



Press Release

Record Number of Akerman Lawyers Across the United States Named to *The Best Lawyers in America 2018 Guide*

August 15, 2017

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, today announced that 156 of its lawyers located in New York, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, and 15 other major metropolitan markets across the United States have been named to *The Best Lawyers in America 2018* list in 71 areas of law. Additionally, *Best Lawyers* named 13 Akerman Partners to the 2018 *Lawyer of the Year* list, an honor given to only one lawyer per practice area in every major market in the United States.

Among the *Best Lawyers of the Year* honorees are **Jacqueline Arango** for Litigation – Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy) (Miami), **Jonathan Awner** for Corporate Governance Law (Miami), **Charles Brumback, Jr.** for Banking and Finance Law (Orlando), **Gerald Cope, Jr.** for Appellate Practice (Miami), **David Doney** for Securities Regulation (Tampa), **Michael Goldberg** for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law (Fort Lauderdale), **Teddy Klinghoffer** for Corporate Compliance Law (Miami), **John Macdonald** for Litigation – Bankruptcy (Jacksonville), **Timothy McDermott** for Litigation – Banking and Finance (Jacksonville), **Carlos Méndez-Peñate** for International Trade and Finance Law (New York City), **Stephen Roddenberry** for Corporate Law (Miami), **Lawrence Silverman** for Antitrust Law (Miami), and **William Van Nortwick, Jr.** for Appellate Practice (Jacksonville).

The annual *Best Lawyers* list and *Lawyer of the Year* designation are based on peer-review surveys, in which more than 36,000 leading lawyers cast nearly 4.4 million votes on the legal abilities of other legal professionals in their practice areas.

Individual Lawyer Listings

Silvia M. Alderman for Environmental Law, Litigation – Environmental

Marcy Levine Aldrich for Insurance Law

Jacqueline M. Arango for Litigation – Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy)

William C. Arnhols for Banking and Finance Law, Corporate Law

Alan H. Aronson for Securities/Capital Markets Law, Securities Regulation

Jonathan L. Awner for Corporate Governance Law, Corporate Law, International Mergers and

Acquisitions, Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law,

Securities/Capital Markets Law, Securities Regulation

Michael D. Bailkin for Land Use and Zoning Law

Susan F. Balaschak for Litigation – Bankruptcy

Nathan N. Balint for Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Arturo H. Banegas Masiá for Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Martin D. Beirne for Commercial Litigation, Energy Law, Oil and Gas Law

Stacy Bercun Bohm for Construction Law

Ellen Berkowitz for Land Use and Zoning Law

Mark S. Bernstein for Commercial Litigation

Richard Bezold for Real Estate Law

Leonard H. Bloom for Corporate Law, Securities Regulation

David C. Blum for Tax Law

Cecelia Bonifay for Environmental Law, Land Use and Zoning Law, Real Estate Law

James S. Bramnick for Employment Law – Management, Labor Law – Management, Litigation –

Labor and Employment

Jacob A. Brown for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law,

Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Bankruptcy, Litigation – Real Estate

Charles T. Brumback, Jr. for Banking and Finance Law

Karen M. Buesing for Employment Law – Management, Litigation – Labor and Employment

John E. Burke for Biotechnology Law, Patent Law

Martin G. Burkett for Corporate Law

Mary V. Carroll for Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Christopher S. Carver for Commercial Litigation

Maria I. Casablanca for Immigration Law

Ross J. Charap for Copyright Law

Robert I. Chaskes for Commercial Litigation

Michael B. Chavies for Commercial Litigation

Geoffrey C. Cheney for Corporate Law

Patrick T. Christiansen for Banking and Finance Law

Dana Clayton for Litigation – Real Estate

Jules S. Cohen for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law,

Litigation – Bankruptcy

Thomas Louis Colletta, Jr. for Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, Railroad Law

Gerald B. Cope, Jr. for Appellate Practice

Nancy A. Copperthwaite for Appellate Practice, Insurance Law

L. Frank Cordero for Tax Law

Joe B. Cox for Trusts and Estates

William C. Crenshaw for Litigation – Bankruptcy

Peter L. Dame for Municipal Law, Public Finance Law

Aileen S. Davis for Banking and Finance Law, Real Estate Law

Kirk S. Davis for Health Care Law, Litigation – Health Care, Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

