

## In The News

# Akerman Lawyers Neisen Kasdin and Christopher Penelas See Rising Development Opportunities in Miami and Miami Beach

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In a *Miami Today* article titled, “Miami and Miami Beach thriving together, Kasdin observes,” Miami co-office managing partner [Neisen Kasdin](#) and real estate associate [Christopher Penelas](#) discussed the 40-year interplay between the Miami and Miami Beach communities. Kasdin, who was Mayor of Miami Beach and a leader of the revitalization of South Beach from 1997 to 2001, explained that for years both Miami Beach and the mainland have had ups and downs, but they are now in a balanced relationship in which both are thriving, and opportunities for development and international investment are increasing. Penelas, noted in the article as a legal rising star, described the types of projects available for development and the immediate initiatives the local government can undertake, particularly as it relates to workforce and affordable housing.

“Miami Beach really led the way to recreating the international image of all of Miami,” said Kasdin.

“You’ll start seeing residential projects and some commercial projects popping up in the unincorporated areas of the county, where there are opportunities for developers and project managers to build a product that’s required today, which is

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affordable housing and workforce housing for those in our community who really are suffering from this increasing market,” said Penelas.

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