

## Press Release

# Akerman's Litigation Practice Once Again Recognized Among Best in the United States by *Benchmark Litigation*

November 16, 2016

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, today announced that the firm has once again been recognized by *Benchmark Litigation* among the best law firms in the United States and among a select group of standout law firms with multi-state litigation capabilities. This recognition is accompanied by “highly recommended” and “recommended” rankings in Florida and Virginia, respectively. Individually, seven Akerman litigators were recognized as “local litigation stars” by the guide and three were recognized as “top litigators under 40.”

Akerman lawyers were named local litigation stars in the General Commercial category, including William Heller, chair of the Consumer Financial Services Practice Group; Brian Miller, chair of the Securities Litigation Practice; and Lawrence Rochefort, chair of the Litigation Practice Group, as well as Partners Katherine Giddings, Stephen Hurlbut, Michael Marsh, and James Miller. In addition, Heller, Marsh, and Brian Miller were honored in the Securities category; and Hurlbut was recognized in the Construction category. Giddings also was distinguished in the Appellate category after recently being named among the Top 250 U.S. Women in Litigation for the fifth consecutive year.

Akerman lawyers were also recognized among the

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### Related People

Kristen M. Fiore  
Christian P. George  
William P. Heller  
Stephen B. Hurlbut  
Michael C. Marsh  
Lawrence P. Rochefort  
Ryan Roman

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### Related Work

Litigation

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### Related Offices

Fort Lauderdale  
Jacksonville  
Miami  
Tallahassee  
West Palm Beach

inaugural “Top Litigators Under 40” list. Kristen Fiore, Christian George, and Ryan Roman were named to the list, which honors the achievements of the nation’s most accomplished partners who are 40 years old or younger. George and Roman were also named “Future Stars.”

Focused exclusively on the U.S. litigation markets, the rankings and editorials of *Benchmark Litigation* are the result of annual independent research that involves extensive interviews with private practice lawyers and in-house counsel. The guide’s “local litigation stars” reflect lawyers who are recommended by peers and clients to have established consistent reputations as trial lawyers.

### **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* (2016). Akerman also is ranked among the top 60 law firms for diversity in *The American Lawyer’s* Diversity Scorecard (2016).

Akerman’s Litigation Practice Group has vast experience in a wide range of civil and criminal litigation, including class action defense, securities and corporate litigation, banking, white collar crime and government investigations, insurance, and real estate. The team is recognized nationally by *U.S. News – Best Lawyers* in several categories including Commercial Litigation and Appellate.