

Stearns Weaver Miller Expands Statewide Lending Practice

MIAMI, FL – January 8, 2020 - Stearns Weaver Miller announced that the Firm is expanding its statewide lending practice. Shareholder Barbara J. Ferrer has joined the Firm’s Miami office, Shareholder Jennifer A. Powers has joined the Firm’s Tampa office, and Associate P. Taylor Yawney has joined the Firm’s Miami Office.

“This is exciting news for the Firm and our Real Estate team,” said Managing Director Rick Schatz. “Barbara, Jennifer and Taylor’s impressive and extensive commercial lending experience will be a valuable resource for our clients. We are excited to bring our lending practice to the next level.”

[Barbara Ferrer](#) is an accomplished Real Estate Lending attorney. She represents institutional lenders and investors in all aspects of real estate-secured and asset-based loans, including construction loans, factoring arrangements, public-private financing, mezzanine financing, low income housing tax credits (LIHTC) and affordable housing equity, and debt financing. She also represents clients in the acquisition, disposition, financing and development of large-scale commercial real estate projects. Barbara is consistently recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* and as a “Top Lawyer” by *South Florida Legal Guide*.

Barbara earned her J.D., *cum laude*, from the University of Miami School of Law and her B.S. from St. Thomas University. She joins Stearns Weaver Miller from the law firm of GrayRobinson.

[Jennifer Powers](#) has over two decades of experience in all aspects of complex commercial real estate and finance transactions. She has particular experience in secured and unsecured financing transactions/structuring, mezzanine and timeshare financing, maritime lending, construction lending, and multistate financing transactions. She handles syndicated loans, loan workouts for restructuring and foreclosure transactions, and loans secured by real estate and/or business assets, including inventory, equipment, accounts receivables, and other types of collateral. Jennifer is certified by the Small Business Administration and the National Association of Development Companies (NADCO) to close SBA loans (both CDC/504 and 7(a)), representing both or either of the interim and/or third party lenders.

Jennifer earned her J.D., *with honors*, from the University of Florida Levin College of Law and her B.S., *summa cum laude*, from Florida State University. Prior to joining the Firm, she owned her own law practice in Tampa.

[Taylor Yawney](#) focuses on a wide range of real estate matters, including the acquisition, disposition, financing, leasing and development of high-quality affordable housing developments and other commercial real estate projects. He earned his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law, his M.B.A. with a concentration in Real Estate from University of Miami School of Business Administration, and his B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Northeastern University. He joins Stearns Weaver Miller from the law firm of Shutts & Bowen.

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About Stearns Weaver Miller

Stearns Weaver Miller is a full service law firm with offices in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa, Tallahassee and Coral Gables, Florida.

We offer multidisciplinary solutions with a concentration on Business Restructuring, Corporate & Securities, Government & Administrative, Labor & Employment, Land Development, Zoning & Environmental, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Real Estate and Tax. For more information, visit stearnsweaver.com.