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Press Release

Akerman Grows Litigation Practice Group with Partner Lansing Palmer

October 1, 2014

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, today announced the continued growth of the Litigation Practice Group with Lansing Palmer, a partner in West Palm Beach with a dual affiliation with the New York office.

"Lansing's experience in high-profile, multijurisdictional fiduciary litigation matters for individuals, financial institutions, and charitable foundations further enhances our service offerings to clients," said Lawrence Rochefort, chair of Akerman's Litigation Practice Group.

For more than 40 years, Palmer has represented clients nationwide in complex litigation matters involving trusts and estates, as well as commercial and business litigation. Lansing has appeared in state and federal courts in multiple jurisdictions, including a case in the U.S. Supreme Court that established the test for "excusable neglect" for late filings in bankruptcy, and by extension other types of cases, and which has since been cited more than 13,000 times. He has also litigated numerous high-profile cases involving estate taxes and the valuation of complex assets. He regularly performs litigation risk analysis and serves as an expert trial witness on issues of professional responsibility and the valuation of legal services.

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Lansing R. Palmer Lawrence P. Rochefort

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New York West Palm Beach Palmer is recognized among the top estate and trust litigators in the New York metropolitan area by *Super Lawyers*. He also is involved in a number of professional organizations, including the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Estate Litigation. Palmer formerly served on the New York State Bar Association's Commercial and Federal Litigation Section, Committee on Federal Procedure; Trusts and Estates Law Section, Committee on Surrogate's Courts. He also previously served on the New York City Bar's Committee on Military Justice and Military Affairs and the New York County Lawyers' Association Committee on the Federal Courts.

Palmer holds a B.A. from Yale University and earned his J.D. at Boston University School of 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 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 (2014). Akerman also is ranked among the top 50 law firms for diversity in *The American Lawyer*'s Diversity Scorecard (2014).

Akerman's Litigation Practice Group is recognized nationally by *U.S. News - Best Lawyers* in the Commercial Litigation category. The firm's team has vast experience in a wide range of civil and criminal litigation, including actions involving banking, securities, healthcare, insurance, real estate and construction.

More information can be found at <u>akerman.com</u> or <u>twitter.com/akerman_law</u>.