

DBR Announces 2020 Professional Excellence Award Honorees

Postponed by the coronavirus, the Daily Business Review announces its annual Professional Excellence Award honorees and plans a recognition event on Oct. 7.

By **Catherine Wilson** | May 04, 2020 at 01:20 PM

Three veteran Florida litigators are finalists for the Daily Business Review's annual Attorney of the Year award for their work in vastly different areas.

Miami-Dade Public Defender Carlos Martinez coordinated a review of thousands of court files for clients convicted in Biscayne Park cases. The forensic mission was undertaken after the police chief and several subordinates were convicted of framing people to close unsolved cases for four years.

Sigrid McCawley of Boies Schiller Flexner took on the task of representing women who were abused by Jeffrey Epstein as children but were dismissed for years simply as unbelievable.

John Yanchunis of Morgan & Morgan has taken a place on the national class-action stage, notably in data breach cases, after helping engineer an \$85 million settlement with Yahoo.

The top award winner will be announced at the [DBR's annual Professional Excellence Awards event](#) set for Oct. 7 at the Rusty Pelican in Miami. More than 70 honorees will be recognized for their work in litigation and transactions and as in-house counsel. New categories recognize attorneys for mentoring and social impact.

Normally a spring gathering, the event was postponed due to the public-distancing restrictions ordered in response to the coronavirus epidemic.

While we navigate these uncertain times, we want to focus attention on the positive work of Florida's legal community. It's easy to lose sight of the hard work accomplished by the state's legal professionals in 2019, and we want to shine a light on those achievements.

The events team is working hard to ensure the safety of our guests, and more information about the measures we are implementing will be communicated shortly.

Here are the honorees:

On the Rise

Todd Baker, Steinger Greene & Feiner

[Steven Blickensderfer](#), Carlton Fields

Erin Bohannon, Kluger Kaplan

Kristen Corpion, CORPLaw

Andrea DeField, Hunton Andrews Kurth

Isabel Diaz, Holland & Knight

Blake Dolman, Krupnick Campbell

[Kristin Drecktrah Paz](#), Shutts & Bowen

Patricia M. Flanagan, Fox Rothschild

Alicia Holden, Wargo French

Alen Hsu, Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman

Adam Kemper, Greenspoon Marder

Erin Kolmansberger, Nelson Mullins

Javier Lopez, Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton

Lori Lustrin, Bilzin Sumberg

Michal Meiler, Ver Ploeg & Marino

Veronica Meza, GrayRobinson

Rachel Nanes, DLA Piper

Bryan Paschal, Rivero Mestre

Pravin Patel, Weil Gotshal & Manges

Lara Rios, Holland & Knight

Kyle Teal, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney

Jonathan Weiss, Squire Patton Boggs

Julia Wyda, Brinkley Morgan

Reggie Zachariah, Greenberg Traurig