known in the community association industry, and frequently recommended by management companies across Florida. We bring experience, strength, depth, enthusiasm and practicality to every case in our area of law."



Gary M. Mars

Gary M. Mars joined the firm in 1991. Mr. Mars graduated from Emory University and the University of Miami (J.D., 1991).

Since joining the firm, Mr. Mars has developed a specialty in community association representation. This representation has evolved into full service community association representation including all areas providing legal services in all areas of community association representation including construction defect negotiation and litigation, turnover representation and covenant preparation and enforcement.

Mr. Mars has expanded his practice to include representation of a select group of developers. This representation includes assisting developers in the drafting and filing of all documents related to the creation of community association.

Mr. Mars is a member of the Community Association Institute. He has lectured extensively on a variety of topics affiliated with community association operations, legislation and related legal rulings. He has been designated a facilitator to conduct educational programs by the State of Florida Department of Professional and Business Regulation, Division of Florida Land Sales, Condominiums and Mobile Homes.

Mr. Mars is also a board member of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, Executive Board Member of AIPAC (Miami-Dade), member of Emory Alumni Association, as well as is involved in a variety of other civic and professional organizations.



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Stuart H. Sobel

Stuart H. Sobel is a dedicated trial attorney with a passion for the creative presentation of even the most complicated construction disputes. He has been trying and arbitrating “righteous causes” throughout the United States since 1978. He has been a shareholder in the firm since 1995.

Mr. Sobel earned his Bachelor of Arts in economics from Brown University in 1975 and his Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Miami in 1978. Mr. Sobel is a Florida Bar Board Certified Construction Lawyer and is also certified as Circuit Civil Mediator by the Florida Supreme Court and as a civil trial attorney certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

He is a fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers, having completed a three year term sitting on its Board of Governors. He maintains an individual “AV” rating from Martindale-Hubbell. He is admitted to the Florida and Georgia Bars, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits, the United States Court of Federal Claims and the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Sobel is a member of the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry.

Mr. Sobel is active as a neutral on the American Arbitration Association’s Large and Complex Case Panel for Construction. He is listed in Chambers USA among America’s Leading Lawyers and in South Florida Legal Guide as one of the top construction litigation lawyers. He is recognized as a “Best Lawyer in America” in the area of construction litigation and as a “Super Lawyer”.

Embracing technology to facilitate presentation of his client’s causes, his trial team has developed an expertise in electronic presentation at trial and arbitration, enhancing the understanding of the fact finder and shortening the time cases take to try, in an effort to make the system of dispute resolution more reliable and efficient. He frequently lectures and writes on topics related to the presentation and substance at the heart of construction disputes.

“I consider myself a teacher. I believe that the technical construction components must be presented in a manner where a fact finder is not intimidated by them. It is human nature that once a jury, judge or arbitrator understands the construction framework out of which the dispute arises, they can focus on the nature of the underlying promises made and broken in reaching the ‘right’ result.”



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Maria Victoria Arias

Maria Arias has been a shareholder of the firm since 1997. Specializing in the areas of Condominium and Homeowners Association Law, she represents condominium and homeowner associations, and their boards of directors. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Florida International University and her Juris Doctor from the University of Miami, cum laude, in 1988. She was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1989. Ms. Arias oversees the collections department for the firm and plays a prominent role in the training and mentoring of new associates. She is a member of the Cuban American Bar Association.

Ms. Arias has a love for the practice of law and shows that through her tireless dedication to her clients. She has a very loyal client base which is constantly expanding.

As a methodical researcher, she is an expert at guiding her clients through a legal maze of complicated opinions. Accessible and reachable, she fills much of her time reviewing contracts, attending community association meetings and advising on budget assessments, insurance, and special assessments. She has frequently lectured at Community Association seminars.

“A big part of what I do is training the associates, so that as our firm grows, it grows the right way. I don’t believe in sink-or-swim. Clients here get a great value because they never have associates training on their dollar, every lawyer working on a case is highly trained and specialized.”



