

# Class Actions

**March, 2016**



## **Four Judges Robed at Broward County Courthouse are NSU Law Alumni**

On February 22, 2016, at the Broward County Courthouse, four of the newest Judges of the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court were robed. All four judges are NSU Law alumni: The Honorable Ernest Albert Kollra (1978), and The Honorable Alberto Ribas, Jr., (1995) are Circuit Judges, and The Honorable Stephen J. Zaccor (1998) and The Honorable Nina DiPietro (2006) are County Judges.

**1979**

**Mitchell A. Chester**, of the Law Offices of [Mitchell A. Chester, PA](#) in Plantation, FL was quoted in an article entitled, "[That Sinking Feeling](#)" in The American Prospect (Winter 2016), an article about sea level rise in South Florida and the effects it could have on the economy, development, real estate, insurance, and livability for the millions of Floridians who live in the region.



**Rafael E. Suarez-Rivas**, Senior Assistant City Attorney for Miami, FL spoke on the “Basics of Municipal Contracts” to the office of the Miami City Attorney. Suarez-Rivas is Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law.

## 1983

**Ginger Lerner-Wren**, a judge in the county court criminal division, in the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit for Broward has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. The National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention was launched on World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2010, to advance the national strategy for suicide prevention.

## 1991

**J. Paul Carland, II** has been [named general counsel at Seminole State College of Florida](#) and will lead the College’s Office of Legal Affairs. Carland served as general counsel for the school boards of Broward and Hernando counties. He also was a staff attorney for the Lee County School Board and served on the Florida School Board Attorney Association (FSBAA) Board of Directors.

## 1994

**Marc Stollman** of [Stollman Law](#) in, Boca Raton, FL was a moderator for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual NSU Shepard Broad College of Law Sports and Entertainment Law Society Symposium in February 2016. Stollman is also on the April 2016 ABA-ESLS Miami International Entertainment Law Symposium planning committee and moderator for the Music Touring and Music Festivals panel.

## 1996

**Ariana Fajardo Orshan**, Circuit Judge in the 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (Miami-Dade, FL) will speak with a panel of judges from Miami about *Successfully Navigating the Judicial Nominating Commission*, on April 27, 2016. This CLE will be presented at the “Passing of the Gavel Appointments and JNC” event held at the Rusty Pelican in Key Biscayne, FL Register here: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=163296&>

## 1997

**John M. Stewart** and his partners created the regional firm of [Rossway Swan Tierney Barry Lacey & Oliver, P.L.](#) The firm has offices in Coral Gables, Melbourne, and Vero Beach and provides services to meet the needs of individuals, large and small businesses, associations, government agencies, health-care providers, and professional service firms.



## 1999

**Francesca Di Staulo Russo** has been named partner with [Espinosa Trueba Martinez PL](#) in Miami, FL. Russo focuses on commercial litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

## 2001

**Alan Seagrave** joined [Butzel Long](#) as a shareholder in the firm's Washington, DC office. He is Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Immigration and Nationality Law. His practice deals with all areas of immigration, with a strong focus on business visas. His principal clients include individuals, entrepreneurs, and both established and start-up companies in the biotech, communications, hospitality, and entertainment industries. He is fluent in Spanish.

**Nicole R. Topper** has become a partner with [Blank Rome LLP](#) in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. [Topper](#) concentrates on commercial litigation and consumer finance.

## 2003

**Adjunct Professor Courtney Bannan** was featured in South Florida Sun Times in an article titled, "[Lawyering with a Personal Touch](#)." In the article, Bannan speaks about the importance of learning the business of lawyering, a concept she teaches her 2L and 3L students in her Law Office Management course.

## 2004

**David Di Pietro** of [David Di Pietro & Associates, PA](#) in Fort Lauderdale, FL will be a panelist during the April 2016 ABA-ESLS Miami International Entertainment Law Symposium. Di Pietro is participating in the Presidential Campaigns, Politics, Presidential Leadership and Television: An American Odyssey.

## 2005

**Emily Patricia Graham** with The Law Offices of Emily Patricia Graham in Clearwater, FL will be a panelist during the April 2016 ABA-ESLS Miami International Entertainment Law Symposium. Graham is participating in the Presidential Campaigns, Politics, Presidential Leadership and Television: An American Odyssey. Graham was awarded the Florida Bar's Entertainment, Arts, & Sports Law Section Outstanding Contribution as the 2014-2015 Chair.

