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Press Release

Akerman's Felicia Nowels Appointed to Florida District Export Council by U.S. Secretary of Commerce

March 19, 2014

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, today announced that <u>Felicia</u> <u>Leborgne Nowels</u>, a partner in the firm's Government Affairs & Public Policy Practice Group in Tallahassee, has been appointed by U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Penny Pritzker, to serve on the Florida District Export Council.

As a member of the Council, Nowels will draw from her years of experience working with highly regulated products—including drugs, commodities, food, medical devices, agriculture, animals, munitions, apparel and footwear, and chemicals—to provide effective leadership and international trade expertise that complement the U.S. Commercial Service's export promotion efforts. The Council represents the interests of the U.S. exporting community and provides business counseling on the export process, trade education through seminars and events, and community outreach to encourage Florida firms to export.

Board Certified in International Law by The Florida Bar, Nowels represents domestic and foreign companies in various aspects of international trade and customs, transactional, regulatory and litigation matters. Her fluency in several languages is advantageous to clients seeking to structure businesses in U.S. and international markets,

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Felicia Leborgne Nowels

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negotiate multi-national agreements, and move goods and services cross-border. Nowels also helps her clients maintain compliant business practices and represents those facing administrative action taken by federal and state agencies, including investigations, recalls and penalty proceedings.

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 600 lawyers and government affairs professionals and a network of 20 offices, it is ranked among the top 100 law firms in the United States by *The National Law Journal* NLJ 350 (2013). Akerman also is ranked among the top 50 law firms for diversity in *The American Lawyer's* Diversity Scorecard (2013). More information can be found at akerman.com or twitter.com/akerman_law.

Akerman's Government Affairs and Public Policy Practice Group includes a bi-partisan team of lawyers and public policy advisors operating in Washington, D.C., New York, and Florida. The professionals are experienced in appropriations, education, healthcare, insurance, transportation and infrastructure, Native American affairs, and international trade matters.