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Roberto Blanch

Roberto Blanch has been an attorney with Siegfried, Rivera, Hyman, Lerner, De la Torre, Marsand Sobel, PA, since 2001, and became a shareholder in 2007. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Florida in 1997 and his Juris Doctor from Saint Thomas University in 2000.

Mr. Blanch concentrates his practice in Community Association Law, handling a broad range of legal issues for the firm's Condominium and Homeowner Association clients.

Mr. Blanch speaks regularly at State-approved board member certification courses and educational seminars pertaining to the establishment and operation of condominium and homeowner associations in Florida and has authored several articles pertaining to various issues affecting community associations. He is also a regular co-host on Straight Talk on Condo and HOAs with Siegfried Rivera Lerner.

Mr. Blanch is a member of the Dade County Bar Association, the Cuban American Bar Association, Community Association Institute, and Community Association Network. He is admitted to the Florida Bar (Member of Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar) and to the U.S. District Court (Southern District and Northern District of Florida). Mr. Blanch is currently a member of the Saint Thomas University Law School Board of Advisors and serves on the Board of Directors of Mater Academy, Inc., a not-for-profit organization overseeing the operation of fifteen charter schools in Miami-Dade County, Florida. Mr. Blanch also previously served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Spanish American League Against Discrimination.



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Elisabeth D. Kozlow

Elisabeth D. Kozlow practices in the areas of Shopping Center Law, Aviation Law and Corporate Law as well as Commercial Transactional work. She also provides corporate consultation to many of the firm's construction clients. Ms. Kozlow completed her undergraduate studies at DePaul University and earned her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Miami. She was admitted to the Florida Bar [US District Court, Southern District of Florida] in 1988 and is Vice-chairman of its Aviation Law Committee for 2006 – 2007. Ms. Kozlow is also admitted to the Illinois Bar.

As an industry specialist, and member of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), Ms. Kozlow is frequently invited to speak at seminars and symposiums. She has lectured on shopping center legal issues at the ICSC U.S. Law Conference, the ICSC Center Build Conference, the Conference of the Americas and the Florida Legal Issues in Retail Leasing Symposium. She was a member of the ICSC Florida Conference Program Committee.

Ms. Kozlow has authored and co-authored a number of articles for the local chapters of the ICSC and American Subcontractors Association. She is co-author of "The Contractor's Default: Remedies of the Lender", "Troubled Construction Loans: Law and Practice" and author of "Assignment and Subletting: Concerns in Affiliate Transfers."

"We bring experience and specialized training to all of our clients. We all have a niche or sub-specialty that makes us very qualified to represent the client that needs our services."



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Joseph Miles

Joseph Miles has practiced all areas of Construction Law in Miami since 1993. His law practice has a particular focus on assisting condominium associations and developers with condominium association turnover litigation. He also has significant experience with Fair Standards Labor Act claims as well as multiple areas of general commercial litigation. Mr. Miles received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Michigan in 1988 and his Juris Doctor from DePaul University in 1991.

Mr. Miles is admitted to the Florida Bar, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. He is a member of the Dade County Bar Association and of the Trial Lawyers Section of the Florida Bar. He is the recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award in the Legal Profession. Mr. Miles has significant experience litigating cases in both State and Federal Court and in arbitrating cases with the American Arbitration Association.

“The Siegfried firm is capable of providing outstanding legal counsel in all areas of construction, condominium and real estate law and our reputation in the community is one for which we have worked hard and of which we are all very proud.”



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Jeffrey S. Berlowitz

Jeffrey S. Berlowitz is an attorney who specializes in the practice areas of bankruptcy, creditor's rights, reorganizations and workouts, commercial litigation and corporate representation. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance from The Ohio State University in 1989, and his Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law in 1992.

Mr. Berlowitz concentrates his practice in the bankruptcy field representing a broad range of debtors and creditors in all areas of bankruptcy matters including Chapters 7, 11 and 13. He has represented secured creditors in bankruptcy cases in many jurisdictions throughout the United States.

Mr. Berlowitz is admitted to the Florida Bar, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. He is a member of the Miami-Dade County Bar Association, the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida and the Business Section of the Florida Bar.





