

MIAMI LAND USE AND ZONING FIRM BERCOW RADELL & FERNANDEZ CONTINUES TO GROW

Appoints Justin Karr and Gianeli Mestre as Associates

(MIAMI) Feb. 17, 2015 – Bercow Radell & Fernandez is pleased to announce that **Justin Karr and Gianeli Mestre** have joined the growing zoning, land use and environmental law firm as Associates. Located in downtown Miami, Bercow Radell & Fernandez consistently ranks among the region's top firms in its specialties.

Justin has worked in the public sector at the federal, state, and local level, and was drawn to the practice because of his considerable interest in government relations. At the firm, he works on land use and zoning matters, governmental affairs and real estate transactions.

Prior to joining Bercow Radell & Fernandez, he worked full time in a Miami law firm while simultaneously completing his LL.M. in Real Property Development at the University of Miami School of Law. The school honored him as the Charles M. Haar Scholar in Planning and Zoning.

Justin received his law degree from St. Thomas University, where he was a member of the *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review* and received two prestigious book awards in recognition of his academic performance.

His affinity for government policy strengthened as an International Relations student at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. A graduate fellowship with the U.S. Department of State subsequently brought him to Paris, France, where he worked for a well-known American law firm's International Arbitration practice group.

Justin is a member of the Florida Bar; Miami Beach Bar Association; and the University of Miami Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law Society.

Gianeli works on a variety of land use and zoning-related matters at the firm. She received her Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, Florida International University College of Law and her Bachelors of Science in Management and Entrepreneurship, also *cum laude*, from the Florida State University College of Business. During her undergraduate studies, she was a legislative intern for former State Representative Eduardo "Eddy" Gonzalez, Florida House of Representatives.

Gianeli was a staff member of the *FIU Law Review* while enrolled in law school. She was also involved with the Cuban American Law Society and the Hispanic Law

Student Association. Additionally, she was a member of law fraternity Phi Alpha Delta.

Gianeli made the Dean's List during every semester of law school, and was a Cuban American Bar Association ("CABA") scholarship recipient. During her law studies, Gianeli worked as a legal extern at a prominent Miami firm in its land use and real estate division, where she assisted with various land use and zoning matters. She was also a legal extern at the City of Coral Gables' City Attorney's Office, handling land use and zoning matters relating primarily to property owners' constitutional rights.

Gianeli is currently a member of the Florida Bar, Environmental and Land Use Law Section; the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division; the Cuban American Bar Association; and FIU Law Alumni Association.

Since 1996, the attorneys at Bercow Radell & Fernandez have been at the forefront of Miami-Dade County's phenomenal growth, guiding its clients on all aspects of local, state and federal real estate permitting and licensing, zoning approvals, amendments of local government comprehensive plans, developments of regional impacts (DRIs), due diligence reviews, growth management, concurrency and environmental matters.

The firm's clients include Lennar Homes, Landmark Companies, Turnberry Associates, Florida Power and Light Company, Leon Medical Centers and Public Storage.

Bercow Radell & Fernandez is located at 200 S. Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 850, Miami. For more information, contact (305) 374-5300 or visit <u>www.brzoninglaw.com</u>.

###

MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Treister Lisa Treister Communications 305.858.2416