

BANKING/ FINANCE

Nelson Mullins Launches Compliance, Regulatory Consulting Division

by Bruce Love

An Am Law 100 firm Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough has launched a compliance and regulatory consulting division aimed at giving financial services clients bespoke compliance solutions that will be overseen by the firm's attorneys.

The new business's leadership includes Nelson Mullins counsel Anastasia Stull as executive director; Brad Rustin, partner and chair of Nelson Mullins' financial services regulatory practice; and partners J. Brennan Ryan and Craig Nazzaro.

The new consultancy, branded as Assureg, aims to ensure regulated entities "understand risk and meet regulatory demands" critical to developing "sustainable strategies" by offering advice that "strengthens operational resilience," according to a firm statement.

Nelson Mullins said the new service complements the firm's traditional legal service offering and provides C-suite ex-

ecutives, general counsel, senior management and compliance professionals with "attorney-driven compliance and regulatory" advisory services.

In practice, the "attorney-driven consulting services" will include regulatory compliance, business planning and risk assessments, enterprise risk management, regulatory examinations, supervision and enforcement response, fair and responsible banking, licensing, vendor management, complaint management, transactional projects, and M&A due diligence, among others.

Its advisors are based in Washington, D.C., with additional offices in Atlanta, Denver, and Nashville, Tennessee, according to a statement from the firm.

"Now, more than ever, market conditions require business leaders and owners of compliance to develop and maintain robust, dependable compliance regimes in order to be successful," Stull said in a statement.

Bruce Love writes about the legal community and the business of law. Contact him at blove@alm.com. On Twitter: @loveonlaw.

Midsize Law Firm Consolidation Heats Up

by Andrew Maloney

Midsize merger momentum has continued into the second business week of 2022, with midsize firms announcing combinations and large group moves in Dallas, Denver and Chicago.

Midsize law firms outside the Am Law 200 appear ambitious after especially good financial years in 2021, according to multiple analyses. For instance, the 2022 State of the Legal Market report, from Thomson Reuters and the Georgetown University Law Center on Ethics and the Legal Profession, tallied 22.4% average growth in profits per equity partner among its sample of midsize firms last year.

The merger mania this week includes two Chicago firms. Boutique firms Robbins, Salomon & Patt Ltd. and DiMonte & Lizak have announced they're joining forces to create Robbins DiMonte, with firm leaders citing complementary practices and a shared desire to stay local. The combined firm has 60 lawyers and 40 paralegals and staff.

"Neither firm was interested in becoming the Chicago office of a big, out-of-town firm," said firm CEO Andrew Sachs in an interview. "So we wanted to keep the culture, keep the integrity of our operation, so we could continue to drive our own train."

Sachs noted that the Robbins firm brought strength in transactions, for example, and DiMonte lawyers bring additional talent in litigation, labor and employment. The combination will also create additional bench strength in trusts and estates, he said.

He said the firm's clientele have work in the corporate, real estate, finance and business sectors, to name a few, and that the combination will help them satisfy all those different types of needs under one roof.

The firm is interested in growing more, Sachs said, and would gladly speak to other, similarly situated firms,

but lawyers there want to remain a Chicago market firm for now.

"We don't know what the future is going to hold," Sachs said. "We had tremendous interest from firms around the country, and we appreciated that. But we felt our strength was as a Chicago law firm, and we wanted to keep that. So, I feel like anyone we talk to, in the short or long-term, would probably be local as well."

In other consolidation news, Atlanta-based Hall Booth Smith said it was adding 17 attorneys and 18 staff members from Nixon Shefrin Ogburn Drew, a litigation defense firm out of Central Colorado. The firm is also eyeing a presence in Montana. Hall Booth now has about 330 lawyers firmwide, generating about \$110 million in gross revenue, said founding partner John Hall.

Smaller and midsize firms have been particularly active to start 2022. Among other deals announced so far this year is the acquisition by Kaufman Dolowich Voluck, a Long Island, New York-based litigation firm, of an eight-lawyer team from real estate boutique Greenberg, Whitcombe, Takeuchi & Gibson.

Los Angeles-based Michelman & Robinson, which focuses on litigation, regulatory and transactional work, expanded into Dallas by adding lawyers from litigation and IP boutique Yarbrough Blackstone.

Second Hundred firm Michael Best & Friedrich also added 23 lawyers and 13 professionals from Forrest Firm in a combination to expand the firm's presence in North Carolina, and Baltimore-based firm Offit Kurman combined with Dahan & Nowick, a firm in Westchester's White Plains, a satellite city 30 miles north of Manhattan, New York.

