

# RAISING THE BAR EVERY DAY, IN EVERY RELATIONSHIP, IN EVERY MATTER

### WHO WE ARE

Bressler, Amery & Ross is a preeminent, national, full-service law firm that is committed to raising the bar. Through our network of more than 150 attorneys across our offices in New Jersey, New York, Florida, Alabama, North Carolina, Texas and Washington, D.C., we have a comprehensive geographic footprint to represent clients on a local, regional, national and cross-border basis. We provide personalized, responsive and hands-on legal services to businesses and individuals including Fortune 100 and 500 Corporations, mid-sized and privately companies, investment advisers, brokerage firms, financial institutions. financial services firms, national insurers, non-profit organizations, emerging and start up companies, high-net-worth individuals and other corporate clients.

Our market lead and distinguished national practice in securities, banking, investments, and financial institutions, coupled with our extensive industry and regulatory expertise, uniquely positions us to provide clients with a full suite of first-class legal representation across numerous industries and more than two dozen practice area specialties.

We are noted for our commitment to impeccable client service and our desire to go above and beyond to assist clients with their most complex and demanding legal challenges. In everything we do, in every relationship, and in every matter, we strive for integrity and to uphold the highest standards of our profession in the service of our clients.

### **WHY CHOOSE US?**

We are leaders. We are at the cutting edge of current legal and business issues, and we help our clients remain there too. Bressler has recognized in several publications, including U.S. News' Best Lawyers in America and Best Law Firms, Chambers USA, Super Lawyers and Super Lawyers Rising Stars lists, Business Journal's Top Law Firms list and Rising Stars lists, the National Law Journal's top 350 law firm's list and as a New Jersey Law Journal's Top 20 Law Firm. Our lawyers practice at the peak of our profession. They serve as leaders of various professional organizations and render public service through pro bono representations and philanthropic service to their communities. As leaders in legal and industry organizations, we guide discussions that shape the legal and business landscape.

We work smart. We appreciate the concerns of business people and in-house lawyers when they face legal matters while trying to keep their businesses moving forward. Several members of our firm have substantial in-house experience, which facilitates our focus on teamwork with in-house counsel approach in each matter we handle includes right sized staffing, close coordination with clients and in-house counsel, reasonable rates, and the collaborative development and execution of cost-effective strategies.

We value relationships. We strive to build lifelong personal relationships that are far more than just "business." We believe that when our clients understand that we care about them beyond their legal services, they trust that we have their best interests at heart when we recommend case strategies and business decisions.



We are focused on your bottom-line. We understand that different clients have unique needs and budgets. Our services and pricing are a matter of being *client centric*. We want to make our clients feel good by not only doing great work, but providing the utmost value. Our approach to case handling and our flexibility enable us to create financial arrangements and solutions to match our clients' needs.

We leverage our collective strengths. We have unparalleled industry understanding and overlapping practice expertise. We leverage these unique synergies across several practice areas to apply a careful, intentional strategy that takes into account all competing issues.

# OUR PHILOSOPHY & APPROACH

We have nearly 40 years of experience advising financial institutions, insurance companies, business owners, and corporate clients on strategic business and legal issues. Unlike most other larger firms, we spend the time getting to know our clients and ensuring that we fully understand their goals. We recognize the value in each client's uniqueness and attribute our success to our deeply forged relationships and shared interests with our clients and our sensitivity to each client's dynamics and distinct business objectives.



## OUR APPROACH TO EVERY MATTER, EVERY TIME



### **Principal Involvement**

A core value of our firm is that Principals must be personally involved in every matter. Principal involvement dramatically improves the quality of legal advice. Clients benefit from the principal's deeper experience and broader perspectives.



We staff each case with the attorneys and support staff needed to get the job done efficiently, cost effectively and with the highest quality. We make sure that we have the right number of people, working on the right client matters, in the right place, at the right time, all the time.

### **Exceptional Work Product**

All attorneys who are assigned to client matters have experience and have worked directly on similar types of matters in the past. These attorneys have demonstrated an ability to provide legal work at the highest levels.

### **Collaborative Practices and Processes**

The combination of the services we provide and the strength of our professionals provide our clients with a powerful partner. Bressler approaches the practice of law on an integrated basis. Because our practices draw on attorneys from multiple disciplines, we are more highly leveraged than most traditional law firms. Our multidisciplinary approach offers inherent flexibility, collaborative methods and careful problem-solving strategies that take into account all competing interests and issues.



