

Press Release

Akerman Senterfitt Increases Rank Among Top 100 Law Firms in U.S. by *The National Law Journal*

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Ranking Reflects Firm's Continued Success in Lateral Recruitment Efforts

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Andrew M. Smulian

Akerman Senterfitt today announced that its rank among the top 100 law firms in the United States has increased for the second consecutive year on *The National Law Journal's* 'NLJ 350' annual list, which surveys the nation's largest law firms by number of lawyers.

Akerman grew its lawyer headcount by 6.6 percent to more than 550 lawyers and government affairs professionals across 19 offices in the U.S. during the firm's fiscal year 2012, raising it from 90th place to 81st on the 'NLJ 350' list. The list revealed that Akerman's growth outpaced the industry where firms grew an average of 1.1 percent in headcount during 2012, a retrenchment from 1.7 percent growth in 2011.

"We have had a very successful recruiting year, and it is continuing," said Andrew Smulian, chairman and CEO of Akerman. "Our strategy has always been client-driven, and we take a very responsible approach to growth. We spend a significant amount of time and effort focused on selecting the right lawyers who will further enhance our capabilities and presence across the Americas."

In addition to growing its lawyer headcount, Akerman achieved record-breaking financial performance for the second consecutive year with gross revenues of \$285.3 million for 2012, a 10.8 percent rise over 2011. As a result, the firm increased its ranking from 115th to 108th place on *The American Lawyer's* annual 'Am Law 200' list, which ranks the nation's highest-grossing law firms.

About Akerman Senterfitt

Akerman 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 550 lawyers and government affairs professionals and a network of 19 offices, it is ranked among the top 100 law firms in the U.S. by *The National Law Journal NLJ 350* (2013). Akerman also is ranked among the top 100 law firms for diversity by *MultiCultural Law* magazine (2012) and recognized as the Law Firm of the Year for Diversity – South by *Benchmark Litigation* (2012). More information can be found at akerman.com or twitter.com/akerman_law.