

STEARNS WEAVER MILLER WEISSLER ALHADEFF & SITTERSON, P.A.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STEARNS WEAVER MILLER RECEIVES TOP RANKINGS IN NOTABLE *CHAMBERS USA*

Sixteen Attorneys and Seven Practice Groups Ranked in Florida

Miami, FL (June 12, 2009) – Sixteen attorneys and seven practice groups at the law Firm of Stearns Weaver Miller have been recognized in the 2009 edition of the notable “*Chambers USA: American’s Leading Business Lawyers.*”

PRACTICE AREAS

Banking & Finance

Bankruptcy/Restructuring

Corporate/M&A

Labor & Employment

Litigation (General Commercial)

Real Estate

Real Estate (Zoning/Land Use)

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS

BANKING & FINANCE (TRANSACTIONAL)

Stuart Ames is a Shareholder in the Corporate Department and also, heads the Firm’s commercial and asset-based finance practice. His practice focuses on commercial and asset-based lending, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate and securities. Mr. Ames is a frequent lecturer on various business entities, corporate and secured financing law topics.

BANKRUPTCY/RESTRUCTURING

Drew Dillworth is a Shareholder in the Business Restructuring Department and also serves on the Firm’s hiring committee and Board of Directors. He represents parties involved in work-outs, debt restructuring, foreclosure, bankruptcy, insolvency, and related commercial litigation matters. In addition to his legal practice, Mr. Dillworth routinely serves as a court appointed fiduciary in bankruptcy proceedings.

Hal Moorefield, Jr. is a Shareholder and a member of the Firm’s Board of Directors. Mr. Moorefield is the Chair of the Firm’s Business Restructuring Department. His broad-ranging bankruptcy practice specializes in the representation of major creditors and trustees in bankruptcy and insolvency cases. He is a frequent lecturer on complex Chapter 11 and finance issues.

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Patricia Redmond is a Shareholder in the Business Restructuring Department. Ms. Redmond's practice focuses on bankruptcy with concentration in creditors' rights and insolvency counseling in Bankruptcy Court and in out-of-court workouts. She has extensive experience in representation of trustees, creditors' committees, secured creditors and debtors in Chapter 11 cases. Ms. Redmond lectures locally and nationally on various aspects of bankruptcy, particularly on Chapter 11 issues, and is frequently quoted in The Miami Herald and other business publications. She is a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy.

CORPORATE/M&A

Alison Miller is a Director and Shareholder of the Firm and head of the Firm's Corporate and Securities practice. She has more than 25 years of experience advising public and private companies in all aspects of business, including securities offerings, mergers and acquisitions and periodic securities reporting and compliance. Ms. Miller's clients are engaged in a wide range of industries including banking and financial services, pharmaceutical, real estate, and hospitality. Ms. Miller frequently lectures on topics relating to securities law, acquisitions, compliance and accounting topics.

David Seifer is a Shareholder practicing in the Corporate Department. Mr. Seifer's practice focuses on periodic securities reporting and compliance, corporate governance, securities offerings, mergers and acquisitions, corporate law, banking and financial institutions and e-commerce and technology.

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

Robert Turk is a Shareholder in the Firm and the Co-Chair of the Labor and Employment Department. He practices in the areas of employment litigation, supervisory training, employment audits, equal employment opportunity claims, affirmative action, wage and hour representation, union avoidance, wrongful discharge, employment and union contracts, trade secrets contracts, non-competition agreements, employment policies, drug-free workplace policies and representation of unionized employers in collective bargaining.

Jon Stage is a Shareholder in the Labor and Employment Department. Mr. Stage has litigated and tried a wide variety of employment law claims arising under various aspects of Title VII, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Florida Civil Rights Act. Mr. Stage has also litigated and tried cases alleging discrimination in public accommodations and has also counseled clients regarding workplace safety matters arising under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA). Mr. Stage has also handled numerous matters for management clients seeking to enforce covenants not to compete and regularly advises clients regarding compliance issues with respect to all of the state and federal laws mentioned above.

Robert Kofman is a Shareholder and Co-Chair of the Firm's Labor Law Department. He also serves on the Firm's Board of Directors. Mr. Kofman has extensive experience in representing employers in virtually all areas of the labor and employment law, including defending employment discrimination lawsuits, whistleblower litigation, wage hour compliance and litigation, ERISA litigation, Sarbanes-Oxley litigation, counseling employers on day to day human resources issues, and traditional labor issues involving union organizational campaigns, National Labor Relations Board ("NLRB") proceedings collective bargaining,

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advising employers during union strikes, and securing injunctions for unlawful mass picketing and secondary boycotts.