### **OUR SERVICES**

### ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### **APPELLATE**

### BANKRUPTCY & CREDITORS' RIGHTS

Creditors' Rights Litigation Loan Workouts and Restructuring

### BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

CANNABIS LAW
CLASS ACTION AND
MULTI-DISTRICT LITIGATION

### **CONSTRUCTION LAW**

### CORPORATE & COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Mergers & Acquisitions
Emerging Companies
Cross-Border Transactions & Investments
Technology, Media & Telecommunications
Artificial Intelligence & Data Privacy
Trademark

### CYBERSECURITY, PRIVACY & TECHNOLOGY

Data Security
Electronic Discovery

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

CERCLA/Superfund
Environmental Litigation
Regulatory Permitting & Compliance
Corporate & Real Estate Transactions

### **FAMILY LAW**

### FINANCIAL CRIME COMPLIANCE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Anti-Money Laundering
Expungements
Financial Institutions Advisory Practice
Financial Institutions Enforcement Defense
Financial Institutions Internal Investigations
Financial Institutions Litigation & Arbitration
Public Funds Advisory
Retail Client Relationships
Senior & Vulnerable Investor Group

#### **FRANCHISE LAW**

### **GENERAL LITIGATION**

### **IMMIGRATION**

## INSURANCE & HEALTHCARE REGULATORY COMPLIANCE & TRANSACTIONAL

Managed Care Litigation and Counseling

### **INSURANCE LITIGATION**

First Party Property Insurance Defense
Insurance Coverage Disputes & Bad Faith Claims
Insurance Premiums & Collection Litigation
Life, Health, Disability & ERISA Litigation
National Accounts and Loss Sensitive Insurance
Programs

Premise Liability and General Litigation Transportation Negligence and Counseling Workers' Compensation

### **INVESTMENT ADVISERS**

### LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW

Labor & Employment Litigation
FINRA Employment Arbitration
Employment Strategic Advice & Counseling
Trade Secrets & Unfair Competition
Wage and Hour Law
Labor Law
Immigration
Executive Compensation & Employee Benefits

### **NEUTRAL ARBITRATORS & MEDIATORS**

### **PRIVATE CLIENT**

Corporate Fiduciaries Estate Planning Administration Trust and Estate Litigation

### PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

**REAL ESTATE** 

**TAX** 

### TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS

# FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

### **LITIGATION & ARBITRATION**

Since its founding, Bressler has represented national, regional and local banks, broker-dealers, investment advisers, mortgage lenders, leasing companies, trustees and other financial institutions in defense of claims alleging violations of federal and state securities laws, as well as common law claims.

Our nationally recognized securities practice, comprised of more than 75 attorneys, includes more than 20 attorneys with in-house brokerage experience and several former regulators.

We regularly appear in state and federal trial and appellate courts, as well as in FINRA, AAA, CBOE and NFA arbitration proceedings. From defending consumer claims and class actions, to complex international arbitration in high-profile litigation, our attorneys have successfully represented regional, national, and international clients in valuation disputes, securities, fiduciary obligations, real property and construction finance, brokerdealer/investment management and other related litigation.

Our attorneys utilize the firm's collective knowledge of the financial services marketplace provide effective to efficient that balances representation business interests with the highest level of service and performance.

### REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Financial services companies face an everexpanding maze of complex rules and regulations promulgated and enforced by federal and state regulatory agencies. Bressler's Financial Institution Regulatory Compliance group regularly advises on the legal, regulatory and compliance implications of broker and dealer activities. Our capabilities encompass the broad spectrum of SEC, FINRA and state regulatory and compliance matters, and we advise clients on a wide range of regulatory and compliance issues including broker-dealer status issues, advertising and marketing, public and private offerings, distribution and dealer agreements, securities lending and credit matters, antimoney laundering and regulatory inquiries. We advise on written supervisory policies and procedures, customer documentation, clearing arrangements, trading and sales practice issues, privacy matters, conflicts of interest, registration issues and new or continuing membership applications.

### ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Bressler's Environmental Law group represents clients in all aspects of environmental law, with particular emphasis on Superfund/cost recovery litigation and PRP allocation proceedings, as well as regulatory compliance transaction-related and issues. Environmental Law group includes a former government lawyer and seasoned litigators who offer in-depth experience in all phases of federal, state and local judicial and administrative proceedings.

Our attorneys are involved in some of the largest Superfund sites in the country and have extensive experience prosecuting defending CERCLA and Spill Act cost recovery actions. Our attorneys also counsel clients with respect to water. stormwater. solid/hazardous waste issues, Brownfields redevelopment, site remediation, and natural resources damages, as well as regulatory, permitting, and real estate issues. Our Environmental provides Law group comprehensive and strategic approach to virtually every area of environmental law, always with the goal of achieving practical and cost-effective results for our clients.

# LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW

For more than 20 years, our highly experienced litigators have represented employers in disputes with current or former employees whether in federal and state courts, various civil rights agencies, or in arbitration. We defend actions involving claims of employment discrimination, whistleblowing, harassment, failure to accommodate, unfair competition, wrongful termination, defamation, and breach of employment agreements.

We also provide comprehensive employment counseling and advice for our clients. We draft policies, handbooks, non-compete and non-solicit covenants well as nondisclosure. non-recruitment and confidentiality agreements. We advise on matters involving discharge, discipline, equal opportunity, federal and state whistleblower protections, ERISA, wage and regulations, employee benefits, health and welfare plans, reductions in force, executive compensation, corporate governance, fiduciary responsibilities and human resource best practices, policies and procedures.



# FINRA EMPLOYMENT ARBITRATIONS

While our Employment attorneys represent employers from a wide variety of industries, a significant portion of our practice is dedicated to representing broker-dealers, registered investment advisers, and other financial services firms. Our years of experience in this space have made us one of the nation's leading firms for handling employment matters before FINRA arbitration panels.

### **IMMIGRATION**

Bressler's Immigration practice serves a diverse group of clients including multinational and Fortune 500 publicly-traded corporations, medium-sized privately-held companies, smaller-sized start-up ventures and individuals on a wide range of immigration matters and visa needs. Our Immigration attorneys provide employers with a full range of immigration and naturalization legal services which are carefully crafted to reflect each client's goals and objectives.

Our Immigration group advises on the full array of immigration-related disciplines including Form I-9 and E-verify compliance, visa petitions, Department of Labor and Homeland Security Investigations, enforcement customs actions, and immigration advocacy, business immigration and permanent residence ("green card") applications. We also provide an array of valuable legal services for companies and individuals who need assistance with business visa issues, including Specialty Occupation (H-1B), International Transfer (L-1), O-1 visas for outstanding researchers, scientists and artists and TN visas for Mexican and Canadian nationals

# ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)

Alternative Resolution (ADR) Dispute procedures may lead to a better, quicker and less expensive result than other traditional forms of dispute resolution. Acting as a neutral third party, Bressler's ADR attorneys deliver insightful, creative and practical counsel to help minimize the expense and of the frustration litigation Leveraging our experience as both litigators and neutrals, we are adept at navigating ADR rules and procedures, often assisting parties in negotiating agreeable outcomes to their disputes as efficiently as possible.



# BANKRUPTCY, CREDITORS' RIGHTS & BUSINESS REORGANIZATIONS

Our Bankruptcy, Creditors' Rights & Business Reorganization attorneys have great depth in representing the interests of all parties of interest in a bankruptcy case – creditors' committees, Chapter 7 and 11 trustees, strategic asset purchasers, debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, landlords and litigants in adversary proceedings. We offer legal counsel on the defense of preference and fraudulent conveyance claims, problem loans, debt restructurings, workouts, foreclosure and the bankruptcy process.

Our Bankruptcy practice has successfully advocated our clients' positions on the assortment of issues that arise in the course of bankruptcy litigation, including the resolution of disputes about cash collateral, relief from automatic stay, fraudulent transfer actions, conveyance actions, fee disputes, debtor-in-possession financing and confirmation of reorganization plans. Our team is comprised of seasoned litigators who offer only comprehensive а understanding of bankruptcy law and procedure but are also able to understand how businesses and specialized market segments function.



