

## Press Release

# Akerman Once Again Awarded Top Honors by *Benchmark Litigation*

December 22, 2020

12:00 AM UTC

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, today announced the firm has once again been ranked by *Benchmark Litigation* among the best law firms in the United States for its multi-disciplinary litigation bench. Akerman was highlighted as “highly recommended” in Florida and “recommended” in Virginia, while the firm’s Labor and Employment Practice Group earned the “recommended” recognition in Florida.

Of the 33 litigators recognized in the 2021 guide, 13 received the designation of “local litigation stars” in appellate, bankruptcy, general commercial, real estate, securities and white collar crime, and four were recognized as “future stars.” Additionally, Jacksonville Office Managing Partner [Christian George](#) and partner [Ryan Roman](#) are recognized among the publication’s Top Litigators Under 40. The latest recognitions follow *Benchmark Litigation* naming Litigation Practice Group Deputy Chair [Katherine Giddings](#) as a Top 250 U.S. Women in Litigation for a ninth consecutive year.

The Akerman lawyers and the categories in which they are recognized are listed below:

[Aleksas Barauskas](#), 40 & Under Hot List, Future Star  
[Danya Blair](#), Labor and Employment Star  
[James Bramnick](#), Labor and Employment Star

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## Related People

Danya W. Blair  
Michael B. Chavies  
Dana Clayton  
John L. Dicks, II  
Kristen M. Fiore  
Erica V. Fleetwood  
Christian P. George  
Andrew P. Gold  
Eric A. Gordon  
William P. Heller  
Stephen B. Hurlbut  
Jeffrey A. Kimmel  
Arlene K. Kline  
Debra M. Leder  
Michael C. Marsh  
Rory J. McEvoy  
Lawrence P. Rochefort  
Ryan Roman  
Scott T. Silverman  
Matthew A. Steinberg  
Steven R. Wirth  
Melissa S. Zinkil

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## Related Work

Appellate  
Bankruptcy and Reorganization  
Labor and Employment  
Litigation  
Real Estate  
Securities Litigation

## Related Offices

Atlanta  
Chicago  
Fort Lauderdale  
Jacksonville  
Miami  
New York  
San Antonio  
Tallahassee  
Tampa  
Washington, D.C.  
West Palm Beach

Karen Buesing, Labor & Employment Star  
Michael Chavies, Local Litigation Star for Appellate,  
General Commercial, White Collar Crime  
Dana Clayton, Local Litigation Star for Real Estate  
John Dicks, II, Future Star  
Zarra Elias, Labor and Employment Star  
Kristen Fiore, Future Star  
Dee Dee Fischer, Local Litigation Star for General  
Commercial  
Brian Fraser, Local Litigation Star for General  
Commercial  
Christian George, 40 & Under Hot List - South  
Katherine Giddings, Local Litigation Star for  
Appellate, General Commercial  
Andrew Gold, Local Litigation Star for General  
Commercial  
Eric Gordon, Labor and Employment Star  
William Heller, Local Litigation Star for General  
Commercial, Securities  
Stephen Hurlbut, Local Litigation Star for  
Construction, General Commercial  
Sul Kim, Labor and Employment Star  
Jeffrey Kimmel, Labor and Employment Star  
Arlene Kline, Labor and Employment Star  
Megan Kokontis, Labor and Employment Star  
Debra Leder, Labor & Employment Star  
Michael Marsh, Local Litigation Star for General  
Commercial, Securities  
Erica Mason, Labor and Employment Star  
Rory McEvoy, Labor & Employment Star  
Brian Miller, Local Litigation Star for General  
Commercial, Securities  
John Pete Morrison, Labor and Employment Star  
Lawrence Rochefort, Local Litigation Star for  
General Commercial  
Ryan Roman, 40 & Under Hot List - South, Future  
Star  
Scott Silverman, Labor & Employment Star  
Matthew Steinberg, Labor & Employment Star  
Steven Wirth, Local Litigation Star for Bankruptcy  
Melissa Zinkil, Labor and Employment Star

## About Akerman

Akerman LLP is a top 100 U.S. law firm recognized

among the most forward thinking firms in the industry by *Financial Times*. Its more than 700 lawyers and business professionals collaborate with the world's most successful enterprises and entrepreneurs to navigate change, seize opportunities, and help drive innovation and growth. Akerman is known for its results in middle market M&A and complex disputes, and for helping clients achieve their most important business objectives in the financial services, real estate and other dynamic sectors across the United States and Latin America.