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# Haber Law Expands With Partner Promotion And 3 New Attys



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Miami-based business litigation firm Haber Law announced the elevation of a commercial litigator to partner, as well as the addition of three new attorneys with experience in real estate, contract law and partnership disputes.

Rebecca Newman Casamayor is moving up from her position as senior associate to partner, according to the firm's announcement on Aug. 12. She began her career as a law clerk at the firm in 2011, and now joins six others as partners with Haber Law.

"Becoming a partner at Haber Law is a great achievement, and I'm grateful for the confidence the firm has had in me," Casamayor told Law360 on Wednesday.

In addition, the firm added Melissa Groisman as an of counsel, Ariella Gutman as a senior associate and Annie Schneider as an associate. The firm's managing and founding shareholder David B. Haber noted the firm has grown in the past few years and expects to continue that expansion in the future. In particular, there's increased demand for condo attorneys given the complications of COVID-19 and the deadly condominium collapse in Surfside this year.

"The way our office is set up, we presumably will expand over the next few years, hopefully to 25 attorneys or more," Haber told Law360. "And we are very well positioned for that given that our practice areas are not just commercial litigation and real estate, but of equal importance, construction and condominium law."

Casamayor is a commercial litigator with a particular focus on representing condominium and homeowners associations through issues such as collections and foreclosures, unit owner and vendor disputes and compliance with bylaws and the Florida Condominium Act. She also has experience in lawsuits concerning contract and business disputes, probate matters and shareholder derivative cases.

"She has a great personality for dealing with people, and in the condo world ... you deal with all kinds of people," Haber said. "And she has the ability to work with them successfully."

As the firm expands, Haber also noted Casamayor's invaluable abilities as a mentor for new associates, something that's been key during the pandemic.

"It's crucial to young lawyers to have a mentor in today's world," he said. "Mentoring is so difficult in today's world, especially with COVID, where people were working remotely for the last year and a half. So we have Rebecca, and we've had for the last eight months, had Rebecca meeting with the associates by Zoom every single week in order to assist them, review their work product and see where she could help them."

Casamayor will serve as a part-time partner, as she recently had a child. She earned her bachelor's degree and her law degree from the University of Miami.

"I believe my elevation to the role of partner has been the result of years of hard work and commitment to this firm and its clients," Casamayor said. "In turn, the firm has shown its dedication to me, as one of its longtime employees, by not only promoting me to partner, but also in offering flexibility in my new role so that I am able to maintain a work/life balance as both an attorney and a new mother."

"Between her organizational skills, her mentoring skills and her sheer intellect, it was a no-brainer for us to have her be a partner," Haber said. "It was just convincing her that she could be a partner working part-time."

Along with Casamayor's promotion, the firm has added three new attorneys. Groisman joins the firm as an of counsel, with a focus on real estate law, corporate law and community association representation. She received her

bachelors degree from Duke University and her law degree from the University of Miami School of Law.

Gutman moves from Perlman Bajandas Yevoli & Albright PL to Haber Law as a senior associate. She represents owners, developers and contractors in residential and commercial projects. Gutman earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Florida and her law degree from Nova Southeastern University.

Joining as an associate in the firm's business litigation department, Schneider handles litigation concerning business fraud, contractual disputes and probate matters. She previously worked at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP and received her bachelor's degree from the University at Buffalo and her law degree from Yeshiva University.

Haber Law is located in the Wynwood neighborhood of Miami and currently has 17 attorneys and staff. The firm practices throughout the state, including in Tallahassee, Jacksonville and Orlando.

--Editing by Ellen Johnson.

