



Best ^{OF} THE BAR

2003



SUPPLEMENT OF

SOUTH FLORIDA
THE BUSINESS JOURNAL
Local Business Intelligence

For people in business, choosing the right attorney is vital to protecting their interests. Finding the right attorney, however, isn't always easy. The average businessperson isn't always able to evaluate an attorney's skills and expertise.



That's why we created the Best of the Bar. We asked attorneys to submit their nominations for those lawyers they most respected and admired. After all, who is more qualified to judge a good attorney than a jury of his or her peers? The results of this nomination process are included inside this section.

How did we do it? For the past four months, the Business Journal has distributed thousands of nominations forms throughout the tri-county area. We sent forms via e-mail, handed them out at events and published them in the Business Journal and on our Web site. We received nearly 1,000 nominations from attorneys throughout South Florida.

To keep the nomination process fair, and to keep larger firms from dominating the arena by nominating their own, we set up a point system. Each out-of-firm nomination was worth one point while an in-firm nomination was worth half a point. Nominations were only accepted by licensed attorneys.

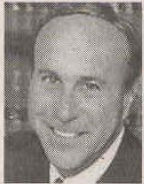
The results will interest you. There will be attorneys from firms you expect to see on this list and others that are achieving noteworthy results while operating under the radar screen. The heartfelt comments that accompanied most of the nominations led us to believe there are many well-respected attorneys in our area.

We hope you enjoy the results. We are already gearing up for next year's Best of the Bar, so if you have any thoughts on how we might fine tune the nomination process, or just want to be sure you receive a nomination form, please send us an e-mail at bestofthebar_sf@bizjournals.com.

We also suggest you keep this copy of Best of the Bar handy. After all, you never know when you're going to need a good lawyer.

Best Regards,

Gary Press
Publisher

**Gary S. Phillips**

FIRM: Phillips, Eisinger & Brown, P.A.
4000 Hollywood Blvd.,
Suite 265-S
Hollywood FL, 33021

PHONE: (954) 894-8000**FAX:** (954) 894-8015**AREA OF PRACTICE:** Commercial Litigation

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: I love waking up every morning with a sense of purpose knowing that people rely on me for help and advice. Interacting with clients, counsel, judges and witnesses on sophisticated or simple legal or factual issues remains both challenging and enjoyable. Nothing compares to a jury verdict in your favor.

**Thomas Ringel**

FIRM: Markowitz, Davis, Ringel & Trusty, P.A.
9130 S. Dadeland Boulevard,
Suite 1225
Miami, FL 33156-7849

PHONE: (305) 670-5000**FAX:** (305) 670-5011**AREA OF PRACTICE:** Real Estate; Real Property Litigation

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: At an early age, I developed an appreciation and respect of the law from my father who was also an attorney. Being a good attorney means doing more than just handling the transaction itself. It means guiding the client every step of the way—finding a solution to a problem, giving both professional and personal advice and doing it quickly and efficiently.

**Gisele Pollack**

FIRM: Broward County Public Defender's Office
201 SE 6th Street, Suite 3872
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

PHONE: (954)-831-8825**FAX:** (954)-831-6778**AREA OF PRACTICE:** Criminal Law

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: I practice law to protect the individual constitutional rights, liberties, and freedoms our country was founded upon. As an attorney in Broward County Drug Court I uphold these principles while guiding drug offenders into recovery. This has been the most rewarding undertaking of my legal career.

**John Rizvi**

FIRM: Gold & Rizvi, P.A. —
The Idea Attorneys®
600 N. Pine Island Rd.,
Suite 450
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33324-1311

PHONE: (305) 649-5001 / (954) 583-9600 / (561) 799-6630**FAX:** 954-792-2234**AREA OF PRACTICE:** Patent Law

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: As a Registered Patent Attorney and former Engineer, I respect and admire the creative minds that have made our nation a world benchmark in innovation. By obtaining legal protection for a new idea, I help ensure that inventors are adequately rewarded for their contributions to society. Securing exclusive rights to new technology is my passion.

**Guy A. Rasco**

FIRM: Fine, Rasco & Martinez, LLP
2333 Ponce de Leon Blvd.,
Suite 303
Coral Gables, FL 33134

PHONE: (305) 424-2400**FAX:** (305) 424-2401**AREA OF PRACTICE:** Commercial Litigation and Asset Forfeiture

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: I litigate because I enjoy advocating on behalf of clients. Each case and client is unique. Law can be a challenging and stimulating career. It is a great way to make a living.

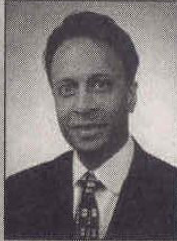
**Luis Salazar**

FIRM: Greenberg Traurig
1221 Brickell Avenue
Miami, FL 33131

PHONE: (305) 579-0751**AREA OF PRACTICE:** Corporate Reorganization, Bankruptcy

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: The practice of law is a wonderful profession. Where else can you work with extremely smart, well-educated people, on an endless variety of challenging problems, and help people during a time of crises and concern in their lives.

CHARLES
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1323 SE 4th Ave • Fort Lauderdale

954-527-0035

www.fortlauderdaledefenselawyers.com

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on being selected

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Tannebaum, Planas & Weiss, LLP

Attorneys at Law

550 Brickell Avenue, Penthouse 2
Miami, Florida 33131 • (305) 374-7850
info@tpwlawfirm.com

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Lisa A.
Schneider

FIRM: Gunster, Yoakley &
Stewart, P.A.
777 S. Flagler Drive
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

PHONE: (561) 650-0688

FAX: (561) 655-5677

AREA OF PRACTICE: Estate Planning and
Administration

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: I practice law because I have always enjoyed being a problem solver. As a counselor to Gunster Yoakley clients, I am given the opportunity to address issues which impact our client's personal and financial peace of mind by offering solutions which facilitate generational harmony and the preservation of family wealth.



Hy Shapiro

FIRM: Hogan, Greer
& Shapiro
2400 South Dixie
Highway, Suite 200
Miami, FL 33133

PHONE: (305) 854-8989

AREA OF PRACTICE: Criminal Law



Arnold D.
Shevin

FIRM: Berger Singerman, PA
200 South Biscayne Boulevard,
Suite 1000
Miami, FL 33131

PHONE: (305) 755-9500

FAX: (305) 714-4340

AREA OF PRACTICE: Real Property, Health Care
and Business Transactions

WHY I PRACTICE LAW: For the challenge! The practice of law has changed greatly over the years. Business consolidations, technology and ever changing demands of businesses have all contributed. That forces us to learn new practice techniques and be constantly flexible. The challenge of doing so keeps me young and excited about my profession.

LISTINGS BY PRACTICE AREA

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Guy A. Rasco, Fine Rasco & Martinez, LLP

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David Oscar Markus, Hirsch & Markus, LLP

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Mitchell A. Bierman, Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza & Guedes, P.A.

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Arnold D. Shevin, Berger Singerman, P.A.

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John Rizvi, Gold & Rizvi, P.A. - The Idea Attorneys

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Alejandro M. Garcia, Toral & Associates

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Timothy C. Nies, Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, P.A.

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Timothy C. Nies, Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, P.A.

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