Laura Manning-Hudson

Ms. Manning-Hudson has been a member of the firm since 1998. She received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Florida State University in 1993, and her Juris Doctor from the University of Miami in 1997. She concentrates her areas of practice in Condominium and Community Association Law and Construction Litigation, handling a broad range of legal issues for the firm's clients. She has handled numerous trials and argued before the appellate courts. Most notably, Ms. Manning-Hudson argued before the Third District Court of Appeals in the matter of Costa Del Sol Condominium Association, Inc. v. Department of Business and Professional Regulation, where homeowner's and association's responsibilities regarding insurance were at issue, resulting in an amendment to Florida's Condominium Act.

Ms. Manning-Hudson is a member of various professional organizations, including the Palm Beach County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division. She is also a member of the Gold Coast Chapter of the Community Association Institute (CAI) and served on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Florida Chapter of CAI from 2003 through 2005. Ms. Manning-Hudson has authored several articles including "Supreme Court Ruling In An SRLODS Case Stirs Up Discussions Amongst Community Association Practitioners", "Community Associations Should Effectively Utilize Florida Division of Condominiums Arbitration Program to Enforce Violations", "Hints for Preventing a Condominium Nightmare", "Tips for Successful Mediation" and "Can Your Condo Cover the Cost of a Catastrophe?" She also is a regular speaker on the firm's radio show "Straight Talk on Condos and HOAs".

Ms. Manning-Hudson is admitted to the Florida Bar and the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida.



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Fern Musselwhite

Ms. Musselwhite is an attorney of the firm and joined the firm's corporate and real property practice division in 1999. She concentrates her practice in representing developers, lenders, and businesses in all aspects of Real Estate and Corporate Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, summa cum laude, from Northeastern University in 1990. After a short career in public relations she enrolled in the University of Miami, where she became a member of the Law Review and the Order of the Coif. Ms. Musselwhite earned her Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, in 1997. She is a member of the Florida Bar and the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC).



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Jason M. Rodgers-da Cruz

Mr. Rodgers-da Cruz has been with Siegfried, Rivera, Hyman, Lerner, De La Torre, Mars & Sobel, P.A. since 2005, and practices throughout the State of Florida in the areas of Community Association Law, Complex Construction Litigation, Construction Defect Litigation, and Commercial Litigation on behalf of associations, developers, general contractors and subcontractors. In his construction defect practice, he routinely handles multi-party complex construction defect claims pertaining to all building components, including structural, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, roofing, waterproofing, and life-safety components.

He also litigates financial and business tort claims, including prosecuting and defending parties for breach of fiduciary duty, fraudulent transfers, corporate piercing, developer disclosure, and alter-ego theories.

Mr. Rodgers-da Cruz received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Alabama-Huntsville in 1997 and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Miami in 2000.

Upon graduation from law school, Mr. Rodgers-da Cruz was employed as an Assistant Public Defender in Brevard and Miami-Dade counties, where he obtained significant jury trial experience. Prior to joining the firm, he worked at Elder, Vacarella & Lewis, P.A., in construction law.

He is a member of the Florida Bar and also a member of the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry, where he is a steering committee member of Division 1 – Litigation and Dispute Resolution. Mr. Rodgers-da Cruz is also a member of the City of Miami’s Green Commission and the Green Buildings Subcommittee. The Green Commission is chaired by Commissioner Marc Sarnoff, and members are appointed by Mayor Tomas Regalado. The members represent a cross section of local experts and community enthusiasts. The commission meets quarterly to guide and mold the city’s environmental policy.

Mr. Rodgers-da Cruz was recognized as a 2009-2014 “Rising Star” by Florida Super Lawyers. Only 2.5 percent of Florida attorneys receive this honor each year. Rising Stars are chosen by their peers as being amongst the top up-and-coming lawyers (40 years or younger, or in practice 10 years or less) in the state.

Mr. Rodgers-da Cruz regularly conducts seminars in the area of construction defect litigation on both the plaintiff and defense side, including hosting seminars for the Latin Builders Association, Inc., and the National Business Institute.

