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Press Release

Akerman Ranks Among Top 10 BigLaw Firms for Female Lawyers

April 21, 2016

Akerman LLP has once again been distinguished by *Law360* as one of the best law firms for female lawyers, ranking no. 8 among the 100 largest law firms in the United States and no. 35 in the country overall. According to the <u>2016 Glass Ceiling report</u>, Akerman continues to outperform the industry average, with women comprising nearly 40 percent of its total attorneys.

Law360 also noted Akerman among 10 powerhouse law firms that are taking active efforts to achieve gender parity. As part of its commitment to build a supportive and inclusive environment, Akerman was one of the first national firms to join an innovative pilot program called the OnRamp Fellowship, the first "returnship" ever launched in the legal field. The OnRamp Fellowship program matches experienced women lawyers who are eager to return to practice after an extended hiatus, sending a powerful message to women lawyers and the broader legal profession that there are many avenues to success.

Most recently, Akerman became part of a select group of top law firms to launch the Women in Law Hackathon, a SharkTank style pitch competition created by the Diversity Lab in collaboration with Stanford Law School and Bloomberg Law. Aimed to close the gender gap in the legal industry, Akerman lawyers will work with legal talent and diversity leaders across the country to devise initiatives that

will help retain and advance experienced women in law firms.

Akerman is consistently named one of the nation's 50 best law firms for diversity on *The American Lawyer*'s annual Diversity Scorecard. For at least three years, Akerman has outpaced the industry average for the number of female partners promoted.

Law360 surveyed more than 300 U.S. firms on their female headcount. Rankings were based on female representation at the partner and non-partner levels and the total number of female attorneys firm wide.

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 American Lawyer* (2015). Akerman also is ranked among the top 50 law firms for diversity in *The American Lawyer*'s Diversity Scorecard (2015).