



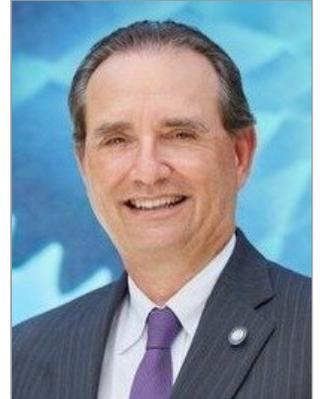
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Miami's Haber Law Picks Up Ex-Boies Partner In Pair of Hires

By **Madison Arnold**

Law360 (October 22, 2021, 4:22 PM EDT) -- Haber Law, a boutique firm focused on construction law in Miami, picked up two new attorneys in recent weeks, including a veteran partner the firm lured away from Boies Schiller Flexner LLP.

This week, Haber Law announced the hiring of senior partner Steve Davis, who is co-chair of the business litigation department, and Justin Stoner Miller as of counsel. Davis previously worked at Boies Schiller and Miller was with Daniels Kashtan Downs Robertson & McGirney PA, according to their LinkedIn profiles.



Steve Davis

"We've been courting Steve for quite a while. He is one of the preeminent business litigators in South Florida, with over 75 trials under his belt. Coming from a fantastic national law firm," David B. Haber, managing and founding shareholder, said in an interview with Law360. "The ability to bring in someone who just provides us with so much positivity in the practice as well as his credibility in the courtroom with the judges is just a fantastic opportunity for us."

Davis has almost 40 years of experience and has litigated antitrust, real estate, contractual and business disputes in both federal and state courts, according to his profile on the firm's website. He has made oral arguments before the Florida Supreme Court, Florida's Third and Fourth District Courts of Appeal and the U.S. Eleventh Circuit.

Davis told Law360 that he was ready to free himself of restrictions that the big firms often have and wanted the ability to work on different types of cases that he wouldn't necessarily be able to at a large firm.

Many things the firm is involved with touch real estate and those cases are intellectually interesting and challenging from an advocate side, Davis said.

"You really have to organize and manage facts in a way to be persuasive to a finder of fact. And one of the things that I bring to the table is ... I've tried over 75 cases," he said. "Unfortunately I've not tried as many in the last few years just by the nature of the fact that my prior firm, we had really large cases. Plus the fact that it's harder to get cases to go to trial these days, and so I'm looking forward to trying a lot of cases."

Before moving to Haber, Davis spent almost 20 years at Boies Schiller Flexner. He also worked for 13 years at Thomson Muraro Razoock & Hart and spent the first six years of his legal career at Broad and Cassel, now Nelson Mullins Broad and Cassel.

Davis is a graduate of the University of Miami School of Law and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida.

Miller practices complex civil litigation related to construction law, liens and personal injury. He also has experience in general commercial and business disputes, according to his profile on the firm's website.

His practice specializes in construction defect and delay matters, as well as liens and contract negotiations. In his previous work, he represented design professionals, such as engineers, architects and contractors, but in his work with Haber, he'll transition to representing condo associations and building owners.

"From our perspective, he brings something to the table that we didn't previously have, which is a person with tremendous expertise on the design professional side, so he adds to our firm incredibly," Haber said.

Miller agreed that he'll be able to use his experience on the defense side to help attack claims on the plaintiff side. He also said there's a sense of satisfaction to be able to help residents with matters such as safety issues.

"It's nice to be able to use our knowledge, experience and training to counsel or walk our clients through these processes that are daunting," Miller told Law360.

Condominium association boards are made up of lay people and not professionals skilled in construction or engineering, he said, "so we're able to make the connection with them between construction entities, design entities, forensic engineers, to determine what's wrong, what can we protect against."

Miller spent the first 10 years of his legal career at his previous firm. He graduated from Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad Law Center and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Denver.

Haber Law focuses on four practice areas: construction law and construction and design defect litigation; condominium and homeowners association law; complex business and commercial litigation; and real estate law.

The firm also provides representation in other civil practice areas, such as bankruptcy creditor rights, and practices business, family and aviation law, and employment litigation.

In all, Haber Law employs 19 attorneys.

In August, **the firm expanded** with a partner promotion and by hiring three new attorneys. Rebecca Newman Casamayor, a commercial litigator, was promoted to partner from senior associate. It also added Melissa Groisman as of counsel, Ariella Gutman as a senior associate and Annie Schneider as an associate.

Haber said while the COVID-19 pandemic hurt a lot of businesses, the legal industry wasn't one of them because attorneys were able to transfer to remote work. Additionally, a booming construction industry as well as concerns after the June 24 Champlain Towers South condo collapse in Surfside have allowed Haber to grow.

"The condominium business and the construction business, in particular, have gone through the roof" because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Haber said, "for different reasons."

"The general representation work for condominium law during COVID was all about: What do you do if someone has COVID? Can you keep them out of common elements? What do you do with the elevators?" he said. "Condo associations were contacting us continually.

"And of course now that the tragedy in Surfside occurred, the condominiums are contacting us for our construction expertise," Haber said.

--Additional reporting by Matt Perez. Editing by Robert Rudinger.