

# **NEWS**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**From:** *Peckar & Abramson, P.C.*

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### **Chambers USA Honors Peckar & Abramson, P.C. with 2007 Award for Excellence**

#### ***Eight Partners Recognized as Leaders in field as firm is ranked #1 Construction Law Firm in New York & Florida and #2 in DC***

**New York, NY**, June 18, 2007- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* bestowed their highest honor, the prestigious, *Chambers Award for Excellence 2007*, on renowned construction law firm, Peckar & Abramson, P.C. Peckar & Abramson is widely recognized as one of the nation's leading construction law firms, handling clients' needs throughout the United States and the world. P&A represents many of the construction industry's most successful contractors and other construction professionals, as well as serving as counsel to many industry organizations.

Seven of the firm's partners were ranked among the top four in the construction law practice area, one in the environmental law area, and two were touted as *Up and Coming*, in the 2007 edition of the prestigious peer-reviewed survey. It is four years running that P & A has been named the top construction firm in New York, the third consecutive year that they held the top spot in Florida, as well as the third time the D.C. office was ranked #2.

In an unprecedented show of firm's excellence in the field of construction law in New York State, partners, lead by founding partner Robert S. Peckar, laid claim to the top four rankings. Mr. Peckar ranked #1, Steven Charney #2, Richard Abramson #3, and Howard M. Rosen #4. In Florida, Stephen H. Reisman ranked #1 and Melinda S. Gentile #3 in Construction, and Matthew P. Coglianesi ranked #2 in environmental law. In the District of Columbia, Adrian Bastianelli was ranked #1 in construction law. Two of the firm's rising stars are Neal Sklar in Florida and Michael A. Branca in the District of Columbia, both acknowledged as "Up and Coming." The Awards for Excellence are given to outstanding individuals following the recommendations of clients and an analysis of their work over the past year.

"The announcement that our partners are held in such high esteem by both our peers and those whom we serve is a true testament to the caliber of attorney Peckar & Abramson attracts," said Peckar. "While the accolades are rewarding, it is the dedication to service that drives us."

According to the description of P&A on Chambers' Web site, "This national construction outfit plays a dominant role on many New York metropolitan area projects. Sources rate the *'terrific'* team for *'more or less cornering the large construction manager and contractor market,'* while also building up its owner and developer client base. Highlights include litigation and advice

concerning disasters and emergencies, and transactional work on several giant sports and transportation projects. The outfit garners praise for its *'out-of-the-box thinking,'* and its capabilities in important ancillary areas, including labor relations. Peers concede that *'there is no doubt about it - this firm belongs in the first tier,'* while clients pay tribute to the *'very thorough and well-prepared lawyers.'*"

"Attorneys are judged by the merits outlined by the thousands of clients and experts we interview and it is this client nomination process that brings such a high level of validity to the Chambers USA guide and the awards," said Fiona Boxall, managing editor, Chambers and Partners.

The qualities on which Chambers USA's rankings are assessed include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

### **About Peckar & Abramson (P&A)**

With offices around the country and affiliations with other law firms around the world, Peckar & Abramson offers a full range of legal services to its domestic and international construction industry clientele from basic construction law counsel to environmental, corporate and real estate, government contracting, labor and employment law and corporate compliance. Since its formation in 1978, Peckar & Abramson has been helping clients find solutions to complex project problems, settle disputes, and when necessary, win legal battles. P&A specializes in finding solutions for its clients on complicated issues, while often helping them to avoid costly and time-consuming litigation. It is also active in industry groups and serves as general counsel for the New York Building Trade Employers' Association, the Building Contractors Association of New Jersey, and the Construction Financial Management Association.

The U.K. - based international publisher Chambers and Partners based its report on in-depth interviews with 7,000 leading private practice attorneys and key in-house counsel. A team of 40 full-time researchers conducted the survey over an eight-month period, with law firms and attorney's chosen strictly on merit alone.

### **About P&A's Ranked Attorneys**

#### **New York:**

**Robert S. Peckar** is the founding partner of Peckar & Abramson as well as a recognized leader among the national construction bar. While he has obtained very substantial recoveries in litigation and arbitration, he has gained widespread recognition for his ability to formulate creative solutions to complex construction problems and is a leading advocate in the use of ADR, serving as an arbitrator in complex international arbitrations.

**Richard L. Abramson** has enjoyed a distinguished career with substantial success in highly complex litigations and arbitrations, particularly in the area of major construction industry disputes. He has also resolved several complex multiparty disputes through negotiation, mediation and other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms

**Steven M. Charney** is the managing partner of Peckar & Abramson's New York office. Mr. Charney's practice includes ongoing representation of contractors that are among the top ten as reported by Engineering News Record.

**Howard M. Rosen** is a partner and possesses more than 28 years of construction law experience. He represents construction companies and developers in private project transactions and disputes.

**Florida:**

**Stephen Reisman** is the managing partner of Peckar & Abramson's Florida offices. Mr. Reisman's construction law practice also includes project administration assistance for the early identification and resolution of potential conflicts and disputes.

**Matthew Coglianesi** practices in the areas of litigation and environmental law, emphasizing CERCLA, RCRA, mold and indoor air quality issues, brownfields redevelopment, and state and local environmental matters.

**Melinda S. Gentile** has developed a particular expertise in all aspects of construction law and construction dispute resolution and has demonstrated success in preparing and handling construction matters ranging from bid protests to contract disputes.

**Neal Sklar's** primary area of practice is construction law which includes the representation of general contractors, subcontractors, property owners, material suppliers and design professionals in a variety of construction related matters.

**District of Columbia:**

**Adrian Bastianelli** has devoted his practice to construction claims and litigation for over thirty-five years, with special emphasis on government construction contract claims. While he represents primarily general contractors, he has represented all aspects of the construction industry.

**Michael A. Branca** specializes in construction and government contract law. His construction law practice includes the representation of public and private owners, general contractors, construction managers, subcontractors, design professionals and sureties

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