### **FRANCHISE LAW**

For over 25 years, our Franchise Law practice group has represented a comprehensive range of businesses across the country. Many such clients, including franchised automotive dealers, maintain contractual relationships with their manufacturers and distributors that are governed, not only by their dealer agreements, but also by industry specific state laws in all fifty states. We assist those dealerships, other franchised businesses, and independent businesses in their relationships with their suppliers and in complying with state and federal laws and Our team provides litigation, regulations. transactional and counseling services for these clients, and we represent them in their interactions with state, federal and local agencies. We provide counsel in a wide variety of franchise and dealer activities, such as relocations, renovations, acquisitions, sales and protests, as well as the complex maze of regulatory compliance matters.

# BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Bressler's Business and Commercial litigators are problem solvers and tireless advocates. Our litigators provide litigation counsel, advice and support to large corporations as well as to prominent local and regional companies. Whether through artful diplomacy, forceful advocacy, proven trial tactics, effective settlement or on appeal, our litigators consistently deliver thoughtful, steadfast and strategic solutions to every matter in which we are involved.

Bressler's Business & Commercial Litigation practice encompasses all aspects of commercial relationships, including breach of contract claims, disputes involving the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC), business dissolutions, director and officer liability, products liability, franchise disputes, leveraged buyouts and business torts. The skills developed over several decades litigating complex cases—the ability to analyze issues, manage intricate discovery and try cases to verdict— has made Bressler's Business & Commercial Litigation attorneys ideal for handling a business's most difficult commercial litigation.



# CORPORATE & COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Our Corporate and Commercial Transactions group represents businesses across a diverse range of corporate transactions from entity formation to capital raising and mergers and acquisitions (M&A). Serving clients in multiple industries, our experienced corporate attorneys are active in both domestic and cross-border transactions and work with clients of many sizes and requirements. We bring a unique level of creativity and problem-solving ability to address our clients' needs and objectives in a cost- and time-efficient manner

Our team also represents numerous emerging and mature technology companies in intellectual property and software licensing, telecom, datacoms and tech transfer transactions. We have broad experience in working with tech company startups and angel and venture investors, and offer clients the full range of corporate services to establish and grow their business, whether to IPO or exit.

Further, inbound European M&A and subsidiary formation activities are a specialty of the Corporate department which prides itself in its experience, expertise and extensive international network of professionals that handle such matters for its global clients.

### **CANNABIS LAW**

Legalized cannabis is a rapidly expanding industry in the United States, with a growing list of jurisdictions now regulating its use for medical and/or recreational purposes. Bressler has assembled a national team of skilled and experienced attorneys to assist cannabis businesses at every step – attorneys with skills and experience in a broad range of practice areas, providing this team with the depth and flexibility needed to help clients capitalize on opportunities within the legal cannabis industry and to successfully navigate and manage the complexities posed by its piecemeal legalization within the United States.

Our Cannabis attorneys consistently collaborate with the other lawyers in our firm to leverage our wide range of legal strengths, and our national network of industry-leading professionals, to offer our clients effective and timely support.



Businesses and investors operating in this highly regulated industry rely on Bressler's Cannabis Law practice to serve as strategic advisors, combining industry knowledge with experience across corporate and finance, tax, real estate, environmental, intellectual property, employment, health care and litigation.

Bressler's Cannabis Law team represents financial institutions, entrepreneurs, investors and property owners in all aspects of this emerging field including banking and financing, corporate formation and governance, financial crime compliance, litigation and dispute resolution, regulatory and municipal compliance and environmental, land use and zoning issues.

# INSURANCE LITIGATION

Our broad insurance industry experience and reputation gives us an edge in defending claims, counseling insurers, drafting policies and contracts, litigating premium and coverage disputes and recommending the best litigation strategy. Our Insurance litigators offer a full range of services to self-insured employers, insurance carriers, commercial insurance brokers, administrators, third party administrators and management providers, including defense, risk management litigation programs and consulting services. More specifically, our practice provides analysis, guidance, litigation, and resolution services in the following areas:

## FIRST PARTY PROPERTY INSURANCE DEFENSE

Our Insurance litigators routinely represent insurance companies in legal disputes with their insureds. Our team handles first-party residential and commercial property coverage and litigation in cases involving water damage, wind and hurricane damage, sinkhole damage, fire damage, and other property damage claims throughout the state of Florida.

