

THE FIRM

DC Litigation Carousel Keeps Spinning With 3 New Hires



White-collar trial attorney Richard Smith uprooted from Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan to join U.K. Magic Circle firm Linklaters.

by Bruce Love

In recent days, three key Washington, D.C., litigators have taken their practices to the competition.

White-collar trial attorney Richard Smith uprooted from Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan to join U.K. Magic Circle firm Linklaters. Bankruptcy litigator John Thompson is heading to Akerman from McGuireWoods. And Deborah Samenow is moving from Baker Donelson to DLA Piper.

Smith spent 15 years as a senior government prosecutor before joining private practice in 2005. His last government posting was principal deputy chief for litigation at the Department of Justice's Fraud Section of the Criminal Division. He spent his first two years in private practice at Akerman before heading to Norton Rose Fulbright as head of that firm's regulatory and governmental investigations group.

Until he left Quinn on Friday, Smith focused on complex litigation and white-collar defense, and helping clients with third-party due diligence and risk assessments. At Linklaters, where he is joining as partner, Smith expects his international practice to be well supported by a British firm with global offices and an international outlook.

"Linklaters have boots on the ground in strategic areas around the globe," he said, adding that the "quality of expertise" will help him serve his clients better. "Instead of hiring local counsel to help me on a matter, I get the chance to work with a firm that has a brand in those countries, and deep local expertise," he said.

Having a seasoned Washington litigator like Smith beefs up the Magic Circle firm's bench at a time when international business disputes will require increasingly more understanding of machinations inside the Beltway.

In addition to doing white-collar defense, internal investigations and international investigations, Smith also handles civil litigation, and he thinks his U.S. trial experience and Linklaters' global platform will be a winning combination for both international clients needing an experienced hand in the U.S. and American companies doing deals abroad.

As a self-professed "old trial attorney," he is also looking forward to helping Linklaters grow in the United States.

"It's a chance to be part of building and growing the firm's civil litigation capabilities," he said.

In 2018, Smith faced off against his new colleague, Linklaters' D.C. head of dispute resolution Adam Lurie, in a matter between the Inter-American Development Bank and Brazilian company Odebrecht, with Smith negotiating a \$3 billion settlement for his client over prohibited practices in IDB-financed projects.

"Adam and Linklaters were formidable," Smith said of the encounter. "I had a chance to see the caliber and quality of the attorneys in the D.C. office. So, when the opportunity to move presented itself, I knew the shop and the people. I knew whose team I was joining, and what they're trying to do. And I liked what I saw."

Over at Akerman, former McGuireWoods litigator Thompson will handle business reorganizations and cross-border insolvency matters, and represent clients on complex Chapter 11 cases and debtor and creditor rights. He has worked on several historic bankruptcies, including Enron, Lehman Brothers, Takata and Worldcom. At Akerman, the firm said in a statement that he joins as a partner and will be "critical" to helping clients navigate financial complexities in the current market.

Samenow, moving from Baker Donelson to DLA Piper, joined the firm's litigation and regulatory practice in D.C. as counsel, focusing on the health care space—especially complex health care regulatory matters like reimbursement disputes and audits with federal and commercial payers.

In her practice, Samenow also advises on licensure matters, overpayment disputes and related regulatory matters, due diligence analyses and claim appeals, among other healthcare litigation needs, according to a statement from the firm.

Samenow has served as an administrative appeals judge on the Medicare Appeals Council at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Departmental Appeals Board.

Bruce Love lives in Washington, DC, and writes about the Beltway legal community and the business of law. Email him news tips at blove@alm.com and follow him on twitter @loveonlaw.



CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **COUNCIL ZONING MEETING** on **August 25, 2021, beginning at 6:00 PM** to consider a text amendment to the City's Land Development Code, by amending Chapter 77, "Roads and Vehicular Use Areas," Article IV, "Parking and Loading Areas," Division 2, "Off-Street Parking," creating a new section, Section 77-141, "Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations," establishing EV charging equipment requirements. The City Council will consider this item for **FIRST READING**. The meeting will be held at the **City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166**.

