

# Bilzin Sumberg Update

January 2006

What's new with us...

## Bilzin Sumberg: The New Class

We are proud to announce our firm's incoming summer associate class for 2006! The following accepted offers with Bilzin Sumberg during the 2005 on-campus interviewing season. We look forward to another exciting summer program.

**Corinne Aftimos**, University of Miami School of Law

**Ashley Aronowitz**, University of Florida Levin College of Law

**Shawn Heller**, Georgetown Law Center

**Alex Hunt**, University of Virginia School of Law

**Julia Kim**, University of Florida Levin College of Law

**Chris Paniewski**, George Washington University Law School

**Wendy Van Dijk**, University of Florida Levin College of Law

## Attorneys, Staff Celebrate at Firm Potluck and End of Year Party

On December 13th, Bilzin Sumberg employees gathered together to enjoy the firm's annual holiday feast - the Firm Potluck. Dozens of attorneys and staff members brought in their best appetizers, entrees, sides and desserts for all to enjoy. The party continued on December 15th at the annual End of the Year Party, held at the Conrad Hotel.



End of Year Party



Firm Potluck



Firm Potluck



End of Year Party

## Bilzin Sumberg January Birthdays

Sheila Bhandari

Richard Goldstein

John Kuhn

Matt Rosenkoff

Chuck Shields

## Firm Names Two New Partners

Congratulations to **Jay Sakalo** and **Monalee Zarapkar**, who have been elected partners effective January 1st!



Jay is a member of the Restructuring & Bankruptcy Group. He received his B.S.B.A. from the University of Florida and holds a J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.



Monalee is a member of the Corporate & Securities Group. She holds a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School.

## Four Bilzin Sumberg Attorneys Named in "South Florida's Most Effective Lawyers"

Congratulations to our attorneys for being recognized as South Florida's Most Effective Lawyers!

**Alan D. Axelrod**, Mergers & Acquisitions

**Albert E. Dotson, Jr.**, Real Estate/Construction

**Steven D. Lear**, Real Estate/Construction

**Alvin D. Lodish**, Real Estate/Construction

Alan was recognized for his M&A work in the sale of LNR Property to Cerberus. Al and Alvin were selected for their work in the Southcom case, and Steve was recognized for handling the Lennar/Roseland Partners transactions. The attorneys were honored at an awards luncheon and were featured in the December 9th issue of the *Daily Business Review*.

## Our Basketball Team Does it Again

The Bilzin Sumberg basketball team completed back-to-back undefeated seasons and won their second consecutive Willy Guardiola Basketball League Championship by defeating No Conscience in the championship game.

Congratulations go out once again to **Adrian Delancy**, **Adam Lustig**, **TerRance Woodard** and **Matt Kaplan** (former associate and friend of Bilzin Sumberg), along with the other members of the team. The team has won 22 straight games and is within three victories of tying the 35-year old league record of 25 consecutive victories. Team Captain Adam Lustig was awarded Player/Captain of the year and the Team was awarded MVP for Total Team Effort!

## This Month's DealMakers

- **Alan Axelrod** led a team of ten attorneys from various practice groups in completing the acquisition of current assets, existing projects and contracted projects of Admiral Homes by Lennar Homes, Inc.
- **Bob Siegel** and **Antonio Martinez** represented BAC Florida Bank (BAC) in the sale of a portfolio of over \$120 million of residential mortgage loans originated by BAC. This transaction was the largest portfolio sale in BAC's history.
- **Mitch Widom** and **Al Dotson** successfully argued before a Special Master that our clients were improperly denied licenses to sell NFL and MLB memorabilia in the City of Miami Gardens at Pro Player Stadium.
- Despite the Miami-Dade County Commission denying several other applications, the Commission voted to transmit four of our client's applications to the State of Florida Department of Community Affairs, allowing them to proceed through the master plan process. **Brian Adler, Al Dotson, Bill Riley, Alex Deas** and **Tom Gould** were involved in either the preparation or presentation of the applications.
- **Alvin Lodish** and **Adam Haimo** had a big victory for Lennar by defeating a Temporary Injunction before Judge Bagley that would have required Lennar to stop development on part of their Diaz Farm project in South Dade.

## In the News

- A clip of **Stan Price's** recent Miami Dade County Commission hearing aired on NPR (WLRN 91.3).
- **Stan Price** and **Carter McDowell** were featured in a *Miami Herald* article for being honored at the recent Builders Association of South Florida Awards Gala.
- **John Sumberg** was featured in a *Miami Herald* article on the positive effect the booming Miami real estate market has had on local law firm growth.
- **Jim Shindell** was featured in *The Miami Herald* and *The Daily Business Review* for being named chair of the firm's Real Estate Group.
- **Arnie Brown** was featured on the front page of the *Daily Business Review* for his representation of Berkowitz Development Group.

For more information on current firm news and events, visit our web site at [www.bilzin.com](http://www.bilzin.com). If you are interested in attending any upcoming events or would like to request copies of news articles, please contact Jessica Buchsbaum at 305.375.6151 or [jbuchsbaum@bilzin.com](mailto:jbuchsbaum@bilzin.com).

BILZIN SUMBERG BAENA PRICE & AXELROD LLP

## Our New Partners Share Their New Year's Resolutions for 2006

*"To learn to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."* - Jay Sakalo

*"To strive to be the type of partner that I would enjoy working for."* - Monalee Zarakar



## Upcoming Events

- **Ed Kalish** and **Carey Stiss** will hold an in-house training seminar on basic title insurance on Thursday, January 19th.
- On Tuesday, January 24th, the firm will participate in a telephonic CLE seminar presented by the ABA. Panelists will cover binding and non-binding majority voting proposals, the new SEC proposal for internet proxy material dissemination and voting, the role of activist investors and hedge funds and focal points for withhold vote campaigns.
- The Real Estate Group will be hosting a happy hour on Thursday, January 26th in the center large conference room at 6 pm.
- Susan McCloskey, our legal writing consultant, will be conducting a legal writing "boot camp" for attorneys on Saturday, January 28th. Topics to be covered include "Writers, Readers, and Transactions: A Workshop for Drafters," "Writing Well in Record Time: Managing the Writing Process for Professional Results," "Something's Wrong Here, But I Don't Know What It Is: A Grammar Review for Lawyers" and "Writing with Style: How to Write Clearly, Concisely, and Memorably."