Megan Costa DeVault for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance

Martin R. Dix for FDA Law, Health Care Law

David M. Doney for Banking and Finance Law, Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law,
Securities/Capital Markets Law, Securities Regulation

Donald K. Duffy for Tax Law

Christopher S. Duke for Litigation – Labor and Employment

Daniel P. Faust for Real Estate Law

Diane Helen Ford for Real Estate Law

Joseph E. ('Ed') Foster for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance, Litigation –
Bankruptcy, Litigation – Real Estate, Mortgage Banking Foreclosure Law

Irene Bassel Frick for Commercial Litigation

Brian K. Gart for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law

Joanne Gelfand for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law,
Litigation – Bankruptcy

Michael P. Gennett for Health Care Law

John J. ('Jack') George for Litigation – Land Use and Zoning, Litigation – Real Estate, Real Estate Law

Katherine E. Giddings for Appellate Practice

Jeffrey G. Gilmore for Construction Law, Litigation – Construction

Stephen C. Glazier for Litigation – Intellectual Property

Andrew P. Gold for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Real Estate

Michael I. Goldberg for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization
Law, Litigation – Bankruptcy

Jonathan E. Gopman for Trusts and Estates

Eric A. Gordon for Employment Law – Management

Steven Grigas for Health Care Law

Gary J. Guzzi for Insurance Law

Marcy Hahn-Saperstein for Health Care Law

Russell B. Hale for Tax Law

Brian R. Harris for Tax Law

Andrea S. Hartley for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization
Law, Litigation – Bankruptcy

Steven E.M. Hartz for Commercial Litigation, Criminal Defense: White-Collar

Joseph W. Hatchett for Appellate Practice

William P. Heller for Financial Services Regulation Law

Elizabeth M. Hernandez for Litigation – Real Estate

Kathryn Bessmer Hoeck for Litigation – Real Estate

Stephen B. Hurlbut for Construction Law, Litigation – Construction

Richard T. Hurt for Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law, Tax Law, Trusts and Estates

Daniel Jacobson for Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Venture Capital Law

Patrick Johnson, Jr. for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization

Law, Litigation – Bankruptcy

Leslie Joughin III for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance, Litigation – Construction, Litigation – Intellectual Property

Neisen O. Kasdin for Land Use and Zoning Law

Teddy D. Klinghoffer for Corporate Compliance Law, Corporate Governance Law, Corporate Law, Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Private

Funds/Hedge Funds Law, Venture Capital Law

Laurence S. Kurth for Commercial Litigation

Cindy A. Laquidara for Government Contracts, Government Relations Practice, Litigation – Environmental, Litigation – Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy)

Peter O. Larsen for Corporate Law, Litigation and Controversy – Tax, Securitization and Structured Finance Law, Tax Law

Robert A. Leapley, Jr. for Real Estate Law

Richard G. Leland for Environmental Law, Litigation – Environmental

Joan M. Levit for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law,

Litigation – Bankruptcy

Warren L. Lewis for Franchise Law

John B. Macdonald for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization

Law, Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance, Litigation – Bankruptcy,

Litigation – Real Estate, Litigation – Trusts and Estates

D. Brett Marks for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law,

Litigation – Bankruptcy

Margaret D. Mathews for Commercial Litigation

Jane K. McCahill for Health Care Law

James M. McCann for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Intellectual Property

Timothy J. McDermott for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance, Litigation –

Land Use and Zoning, Litigation – Real Estate, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants

Theresa M. McLaughlin for Real Estate Law

Michael P. McMahon for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Land Use and Zoning, Litigation

–

Real Estate

James H. McNeil Jr. for Land Use and Zoning Law, Real Estate Law

Michael Mena for Litigation – Real Estate

Carlos E. Méndez-Peñate for International Trade and Finance Law

Andres G. Mendoza for Real Estate Law

Carolyn V. Metnick for Health Care Law

Scott A. Meyers for Arbitration, Mediation

Brian Miller for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Securities

James M. Miller for Commercial Litigation

Richard C. Milstein for Family Law, Litigation – Trusts and Estates, Trusts and Estates