**Katherine Joffe** has been elected partner with [Holland & Knight](#). [Joffe](#) is a member of the litigation section in the Fort Lauderdale, FL office and focuses on focuses her practice on commercial litigation and appeals.

## 2006

**Jason B. Blank** of Haber Blank in Ft. Lauderdale. [Blank](#) was appointed as the judiciary chairman for Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, where he serves in an advisory role to the International Board of Directors (Grand Council).



**Brian J. DeSesa** joined the [Adam Miller Group, P.C.](#) in Bridgehampton, NY. DeSesa focuses on land use, zoning, and criminal law.

**Jennifer Diaz** has opened Diaz Trade Law, P.A., <http://diaztradelaw.com/> in North Miami specializing in customs and international trade services. Diaz is board certified in international law.

## 2007

**Morgan B. Edelboim** has been named partner with [Bast Amron](#) in Miami, FL. [Edelboim](#) focuses on bankruptcy, creditors' rights, and commercial litigation.

**Eric Rosen** has become a partner of [Kelley/Uustal](#) in Ft. Lauderdale, focusing on personal injury. He was also named to the board of directors of the Broward County Justice Association. Rosen will also serve as executive board secretary.

## 2008

**Kristin Bianculli** has become a partner of Kelley/Uustal in Ft. Lauderdale focusing on personal injury. [Bianculli](#) was also named to the board of directors of the Broward County Justice Association.

**Robert Sheres**, partner at [DuBosar Sheres, PA](#) in Boca Raton, FL was featured in a [Sun Sentinel news article](#) about donations of relics his family is making to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

## 2009

**Nicolette A. Kramer** has opened Nicolette A. Kramer, Attorney at Law, in Orlando, FL. She practices in the areas of bankruptcy, real estate, probate, estate planning and family law.

## 2010

**Jamie K. Lint** has joined [Kelley Kronenberg](#) in Miami focusing on property and casualty claims, including first-party insurance defense

**Gabriel Itskovich** joined [Sachs Sax Caplan](#) in Boca Raton, FL. Itskovich practices in the real estate, corporate, land use, and financial services department.

**Jamaal R. Jones**, founding partner of Jones Health Law, P.A., published an article in Healthcare Business Today titled, "[Medical Drones Take Healthcare to New Heights.](#)"



## 2013

**Gretel Echarte Morales** has joined Mayer Brown LLP in Washington, DC as a lateral associate. Morales was hired in an effort to improve the firm's U.S. client's relations with Cuba.

**Yuna E. Scott** is an attorney with [YES Law Group PA](#) in Cooper City, FL. Scott focuses on immigration law. Scott is the secretary for the Brazilian American International Lawyers Association.

**Michelle K. Suarez** of [Kelly Kronenberg, P.A.](#) in Plantation, FL was selected as a Business Law Section Fellow for the Class of 2016 – 2017.

## 2014

**Carl Domino** has been appointed as a designated director on the board of The Florida Bar Foundation, a statewide charitable organization whose mission is to provide greater access to justice. A veteran of the United States Navy for 20 years, including a tour in Vietnam, Domino earned his BS from FSU and MBA at Harvard University. He is a nationally recognized money manager. Domino served in the Florida House of Representatives from 2002 to 2010 and has served on numerous charitable and non-profit boards. Domino will serve the remainder of a three-year term ending June 30, 2017, in a seat vacated by Erin H. Christy of Sarasota.

## 2015

**Renata Castro Alves** has been appointed to the Diversity Advisory Council of Broward County. Alves is the founder of [Brazilian American International Lawyers Association](#).

**Toni Pollard** of Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc. successfully secured vital healthcare services to a young child with genetic and developmental disabilities. Pollard continues to work with the [Children's Healthcare Advocacy Project \(CHAP\)](#) to co-represent this child to ensure her healthcare needs are met. Pollard's project is sponsored by Greenberg Traurig, LLP, The Florida Bar Foundation, and The Florida Bar.

## In Memoriam

### 1982

**Donald E Hahamovitch**, passed away June 24, 2015 at the age of 79. He practiced law in South Florida and provided pro bono services to the community. | [Obituary](#)

