

7 Cases to Watch in 2020

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A new year, a new assortment of closely-watched cases on the dockets. Here's a look at 7 cases (and one whiff of litigation) that South Florida attorneys have on their 2020 radar.



4. Commercial litigator Tal J. Lifshitz of Kozyak, Tropin & Throckmorton in Miami is watching a case before the Florida Supreme Court that will determine a party's ability to depose high-ranking officials at organizations in high-stakes discovery battles. Lifshitz sees it as an opportunity for the high court to provide much-needed guidance on broader application of the apex doctrine, a protective court order aimed at curbing discovery abuse by preventing the depositions of high-level employees. "Florida appellate courts have only clearly applied the apex doctrine to governmental agencies, not corporations, which can be problematic when a party seeks high-level corporate depositions to abuse, harass and create settlement pressure, instead of to seek out the truth," Lifshitz said. The case is *Suzuki Motor Corp. v. Scott Winckler*.