### **ERRORS & OMISSIONS**

Insurers regularly retain us to handle their most important and complex errors and omissions (E&O) coverage matters on a national basis. Our Insurance litigators routinely handle disputes arising out of claims handling, the procurement of commercial insurance, and the administration of group self-insured trusts.

## INSURANCE COVERAGE & BAD FAITH

Our Insurance litigators advise and represent insurance companies relating to complex issues of insurance coverage, appropriate interpretation, and the application of policy exclusions. The firm provides coverage advice and related representation coverage litigation, in including bad faith claims and extracontractual liability issues.

## PREMIUM & AUDIT DISPUTES

Our Insurance litigators handle disputes arising out of commercial insurance products across all lines of coverage and exposure bases. This includes a broad range of issues related to policy terms, audit calculations and premiums, class codes and rates, experience modifiers, premium credits (e.g. construction classification premium adjustment programs), and approved rating plans.

### **COMPLEX CLAIM DEFENSE**

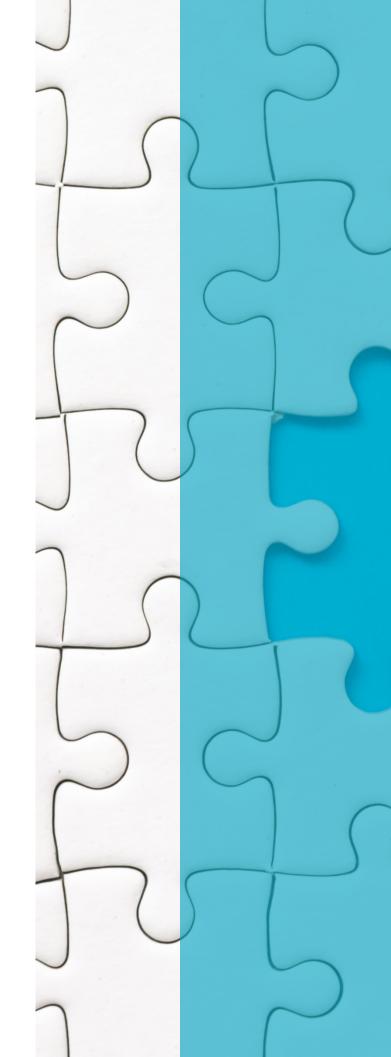
Self-insured employers, insurance carriers, and third-party claim administrators retain our team for complex, high exposure claims. With decades of experience in the field of claims management and litigation, our Insurance litigators are uniquely suited to handle large exposure, complex and catastrophic claims, especially those alleging employer intentional wrongs, and subrogation disputes.

# INSURANCE AND HEALTHCARE REGULATORY COMPLIANCE & TRANSACTIONAL

Our attorneys are well-acquainted with the myriad regulations that govern the insurance industry and the policies and politics behind them. We advise clients on all aspects of state and federal insurance regulation, including enforcement investigations and administrative actions, appellate litigation, licensing, holding-company systems regulation, underwriting and rating of commercial insurance, policy wording, financial and solvency regulation, state insurance receivership and insolvency proceedings, insurer and broker relationships, reinsurance and surplus lines eligibility, captive insurers, offshore insurers, alternative risk-transfer products, mergers, acquisitions and changes of control, and conducting discrete internal reviews of complaints.

Our attorneys also counsel clients on the full array of corporate, marketing, product development, and regulatory compliance matters, as well as advocate their positions before regulators.

We are litigators for the insurance industry. We handle sophisticated litigation defense and offer corporate and regulatory guidance for our clients across all sectors of the insurance industry.



# FINANCIAL CRIME COMPLIANCE

Bressler has broad experience in addressing financial crime compliance issues affecting our clients. Our Financial Crime Compliance practice focuses on anti-money laundering (AML), anti-bribery and corruption, and sanctions.

## ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING

We advise banks, broker-dealers, insurance companies, money services businesses, cryptocurrency businesses and others with regard to AML laws and regulations and how to comply with them. Our attorneys are skilled at designing compliant programs. One of the unique aspects of our Financial Crime Compliance practice is that it advises credit unions on how to bank state licensed marijuana-related businesses in compliance with AML laws. Our attorneys also represent financial institutions when their AML programs are examined or investigated by federal regulators and in any resulting enforcement actions. Our Financial Crime Compliance practice has the skills to assist with new AML rule implementations and/or remediation projects of all sizes.