As for national publications, Mr. Rodgers-da Cruz recently co-authored Chapter 4 of the American Bar Association’s “Construction Defects” book published in 2012.



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Elizabeth A. Bowen

Elizabeth Bowen has been with the firm since 1999. As the supervising attorney in the collections department, her practice is focused primarily in association assessment collections and foreclosures. She received her Juris Doctorate from St. Thomas University School of Law in 1998 after graduating from Purdue University in 1986.



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Jeffrey S. Respler

Jeff Respler is a shareholder of the firm and has been practicing in the area of commercial litigation since 1998. He is admitted to the Bar in Florida, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, as well as the U.S. District Courts for Southern Florida and New Jersey.

Mr. Respler's practice encompasses all facets of litigation, and primarily includes the representation of homeowners associations and developers in the negotiation, mediation, and litigation of construction and design-defect claims and related matters. His practice also includes appellate work; successful appellate decisions include: Comcast of Florida, L.P. v. L'Ambiance Beach Condominium Association, Inc., 17 So.3d 839 (Fla. 4th DCA 2009), and Capco Properties, LLC v. Monterey Gardens of Pinecrest Condominium, Inc., 982 So.2d 1211 (Fla. 3d DCA 2008).

Mr. Respler graduated from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in 1998, where he was named a Mack Scholar for "outstanding academic credentials and demonstrated potential for success in the legal profession." At Cardozo, Mr. Respler was a member of the Innocence Project, the national litigation and public policy organization dedicated to exonerating wrongfully convicted people through DNA testing, and the esteemed Cardozo Arts and Entertainment Law Journal.

As an undergraduate, Mr. Respler was a Henry Rutgers Scholar at Rutgers University. He was an undergraduate associate of the Eagleton Institute of Politics, as well as a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society, the National History Honor Society (Phi Alpha Theta) and the National Political Science Honor Society (Pi Sigma Alpha).

In 2011, Mr. Respler was the keynote speaker at the Yom Hashoa Holocaust Memorial Service at the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center, where he received a Proclamation from the City of Aventura.



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B. Michael Clark, Jr.

Michael Clark is a shareholder of the firm and has been with the firm since 2007, practicing primarily in the areas of construction and commercial litigation. Mr. Clark represents entities and individuals ranging from large developers to small suppliers in all facets of construction. He assists his clients in every step of a project, from contract drafting and negotiation prior to commencing work, through negotiating disputes mid-project and, when necessary, litigating to judgment after the job is complete. He has extensive experience with issues involving breach of contract, liens, bonds, delay claims, bid protests, insurance coverage disputes and property insurance claims. He is Board Certified in Construction Law by The Florida Bar.

Mr. Clark received his Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Miami where he was a member of the Moot Court Board and the International and Comparative Law Review. Following his first year of law school, Mr. Clark served as an intern for the Honorable William M. Hoeveler, United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Mr. Clark is a member of the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry. He actively participates in Division 7 – Insurance, Surety and Liens, as a member of its steering and publications committees. Additionally, Mr. Clark has been published by Division 7 and has spoken to its membership on new and novel construction law issues.

Locally, Mr. Clark is a member of the Construction Association of South Florida, the South Florida Associated General Contractors, and the Associated Builders and Contractors. In association with the South Florida Associated General Contractors, Mr. Clark has lectured on the Florida Lien Law. He has also presented a webinar on the basics of commercial general liability insurance.

Mr. Clark was recognized as a “Rising Star” by Florida Super Lawyers in 2013 and 2014. Only 2.5 percent of Florida attorneys receive this honor each year. Rising Stars are chosen by their peers as being amongst the top up-and-coming lawyers (40 years or younger, or in practice 10 years or less) in the state.

Mr. Clark co-authored “Licensure”, Construction Subcontracting: A Comprehensive Practical and Legal Guide [Chapter 15, American Bar Association, 2014] which was published and distributed nationally by the American Bar Association. Mr. Clark is an annual contributor to Florida Construction Law, a comprehensive text book used to teach construction law at the University of Miami School of Law. As a contributor, Mr. Clark has lectured at the University of Miami School of Law to the Florida Construction Law class.

