

Verdicts, Settlements & Transactions

President Gerald Richman, Shareholder Gary Betensky, and Managing Shareholder Manuel A. Garcia-Linares successfully argued that the Broward Sheriff's Office's blanket policy of strip-searching of all individuals arrested for traffic, regulatory and misdemeanor offenses, was illegal, resulting in an \$11.5 million class action settlement for 4,000 people. Settlement negotiations were difficult and complicated and took more than a year because of the process of trying to determine and identify the class members, how large the class was and how much each class member should receive. The settlement included \$1,000 in compensation for each class member.

Shareholder Mark A. Romance and Associate Ethan J. Wall successfully defended 3M Corporation ("3M") against claims of cybersquatting and unfair competition brought by Southern Grouts & Mortars ("SGM") involving an inactive domain name 3M acquired over seven years ago. In a 36-page decision, Judge Marcia G. Cooke of the United States District Court ruled that SGM's claims for cybersquatting and unfair competition were untimely and thus barred. The Court also ruled that SGM's claim of unfair competition failed because SGM offered no proof that 3M used the domain in commerce as required by the Lanham Act or that any purported use was likely to cause consumer confusion. The Court also held that SGM's cybersquatting claim failed because SGM failed to prove that 3M used or registered the domain name with a bad faith intent to profit.

Firm Happenings

Five Richman Greer shareholders were named "Most Effective Lawyers 2008" by the Daily Business Review in two different award categories for achieving significant victories for their clients. In the Regulatory litigation category, Shareholders Alan Greer and Mark Romance, along with Associate Eric Sodhi, were honored for their successful defense of prominent banking attorney Carlos Loumiet. The team obtained a dismissal after trial of all civil charges brought against Mr. Loumiet by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

In the Class Action category, Gerald Richman, Gary Betensky, and Manuel A. Garcia-Linares were recognized for the successful settlement mentioned above against the Broward Sheriff's Office. Richman Greer was also profiled as a 'Top Litigation Shop' in south Florida by the Daily Business Review for this successful class action matter.

Gerald Richman, Alan Greer and John 'Jay' White, III have been named to Florida Trend magazine's annual Florida Legal Elite list for 2008. The list recognizes the top 1.8 percent of Florida's 56,000 lawyers.

In the Community

President Gerald Richman was appointed by Florida Governor Charlie Crist to serve a four year term on Florida's Fourth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission. The Commission is comprised of nine members who identify and nominate individuals to fill open judicial positions on the Fourth District Court of Appeal.

Attorneys Gary Betensky, Leora Freire, Josh Spont, Adam Myron and firm paralegal Jennifer Woodham joined a national volunteer effort to help Holocaust survivors in south Florida seek financial reparations from the German Government. The Ghetto Work Fund was established by the German Government to pay survivors \$3,000 each for their work in German Ghettos during World War II. Richman Greer attorneys volunteered on September 22 at Temple Anshi Shalom in Delray Beach to help survivors fill out the complex applications and explain the review process.

The late Robert L. Floyd, a founding Shareholder of Richman Greer, was named a South Florida 'Legal Legend' by the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Historical Society. Floyd, who passed away in May 2007, was selected posthumously for his exemplary achievements in legal professional responsibilities, contributions to the practice of law, honors and awards, pro bono work, and community contributions.

In the Community

Shareholder John 'Jay' G. White III has been appointed by Florida Supreme Court Justice Fred Lewis to the Florida Board of Bar Examiners Character and Fitness Commission.

Attorneys Steven Naclerio and Eric Sodhi co-authored a byliner on corporate governance which was published in the Daily Business Review on November 17. The name of the article was 'LLCs Can Provide Investors Opportunities in Smaller Entities'.

Associate Ethan J. Wall was named to the Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center Alumni Association Board of Directors. Associates Josh Spoot and Ethan Wall recently co-presented at the Student Bar Initiative's 'Secrets to Passing the Bar Exam' seminar at Nova Southeastern University.



Artist: Humberto Calzada

Firm Profile

Creating Solutions to Solve Complex Legal Matters

With offices in Miami and West Palm Beach, Richman Greer, P.A. offers a wide range of legal services focusing on commercial and contract disputes, real estate transactions and litigation, family law, estates, trusts and probate, class actions and other commercial transactions. With 20 attorneys in its two offices in South Florida, the firm is extremely proud of its high number of Board-certified and AV-rated attorneys. These attorneys have met stringent criteria for the legal experience required for acceptance and have been favorably judged by colleagues and peers alike in their field. Richman Greer, P.A. is a member of Meritas, one of the world's largest and most respected legal resources - an integrated, non-profit alliance of more than 5,700 experienced lawyers in 170 independent commercial law firms located in over 60 countries. As a charter Meritas affiliate, Richman Greer has immediate global access to information, resources and representation from member firms in all principal business centers worldwide. In effect, Meritas membership enables Richman Greer to operate as an international law firm without a costly overhead and management structure. Through Meritas, we have the ability to handle or refer matters throughout the world.



MIAMI OFFICE
Miami Center, Suite 1000
201 South Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33131
Tel 305.373.4000 • Fax 305.373.4099

WEST PALM BEACH OFFICE
One Clearlake Centre, Suite 1504
250 Australian Avenue, South
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
Tel 561.803.3500 • Fax 561.820.1608