## ANTI-BRIBERY & CORRUPTIONS

Our Financial Crime Compliance attorneys also focus on anti-bribery and corruption. We assist corporations with regard to policies and procedures, risk management, due diligence and global investigations. Our attorneys have the cross-border experience to handle multi-jurisdictional investigations for multinational corporations. We defend our clients during regulatory investigations relating to bribery and corruption and in enforcement actions relating to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

### **SANCTIONS**

Our sanctions practice focuses on providing advice on U.S. and international sanctions. We advise financial institutions with regard to their sanctions compliance programs. We help businesses and individuals apply for Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) licenses to engage in otherwise prohibited transactions. Our attorneys also represent clients during OFAC investigations and enforcement actions.

With substantial industry experience and local market insights, we provide comprehensive and fully integrated services to clients across the United States.

# PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

against professionals, including Claims lawyers, accountants, officers, directors, brokers and trustees are being brought with increasing frequency. Our Insurance litigators are experienced trial attorneys and appellate advocates who defend professionals against a wide spectrum of liability suits, including malpractice, negligent misrepresentation, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty and securities fraud.

We also counsel and draft formal opinions designed to assist professionals in understanding and complying with their legal and ethical obligations.

### **REAL ESTATE**

Bressler's Real Estate group frequently works closely with brokers, accountants and other financial advisors on matters involving both commercial and residential properties. Our Real Estate group represents institutional and private lenders, investors, developers, builders, corporate end users and other stakeholders in negotiating, structuring and documentina real estate transactions, including acquisitions and sales, complex financing transactions, land use development, retail and office leasing and development, contracting and dispute resolution, property rights issues and real estate litigation.

### PRIVATE CLIENT

Bressler's Private Client practice structured to meet the complex wealth transfer needs of high-net-worth individuals. attorneys provide comprehensive, personal and strategic legal representation on wealth management matters for highnet-worth individuals and families, privately companies, foundations owned individual and corporate fiduciaries. We counsel clients on the full spectrum of issues, wealth management fiduciary obligations, trust and estate administration, philanthropic planning, foundation management business management.

To best advise and protect our private clients and their financial future, Bressler's Private Client group also draws on the expertise of attorneys in related issues, including securities law, venture capital transactions, partnership taxation, real estate law and estate litigation.



We are at the cutting edge of current legal and business issues.

# WHAT THEY ARE SAYING



### Award for Excellence: Environmental

- Chambers USA America's Leading Lawyers for Business, 2014-2019

> Award for Excellence: Employment

- Chambers USA America's Leading Lawyers for Business, 2014-2019

A Powerhouse in Complex Commercial Litigation among the Top 3

- BTI's Litigation Outlook 2020

Top 20 Law Firm

- New Jersey Law Journal

Nationally ranked for Commercial Litigation, Litigation - Securities, and Securities/Capital Markets, and regionally ranked in 25 practice areas.

- The U.S. News -Best Lawyers®

"Best Law Firms"

Numerous attorneys
recognized by Best Lawyers in
America including 3
"Lawyers of the Year'"

- The Best Lawyers in America

Ranked as a Top 350 Law Firm

- National Law Journal

Top 25 Law Firm

- NJBIZ 2019 New Jersey's leading business journal

### **OUR LOCATIONS**

### ALABAMA

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### FORT LAUDERDALE

200 East Las Olas Blvd. • Suite 1500 Fort Lauderdale, FL • 33301 Phone: 954.499.7979

### MIAMI

200 South Biscayne Blvd. Suite 240 • Miami, FL • 33131 Phone: 305.501.5480

### **NEW YORK**

17 State Street • 34th Floor New York, NY • 10004 Phone: 212.425.9300

### **FLORHAM PARK**

325 Columbia Turnpike • Suite 301 Florham Park, NJ • 07932 Phone: 973.514.1200

### CHARLOTTE

101 North Tryon Street, Suite 6000, Charlotte NC 28202 Phone: 980.301.9525

### **AUSTIN**

500 W 2nd Street Suite 1900 • Austin, TX • 78701 Phone: 512.532.3541

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16475 Dallas Parkway Suite 555 • Dallas, TX • 75248 Phone: 972.733.2900

### HOUSTON

3700 Buffalo Speedway Suite 1020 • Houston, TX • 77098 Phone: 713,403,6400

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

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