Russell Hamilton, III is a Shareholder in the Labor and Employment Department. Mr. Hamilton's practice focuses on labor, employment and employee benefits matters, representing exclusively employers, employer associations, and employee benefit plans and fiduciaries.

LITIGATION (GENERAL COMMERCIAL)

Alan Fein is a Shareholder in the Litigation Department and a member of the Firm's Board of Directors. Mr. Fein has successfully handled some of South Florida's most important civil jury trials, developed one of the region's few sports law practices, and brought vision to a number of community leadership roles.

Eugene Stearns a trial lawyer since 1972, serves as Chairman of the Firm's Board of Directors and Chairman of its Litigation Department. His trial experience over three decades has been in jury and non jury trials in federal and state courts in Florida and other jurisdictions (a substantial percentage of which were tried to verdict and final judgment), and extensive arbitration and administrative law proceedings. Mr. Stearns has briefed and argued appeals to Florida's appellate courts including the District Courts of Appeal, the Florida Supreme Court, and in the federal system to the United States Courts of Appeals for the Fifth, Eleventh, Ninth and Third Circuits and he has successfully argued before the United States Supreme Court in a matter that, when decided, ended almost a decade of disagreement among the federal circuits involving federal diversity jurisdiction.

REAL ESTATE

Richard Alhadeff is a Shareholder and a senior member of the Firm's Real Estate Department. Mr. Alhadeff also serves on the Firm's Board of Directors. Mr. Alhadeff has extensive experience representing lenders and developers with a wide variety of real estate matters including acquisition, development, construction, financing, disposition, and joint ventures. Mr. Alhadeff has been an integral part of the construction of many of the area's most notable new properties, including The Setai, Downtown Dadeland, Uptown Lofts, The Plaza on Brickell, Aventura Marina, The Village of Merrick Park, The New World Symphony Campus Expansion and Trump Hollywood.

Chava Genet is a Shareholder in the Real Estate Department and a member of the Firm's Board of Directors. She also serves on the Firm's Hiring Committee. Ms. Genet counsels clients in all aspects of real estate transactions, including the acquisition, sale, leasing and development of office, retail, hotel, and multi-use properties.

REAL ESTATE (ZONING/LAND USE)

Ronald Weaver is a Shareholder and the Chairman of the Land Use, Environment, and Government Affairs Department. Mr. Weaver has extensive experience in advising landowners, development companies, and local governments in environmental, land use, and property rights law and real estate acquisition and financing.

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TAX (EMPLOYEE BENEFITS)

Sharon Quinn Dixon is a Shareholder in both the Tax Department and Labor and Employment Department. Ms. Dixon's practice focuses on employee benefits and estate planning.

Ms. Dixon counsels business clients about their employee benefit plans and executive compensation, including 401(k) plans, medical and other welfare benefit plans, COBRA issues, Section 125-Cafeteria Plans, Code Section 409A issues and tax and ERISA compliance and litigation matters. Additionally, Ms. Dixon is experienced with merger and acquisition due diligence reviews, planning for employee benefits in implementing Family Leave Act policies and incentive and nonqualified stock option plans

Ms. Dixon counsels individual clients in the development and implementation of their estate plans, including federal estate and gift tax issues. Ms. Dixon represents corporate and individual fiduciaries in connection with the administration of estates and personal trusts. Ms. Dixon has particular expertise in estate planning for retirement benefits.

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. is a full-service law firm with 120 attorneys serving clients throughout Florida and nationwide. With offices in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa, and Tallahassee, we serve business clients facing a wide array of legal issues, with a focus on litigation, real estate, labor and employment, bankruptcy, and corporate and securities.

While we are proud of the landmark legal victories achieved for our clients, we are equally proud of our *pro bono* efforts on behalf of those unable to afford counsel. We are dedicated to community-based, charitable organizations and provide regular contributions of time and financial resources to those in need.

Consistently recognized as among the best in Florida, we enjoy numerous accolades from top publications, including *The National Law Journal*, *Chambers USA*, and *The Best Lawyers in America*.

Online at stearnsweaver.com

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