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DAILY BUSINESS REVIEW

2015

# RISING STARS

AN **ALM** RECOGNITION EVENT

## 40 UNDER 40



OFFICIAL COURT NEWSPAPER

OF SOUTH FLORIDA



## FROM THE EDITOR

The Daily Business Review is proud to announce our third class of Rising Stars—a selection of young South Florida lawyers who are making a difference in the community and will continue to do so in the future.

The people we chose came from a pool of dozens of lawyers nominated by colleagues, co-counsel, mentors and friends. Our judges faced the difficult task of selecting just 40. It wasn't easy. Those not chosen remain on our radar screen for future developments as their careers progress.

Our honorees have made significant impacts on behalf of their clients. Some are likely candidates to one day serve the judicial system as judges and justices. Some already have big verdicts under their belts. Others are dealmakers who never blinked at the obstacles and tight deadlines as they assembled complex multimillion-dollar transactions.

All told, the candidates were selected not only for what they've achieved thus far, but for what we believe they're likely to accomplish for the legal profession and for their respective communities in the future. Just as impressive is all the volunteer work the honorees are performing—whether it's starting a nonprofit, serving on boards or helping young people. Their devotion to community is impressive.

We greatly appreciate and are grateful for the time and thought devoted to this program by many readers who thought highly enough of the candidates to take the time to submit nominations.

As is always the case with all of our recognition programs, we'd appreciate your feedback about our selections—and please, keep those nominations coming.

**George Haj**  
Regional editor-in-chief  
Florida Georgia Texas

## 2015 RISING STARS: LEVERAGING THEIR UPBRINGING

by **Noreen Marcus**  
Special to the Review

Considering their accomplishments, it's hard to believe these lawyers are only in their 30s.

The 22 women and 18 men selected as Daily Business Review Rising Stars are mostly civil practitioners and law firm partners who've worked at more than one address since law school. They generally hold leadership or mentoring positions within their firms; if they're government lawyers, they shoulder supervisory duties.

A few are Millennials. Leigh-Ann Buchanan, at 29 the youngest, is a fourth-year litigation associate with Berger Singerman. She already co-chairs the American Bar Association's National Task Force on Stand Your Ground laws.

Reflecting South Florida's position as an international commercial hub, several high-achievers have leveraged their foreign backgrounds. Born in Mumbai, Neha Dagley started an India practice group at Salazar Jackson. Brazilian native Daniela Fonseca, a Shutts & Bowen partner, helps keep her firm popular with her community. Jose Talavera, a licensed United Kingdom solicitor, fields multi-jurisdictional issues at Lipscomb, Eisenberg & Baker.



**Richard Ian Segal**  
Kluger Kaplan

Richard Ian Segal cemented his reputation as a hard-nosed

litigator by being part of the Kluger Kaplan team taking on Donald Trump. Segal, along with partners Alan Kluger and Philippe Lieberman, represent Pritikin Longevity Center, a tenant of the Trump National Doral Miami that is suing the billionaire Republican presidential frontrunner in Miami-Dade Circuit Court. In a lawsuit filed in June, Pritikin—a health spa located in the Doral golf resort—sued Trump National for breaching its lease agreement by failing to, among other things, replace the aging refrigeration system inside the center's kitchen.

The lawsuit was filed on the heels of another complaint that ended in Pritikin's favor. In March, a circuit judge ordered Trump's company to lower the rates of the

hotel rooms Pritikin is contracted to rent, plus a 15 percent discount. The spa had accused Trump of raising the rates by 500 percent.

Segal—the youngest partner at Kluger Kaplan—joined the firm in 2009 and has generated over \$1.5 million in business since 2012. He is part of Kluger Kaplan's commercial litigation and family law groups and has extensive experience handling disputes with large financial institutions in real estate, wealth advisory, investment management, and trust relationships and transactions. Segal specializes in fiduciary duty disputes and punitive damages claims.

A Miami Beach native, Segal is active in city politics and civic affairs, serving on the Miami Beach Board of Adjustment, the executive board of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce and the membership board of the Mount Sinai Medical Center Foundation, which helps raise funds for the hospital.

## RICHARD IAN SEGAL KLUGER KAPLAN