Mr. Clark is admitted to practice in all Florida state courts as well as the Southern and Northern District of Florida.



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Nicholas D. Siegfried

Mr. Siegfried has been an attorney with the firm since 2006, and became a shareholder in 2014. He concentrates his practice in the areas of Construction Litigation, Condominium Law and Community Association Law. He received his Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Florida, and his Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Miami. Mr. Siegfried is Board Certified in Construction Law by The Florida Bar.

Following his first year of law school, Mr. Siegfried served as an intern for the Honorable Joan A. Lenard, United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, and the Honorable Stephen T. Brown, Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Florida. He was a certified legal intern at the City of Miami Beach Attorney's Office.

Mr. Siegfried was selected as the University of Miami, College of Law Outstanding Local Government Law School Student by the City, County and Local Government Law Section of the Florida Bar.

He is a member of the Young Lawyers Division's Steering Committee for the American Bar Association Forum on the Construction Industry. He has also served as a member of the City of North Bay Village's Legal RFQ Review and Selection Committee, which was charged in 2012 with making recommendations to the city commission for the retaining of legal services from attorneys.

As for national publications, Mr. Siegfried co-authored "Termination and Default", Construction Law (Chapter 18, American Bar Association, 2009) and co-authored "Subcontract Formation", Construction Subcontracting: A Comprehensive Practical and Legal Guide (Chapter 2, American Bar Association, 2014). Currently, he is the editor of Florida Construction Lien Law and Florida Construction Law (Aspen Publishers, 2001), which are both authored by Steven Siegfried. He also serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Miami Law School where he teaches a course on Florida's Construction Lien Law. He is admitted to The Florida Bar, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida.



Michael E. Chapnick

Michael Chapnick joined the firm in 2015 after he founded and managed the Boca Raton-based law firm of Chapnick Community Association Law from 2004 to 2015. Under his leadership, the law firm grew to become a highly successful and respected boutique practice focusing exclusively on community association law and serving more than 300 associations primarily in Palm Beach County.

Prior to founding his own practice, Chapnick had focused on community association law at several of the South Florida area's largest firms with association practices. He first began working with associations in Illinois in 1996, and he has extensive experience in working with all types of associations including: condominiums, homeowners' associations, co-operatives, time-shares, and deed restricted communities. He regularly advises clients on all aspects of community association operations, and he has also lectured on numerous association-related issues throughout his career.

Chapnick is currently a member of the Southwest Florida Chapter of the Community Association Institute and has served on the Gold Coast Chapter's Board of Directors and its Program Committee, and he has also served as its delegate for the Florida Legislative Alliance. Chapnick is also a member of the ABA Law Practice Division's E-Lawyering Task Force.

Chapnick earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Maryland in 1989 and his Juris Doctor Cum Laude from the Detroit College of Law in 1995.



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Diane J. Zelmer joined the firm in 2015 as a shareholder. Prior to joining the firm, Zelmer served as the in-house corporate counsel for a national telecommunications company and also as an associate with a large Florida law firm and a mid-size construction litigation firm. She has focused on representing sureties, owners, and public and private contractors in both trial and appellate proceedings involving construction lien claims, contractual disputes, defects, time delays, change orders, and other matters. She also has experience with payment and performance bond actions involving equitable subrogation, setoff priorities to contract balances, conditional payment bonds, and timely compliance along with bid protests.



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Zelmer earned board certification in construction law by The Florida Bar in 2013, making her one of the less than 350 attorneys to have earned this distinction as of 2015. Board certification is the highest level of evaluation by The Florida Bar of competency and experience in an area of practice, and only board certified Florida Bar members are allowed to identify themselves as experts and specialists. She is admitted to the 11th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida.





Evonne Andris

Evonne Andris joined the firm in 2012 and her practice is focused on community association representation. She is experienced in transactional law and her practice encompasses all facets of association general representation, including contract drafting, negotiation and review. She received her Juris Doctorate from Nova Southeastern University in 2003 after graduating from Florida International University.