The City of Doral proposes to adopt the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE No. 2021-28

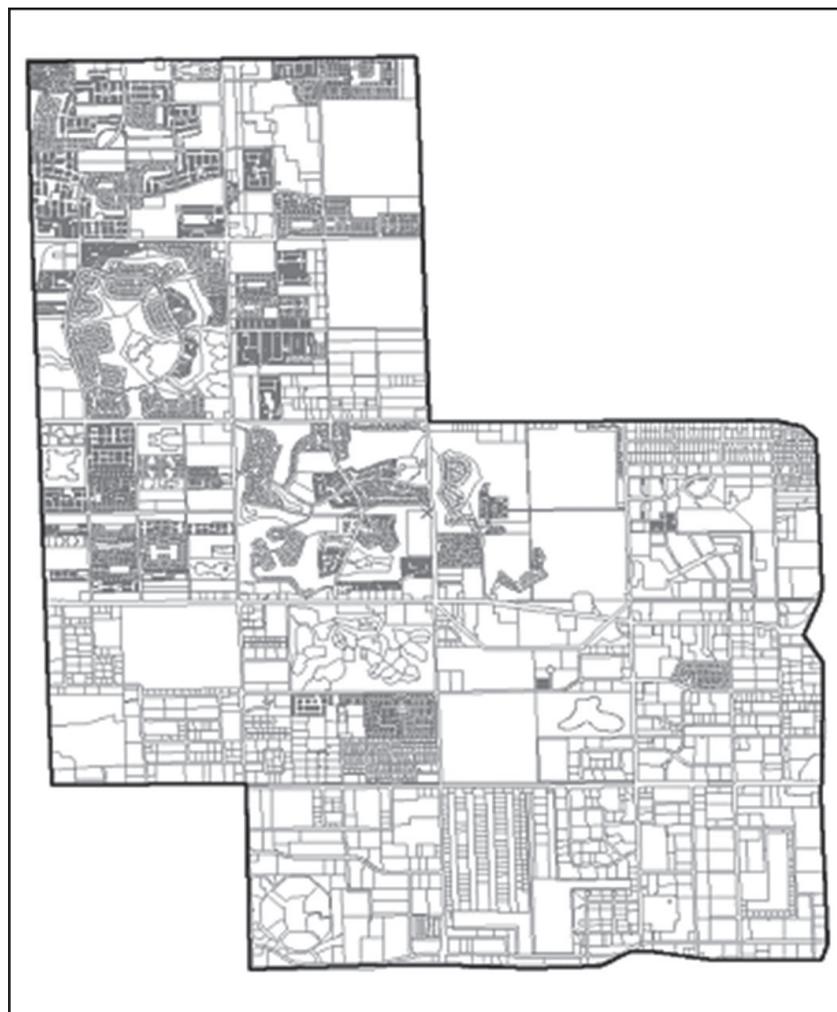
AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING/DENYING A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 77, "ROADS AND VEHICULAR USE AREAS," ARTICLE IV, "PARKING AND LOADING AREAS," DIVISION 2, "OFF-STREET PARKING," CREATING A NEW SECTION, SECTION 77-141, "ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING STATIONS," ESTABLISHING EV CHARGING EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

HEARING NO.: 21-08-DOR-11

APPLICANT: City of Doral

REQUEST: The City Manager's Office respectfully recommends that the Mayor and City Councilmembers approve a text amendment to the City's Land Development Code, by amending Chapter 77, "Roads and Vehicular Use Areas," Article IV, "Parking and Loading Areas," Division 2, "Off-Street Parking," creating a new section, Section 77-141, "Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations," establishing EV charging equipment requirements.

Location Map



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, any person 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.

Connie Diaz, MMC
City Clerk
City of Doral

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