Esther L. Moreno for Corporate Law, Securities/Capital Markets Law

John P. ('Pete') Morrison for Labor Law – Management

Robyn D. Neely for Environmental Law

Allison Nelson for Real Estate Law

Jason S. Oletsky for Commercial Litigation, Private Funds/Hedge Funds Law

David E. Otero for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization
Law,

Litigation – Bankruptcy, Litigation and Controversy – Tax, Securitization and
Structured

Finance Law

David W. Parham for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and
Reorganization

Law

Mark D. Passler for Patent Law

T. Todd Pittenger for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Real Estate
Law

Bruce D. Platt for Health Care Law

Marci K. Poliakoff for Tax Law

Steven P. Polivy for Real Estate Law

Robert M. Poppell for Real Estate Law

E. Paul Quinn for Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Henry H. Raattama, Jr. for Non-Profit/Charities Law, Tax Law

Eric D. Rapkin for Real Estate Law

Joseph L. Rebak for Commercial Litigation

Edward L. Ristaino for Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Andrew S. Robins for Leisure and Hospitality Law, Real Estate Law

Lawrence P. Rochefort for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance,
Litigation –

Real Estate

Stephen K. Roddenberry for Corporate Governance Law, Corporate Law, International

Mergers

& Acquisitions, Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Private Funds/Hedge Funds Law, Securities/Capital Markets Law

Francisco A. Rodriguez for Arbitration, International Arbitration – Commercial

Scott W. Rostock for Litigation – Real Estate

Carl D. Roston for Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Securities/Capital Markets

Law

Janice L. Russell for Real Estate Law

Peter E. Salomon for Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law

Philip Schwartz for Corporate Law

L. Joseph Shaheen, Jr. for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance, Litigation –

Construction, Litigation – Real Estate

Mark S. Shapiro for Insurance Law

Owen J. Shean for Construction Law, Litigation – Construction

Lawrence D. Silverman for Antitrust Law, Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation,

Litigation – Antitrust, Litigation – Banking and Finance

Scott T. Silverman for Employment Law – Management, Labor Law – Management, Litigation –

Labor and Employment

Ben Slater III for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Environmental, Mass Tort Litigation/Class

Actions – Plaintiffs, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, Product Liability Litigation –

Defendants, Railroad Law, Transportation Law

Robert J. Smith for Construction Law

Andrew M. Smulian for Real Estate Law

David I. Spector for Commercial Litigation, Insurance Law

William S. Spencer for Litigation – Land Use and Zoning, Litigation – Real Estate

William J. Spratt, Jr. for Health Care Law

Glen A. Stankee for Litigation and Controversy – Tax, Tax Law

Matthew A. Steinberg for Employment Law – Management

Thomas E. Streit for Banking and Finance Law, Real Estate Law

Brian Tague for Real Estate Law

A. Rodger Traynor, Jr. for Litigation – Bankruptcy

August (Gus) Van Eeopel for Tax Law, Trusts and Estates

William A. Van Nortwick, Jr. for Appellate Practice

Bryan T. West for Commercial Litigation

Nina S. Whiston for Insurance Law

Gary Whitlock for Commercial Transactions/UCC Law, Real Estate Law

Jeffrey P. Wieland for Real Estate Law

Gerard Wimberly for Commercial Litigation

Susanne Zabloudil for Real Estate Law

About Akerman LLP

Akerman LLP is a leading transactions and trial law firm known for its core strengths in middle market M&A, within the financial services and real estate industries, and for a diverse Latin America practice. With more than 650 lawyers and government affairs professionals and a network of 24 offices, it is ranked among the top 100 law firms in the United States by *The American Lawyer* (2017). Akerman also is ranked among the top 100 law firms for diversity in *The American Lawyer's Diversity Scorecard* (2017).