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Eduardo Valdes joined the firm in 2012 and has been practicing in the area of general litigation, including insurance defense and commercial litigation since 2003. His practice encompasses general association representation, as well as construction defect litigation, and insurance defense. Mr. Valdes received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Miami School of Law in 2003 after graduating from Florida State University.



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H. Hugh McConnell, of counsel

Attorney H. Hugh McConnell is of counsel to the firm, specializing in the areas of Construction Litigation and Appellate Practice. Mr. McConnell received his undergraduate degree from Yale University in 1966, a Master of Regional Planning Degree from the University of North Carolina in 1970 and his Juris Doctor from Northeastern University in 1976. Mr. McConnell is admitted to the Florida Bar [US District Court, Southern and Middle Districts of Florida] and is certified as a mediator by both the Florida Supreme Court and the US District Court. He is also admitted to the Massachusetts Bar [US District Court, District of Massachusetts] and the US Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit.



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Mr. McConnell has demonstrated his knowledge of construction law through various published articles in the Florida Bar Journal including: "The Other Property Problem-Appling the Economic Loss Rule to Contracting Claims", "Diminished Capacity Owners' Ability to Sue for Construction Defects", "Distinguishing Quantum Merit and Unjust Enrichment in the Construction Setting", and an article with Stuart Sobel "Betting the Farm?- Three Rules in Construction Disputes."

Active in the legal community, Mr. McConnell is listed among the panel of Arbitrators and Mediators of the American Arbitrators Association and is an arbitrator for the National Futures Association as well as a member of the Florida Academy of Certified Mediators. Locally, he has served the Miami-Dade County Bar Association's Haitian Refugee Voluntary Lawyers Task Force and Construction Law Committee, and was a Director of the Coral Gables Bar Association. Mr. McConnell has also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Miami's Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering and regularly lectures at the University of Miami School of Law in the area of Construction Litigation.



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Mr. Ketelhohn is a senior associate of the firm who specializes in Construction Litigation. His experience includes representation of condominium associations, homeowner associations, developers, general contractors and design professionals. He received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Florida in 1992, and his Juris Doctor from the University of Florida in 1995. Mr. Ketelhohn is admitted to the Florida Bar and the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Active in the Miami community, he is a member of the Board of Directors of Safeguarding American Values for Everyone, Inc.



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Ms. Rusconi has been a member of the firm since 2005, and concentrates her practice areas in Condominium, Real Estate and Bankruptcy Law. She received her Bachelors Degree in Political Science, cum laude, from Florida International University and her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from Saint Thomas University. While in law school she was a member of the Saint Thomas Law Review and Moot Court Team. She is admitted to the Florida Bar.





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Mrs. Blanch is a senior associate of the firm who specializes in Condominium Law and Community Association Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, from the University of Miami in 2002 and her Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from the University of Miami in 2005. During law school she was Articles and Comments editor for the University of Miami Business Law Review. She is admitted to the Florida Bar.



Associates

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Ms. Kurtz joined the firm in 2014, and is a member of the Florida Bar in good standing. She specializes in Condominium Law and Community Association Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, from the University of Miami in 2009. Ms. Kurtz received her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law in 2013. While at the University of Miami School of Law, Ms. Kurtz was a member of Miami Law Women, received Dean's List honors, and was awarded honors distinction in both the University of Miami School of Law's Litigation Skills Clinic and its Business Litigation course. Before joining the firm, Ms. Kurtz gained practical experience through an associate position with a South Florida community association law firm, a summer associate role with a well-known South Florida law firm, an internship with the Miami-Dade County Public Defender's Office, and an internship with the Honorable Laurel M. Isicoff, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida.





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Maryvel De Castro Valdes is an associate of the firm, who concentrates her practice in Community Association Law. She received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Florida International University and her Juris Doctorate from Nova Southeastern University in 2003. Mrs. Valdes was admitted to the Florida Bar in 2004 and is also admitted in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. She is a Circuit Court Mediator and an appointed Florida Civil Law Notary.



