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Michael Harwin Designated by the United States District Court to Serve as a Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorney for the Southern District of Florida

**FORT LAUDERDALE, FL** — October 30, 2023 — Stearns Weaver Miller announced that <u>Litigation</u> Shareholder <u>Michael Harwin</u> has been designated by the United States District Court to serve a 3-year term as a Criminal Justice Act ("CJA") Panel Attorney for the Southern District of Florida.

The CJA Panel is comprised of private attorneys who are authorized to serve as appointed defense counsel pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3006A. Under the CJA, those accused of a crime will not be deprived of the right to counsel, or any element of representation necessary to an effective defense, due to lack of financial resources.

To be appointed on the panel, attorneys must be a member in good standing of the Bar for the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida and the Florida Bar. They must also have at least five years of criminal practice experience as an attorney licensed to practice in any state or the District of Columbia, or three years of experience as an Assistant Federal Public Defender or Assistant United States Attorney.

Michael is an experienced trial lawyer, focusing his practice on complex commercial cases and white-collar criminal defense. Prior to joining the firm, Michael served as Assistant United States Attorney and Chief of the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Florida. In those roles, Michael prosecuted numerous criminal and civil cases on behalf of the United States, and successfully tried multiple jury trials to conclusion. On the criminal side, his caseload included healthcare fraud, narcotics, firearm, child exploitation, mail fraud, wire fraud, and identity theft related matters, and on the civil side included False Claims Act, medical malpractice, employment discrimination, and immigration matters.



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## **About Stearns Weaver Miller**

Stearns Weaver Miller is a Florida-based law firm with more than 150 attorneys and offices in Miami, Coral Gables, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa and Tallahassee. For nearly 50 years, our multidisciplinary team of attorneys and professionals have worked collaboratively to help our clients understand and resolve complex legal issues and disputes. For more information, visit stearnsweaver.com.