Related Practices

Bankruptcy & Reorganization
Construction
Consumer Financial Services
Corporate
Fraud & Recovery
Government Affairs & Public Policy
Healthcare
Intellectual Property
Labor & Employment
Latin America & the Caribbean
Litigation
Real Estate
Tax
Trusts & Estates

Related Biographies

Silvia M. Alderman
Marcy Levine Aldrich
Jacqueline M. Arango
William C. Arnhols
Alan H. Aronson
Jonathan L. Awner
Michael Bailkin
Susan F. Balaschak
Nathan N. Balint
Arturo H. Banegas Masia
Martin D. Beirne
Stacy Bercun Bohm
Mark S. Bernstein
Richard Bezold
Leonard H. Bloom
David C. Blum
Cecelia Bonifay
James S. Bramnick
Jacob A. Brown
Charles T. Brumback, Jr.
Karen M. Buesing
John E. Burke
Martin G. Burkett
Mary V. Carroll
Christopher S. Carver
Maria I. Casablanca
Ross J. Charap
Robert I. Chaskes
Michael B. Chavies
Geoffrey C. Cheney
Patrick T. Christiansen
Dana Clayton
Jules S. Cohen
Thomas Louis Colletta, Jr.
Gerald B. Cope, Jr.

Nancy A. Copperthwaite
L. Frank Cordero
Joe B. Cox
William C. Crenshaw
Peter L. Dame
Aileen S. Davis
Kirk S. Davis
Megan Costa DeVault
Martin R. Dix
David M. Doney
Donald K. Duffy
Christopher S. Duke
Daniel P. Faust
Diane Helen Ford
Joseph E. ('Ed') Foster
Irene Bassel Frick
Brian K. Gart
Joanne Gelfand
Michael P. Gennett
John J. ('Jack') George
Katherine E. Giddings
Jeffrey G. Gilmore
Stephen C. Glazier
Andrew P. Gold
Michael I. Goldberg
Jonathan E. Gopman
Eric A. Gordon
Steven Grigas
Gary J. Guzzi
Marcy Hahn-Saperstein
Russell B. Hale
Brian R. Harris
Andrea S. Hartley
Steven E.M. Hartz
Joseph W. Hatchett
William P. Heller
Elizabeth M. Hernandez
Kathryn Bessmer Hoeck
Stephen B. Hurlbut
Richard T. Hurt
Daniel Jacobson
Patrick Johnson, Jr.
Leslie Joughin III
Neisen O. Kasdin
Teddy Klinghoffer
Laurence S. Kurth
Cindy A. Laquidara
Peter O. Larsen
Robert A. Leapley Jr.

Richard G. Leland
Joan M. Levit
Warren L. Lewis
John B. Macdonald
D. Brett Marks
Margaret D. Mathews
Jane K. McCahill
James M. McCann
Timothy J. McDermott
Theresa M. McLaughlin
Michael P. McMahan
James H. McNeil Jr.
Michael O. Mena
Carlos E. Mendez-Peate
Andres G. Mendoza
Carolyn V. Metnick
Scott A. Meyers
Brian Miller
James M. Miller
Richard C. Milstein
Esther L. Moreno
John P. ('Pete') Morrison
Robyn D. Neely
Allison Nelson
Jason S. Oletsky
David E. Otero
David W. Parham
Mark D. Passler
T. Todd Pittenger
Bruce D. Platt
Marci K. Poliakoff
Steven P. Polivy
Robert M. Poppell
E. Paul Quinn
Henry H. Raattama, Jr.
Eric D. Rapkin
Joseph L. Rebak
Edward Ristaino
Andrew S. Robins
Lawrence P. Rochefort
Stephen K. Roddenberry
Francisco A. Rodriguez
Scott W. Rostock
Carl D. Roston
Janice L. Russell
Peter E. Salomon
Philip Schwartz
L. Joseph Shaheen, Jr.
Mark S. Shapiro

Owen J. Shean
Owen J. Shean
Scott T. Silverman
Lawrence D. Silverman
Ben Slater, III
Robert J. Smith
Andrew M. Smulian
David I. Spector
William S. Spencer
William J. Spratt, Jr.
Glen A. Stankee
Matthew A. Steinberg
Thomas E. Streit
Brian Tague
A. Rodger Traynor, Jr.
August (Gus) Van Eepoel
William A. Van Nortwick, Jr.
Bryan T. West
Nina S. Whiston
Gary A. Whitlock
Jeffrey P. Wieland
Gerard Wimberly
Susanne Zabloudil