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Jordan G. Weinkle joined the firm in 2014. He received his Bachelor of Science in International Finance and Marketing from the University of Miami, and earned his Master in Business Administration and Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern University. Mr. Weinkle focuses his practice in the areas of community association litigation and representation, real estate law, construction law, as well as commercial litigation. Mr. Weinkle is actively involved in the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, AIPAC, and the University of Miami Alumni Association. He is a Board Member of Keshet, a school for children with special needs, and supports a variety of other civic and professional organizations.

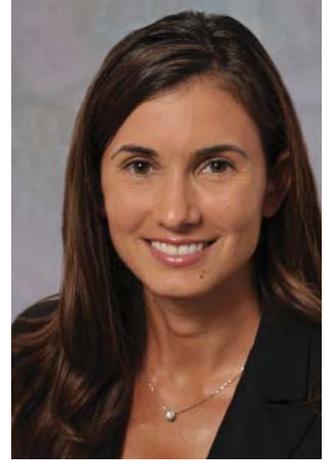




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Ms. Hurwitz is an associate of the firm since 2006, and practices in the firm's Construction Litigation department. She received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Kansas in 2000, and her Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from DePaul University in 2006. While in law school, she served as the Executive Editor of the DePaul Business and Commercial Law Journal, and earned the CALI award for the top grade in eight courses. Her published work includes "Safeguarding the Attorney-Client Privilege in the Face of Federal Securities Regulations." Ms. Hurwitz is admitted to the Florida Bar.



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Lindsey Thurswell Lehr joined the firm in 2015 after serving for several years as an associate attorney with another South Florida law firm, where she focused on construction litigation, commercial litigation, real estate law, and surety and fidelity litigation. She has extensive experience in representing general contractors, architects, condominium associations, subcontractors, real estate developers, investors, landlords and lenders in matters including construction defects, contract drafting, commercial leasing, landlord/tenant negotiations, and general contracting disputes. Mrs. Lehr earned her Bachelor's degree in Economics in 2007 from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She earned her Juris Doctor degree in 2010 from the University of Miami School of Law. She is admitted to practice by The Florida Bar, the District of Columbia Bar, the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida and the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. She is also a member of the Dade County Bar Association and the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar.





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Mr. Mofsky is an associate of the firm who concentrates his practice on Condominium Law, Community Association Law and Construction Litigation. His experience includes client representation in contract disputes, business torts and other business related matters. Mr. Mofsky received his Bachelor of Arts from Boston University in 2003 and his Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law in 2006. While in law school, Mr. Mofsky served as a research assistant to Professor Steven M. Siegfried and received Honors in the Litigation Skills Program. As a third-year law student, he represented clients prosecuted for various felonies in the clinical program at the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office.



Mr. Mofsky is admitted to the Florida Bar.



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Susan C. Odess joined the firm in 2014, and is a member of the Florida Bar in good standing. Susan focuses her practice on complex class action litigation and assisting homeowners, commercial property owners or businesses on Insurance Claims. She is a licensed public adjuster, and has over ten years of experience in the handling of first party property insurance claims arising from hurricanes, flooding, fires and other mass casualties. Susan received her Bachelor of Arts from the Catholic University of America, and her Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from the University of Miami. Following her third year of law school, she served



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Ms. Trigg is an associate of the firm who concentrates her practice in Real Estate, Condominium, and Community Association Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Talladega College in 1997, magna cum laude, her Juris Doctor from Southern University Law Center in 2001, magna cum laude, and her Legum Magistra (LL.M) in Real Property Development from the University of Miami in 2002. She is admitted to the Florida Bar, and the Georgia Bar, and is a member of the American Bar Association and the Miami- Dade County Bar Association.