Andrew Maloney covers the business of law, focusing on national and global law firms for The American Lawyer, an ALM affiliate of the Daily Business Review. Contact him at amaloney@alm.com.



CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **Zoning Workshop** on **Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.** The Meeting will take place at the City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166.

The following application will be presented:

HEARING NO.: 22-01-DOR-16

APPLICANT: Akerman LLP, on behalf of Bridge Point Doral 2700, LLC (the "Applicant")

PROJECT NAME: Bridge Point Doral Distribution Center

PROPERTY OWNER: Doral Farms, LLC

LOCATION: Southwest corner of NW 107 Avenue and NW 41 Street Intersection

FOLIO NUMBER: 35-3030-000-0020

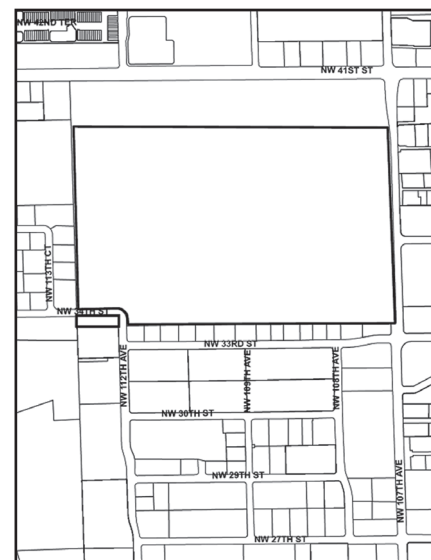
SIZE OF PROPERTY: ±150 acres for Restricted Industrial (West Portion) and Industrial (East Portion). The total property size, including the Northern portion of the property designated Office Residential and Business, is ±175 acres.

FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION: Restricted Industrial (West Portion) and Industrial (East Portion). The Northern portion of the property is designated Office Residential and Business.

ZONING DESIGNATION: General Use District (GU)

REQUEST: The Applicant is seeking to re-zone the portions of the Property that are designated Industrial and Restricted Industrial by the City's Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map to the corresponding zoning districts "Industrial" and "Industrial-Restrictive."

Location Map



ZONING WORKSHOP PROCESS: The zoning workshop consists of two sessions:

1. **First Session.** The first session of a zoning workshop shall provide a forum for members of the public to learn about proposed developments within the city. Developments may be presented to the public simultaneously, in several locations within the meeting site. During this session, members of the public are encouraged to ask questions and to provide feedback to the applicant about the proposed development. The applicant shall provide visual depictions, such as renderings, drawings, pictures, and the location of the proposed development. In addition, representatives of the applicant shall be available to answer questions that members of the public may have about the proposed development. The members of the City Council shall not be present during the first session of the zoning workshop.

2. **Second Session.** The second session of a zoning workshop shall provide a forum for the City Council to learn about the proposed developments discussed at the first session of the zoning workshop. No quorum requirement shall apply. Developments shall be presented by the applicants sequentially, one at a time, for the City Council's review and comment. The applicant shall again present visual depictions of the proposed development. In addition, the applicant shall be available to answer any questions that members of the City Council may have about the proposed development.

No quorum requirement shall apply nor will any vote on any project be taken, but roll call will be taken, as it is a publicly noticed meeting.

Information relating to this request is on file and may be examined in the City of Doral, Planning and Zoning Department located at **8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, FL 33166**. Maps and other data pertaining to these applications are available for public inspection during normal business hours in City Hall. Any persons wishing to speak at a public hearing should register with the City Clerk prior to that item being heard. Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

NOTE: If you are not able to communicate, or are not comfortable expressing yourself, in the English language, it is your responsibility to bring with you an English-speaking interpreter when conducting business at the City of Doral during the zoning application process up to, and including, appearance at a hearing. This person may be a friend, relative or someone else. A minor cannot serve as a valid interpreter. The City of Doral DOES NOT provide translation services during the zoning application process or during any quasi-judicial proceeding.

NOTA: Si usted no está en capacidad de comunicarse, o no se siente cómodo al expresarse en inglés, es de su responsabilidad traer un intérprete del idioma inglés cuando trate asuntos públicos o de negocios con la Ciudad de Doral durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación, incluyendo su comparecencia a una audiencia. Esta persona puede ser un amigo, familiar o alguien que le haga la traducción durante su comparecencia a la audiencia. Un menor de edad no puede ser intérprete. La Ciudad de Doral NO suministra servicio de traducción durante ningún procedimiento o durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación.

Connie Diaz, MMC
City Clerk
City of Doral

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