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John Criste joined the Firm as a law clerk in 2014, and became an Associate in 2015. His practice is focused on commercial and construction litigation, and includes alternative dispute resolution such as arbitration and mediation. In law school, John developed his oral advocacy and litigation skills. He was a member of the Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board, and successfully completed the Litigation Skills Program, which provides hands-on training for law students interested in pursuing a litigation practice. Prior to law school, John was a competitive swimmer. He trained for the U.S. Olympic Swim Team trials three times and, as an undergraduate, was a member of the Stanford Men's Swim Team, for which he still holds the school's record for the fastest 100 yard breaststroke race. John earned his Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law in 2015 and his Bachelor of Arts in political science from Stanford University in 2011.





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Michael Toback joined the firm as an associate in 2015. He focuses his practice on Community Association Law. Mr. Toback earned his Bachelor of Science from Indiana University in 2010 and his Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from Nova Southeastern University in 2013. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Toback was an associate practicing creditors' rights law at another South Florida law firm where he handled numerous litigious matters in courtrooms throughout the state. During law school, Mr. Toback completed a judicial internship in the Chambers of the Honorable Judge David A. Haimes of the 17th Judicial Circuit. Mr. Toback is a member in good standing with the Florida Bar. He is also a member of both the Craig S. Barnard chapter of the American Inns of Court and of the American Bar Association.



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Berenice Mottin-Berger joined the Firm in 2015. Her practice is focused on Commercial and Construction Litigation, as well as Community Association Law. Ms. Mottin-Berger received her Bachelor of Arts in international relations from the University of Miami in 2010, and earned her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law in 2015. While in law school, Ms. Mottin-Berger completed the University of Miami's Litigation Skills program with Honors, and was a member of the Charles C. Papy Jr. Moot Court Board. As a member of the Moot Court Board, Ms. Mottin-Berger competed in national competitions where she received awards for her brief writing and oral advocacy skills. Following her second year of law school, Ms. Mottin-Berger served as a judicial intern to the Honorable Kathleen M. Williams, United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. Ms. Mottin-Berger is admitted to the Florida Bar.



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Awilda Esteras joined the firm in 2011, and has been practicing in the areas of foreclosure litigation, mediation and consumer bankruptcy since 2002. The emphasis of her practice is association foreclosure litigation. She is admitted to the Florida Bar and the US District Court of Florida. She received her Juris Doctorate from Tulane Law School in 2001 after graduating from Loyola University.



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Shari Wald Garrett has been with the firm since 2004, and has been practicing in the area of commercial litigation since 2001. The emphasis of her practice is community association litigation and representation, as well as commercial litigation. Mrs. Garrett received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Miami School of Law, after receiving her Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Education, Magna Cum Laude, from the University of Florida.





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Marc Smiley joined the firm in 2007, and has been practicing in the area of general and commercial litigation since 2002. His practice is focused on community association representation, community association litigation and construction defect litigation. He is admitted to the Florida and New York Bars, as well as the US District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Mr. Smiley received his Juris Doctorate from St. John's University School of Law after graduating from Syracuse University.



Michael Zangara

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Michael Zangara joined the firm as an associate in 2014. He concentrates his practice in Condominium, Construction and Real Estate Law. Mr. Zangara holds a Bachelor of Science from Indiana University, a Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law and is a Legum Magistra (LL.M.) candidate in the Robert Traurig-Greenberg Traurig Real Property Development program at the University of Miami School of Law. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Zangara was a business consultant for a family-owned real estate architectural firm in New Orleans, Louisiana. During Mr. Zangara's legal studies he was a judicial intern for the Honorable A. Jay Cristol in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of Florida and received the Director's Award for the Real Estate Document Drafting Workshop.



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David B. Halberstein is an associate of the firm, who focuses his practice on the representation of clients in all aspects of real estate transactions, with an emphasis on the acquisition, disposition, financing, development and leasing of real estate assets including retail shopping centers, office buildings, apartment buildings, hotels, warehouse/industrial properties and mixed-use properties.

Mr. Halberstein received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in Economics from the University of Florida in 2010 and his Juris Doctorate from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in 2013. Mr. Halberstein is actively involved in the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and the International Council of Shopping Centers, and supports a variety of other civic and professional organizations.

He is admitted to the Florida Bar, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, and the New York Bar.

