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DAILY BUSINESS REVIEW

12th Annual

MOST EFFECTIVE LAWYERS of 2016

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12th Annual Most Effective Lawyers

The 12th annual Most Effective Lawyers special report recognizes the impressive work performed by South Florida lawyers in the past year.

More than 90 nominations for Most Effective Lawyers were evaluated by the editorial staff of the DBR

based on tangible results and impact. The lawyers were judged on one critical benchmark: client results. Only South Florida lawyers qualified.

This year we recognize more than 60 lawyers in 15 practice areas: appellate, bankruptcy, class action, complex and business litigation, cor-

porate securities, criminal, government relations and regulation, intellectual property, international, medical malpractice, personal injury, pro bono, products liability, public interest and real estate.

To mention a few accomplishments, honorees succeeded before the U.S.

Supreme Court, forced the state to perform medically necessary hernia surgery on prison inmates, arranged \$2.3 billion in financing for Colombian infrastructure and negotiated a \$350 million deal for Hard Rock Stadium upgrades.

APPELLATE

US Supreme Court Win Arrives on Lawyer's Birthday

Howard Srebnick and Joshua Shore
Black, Srebnick, Kornspan & Stumpf

Scott Srebnick
Law Office of Scott A. Srebnick

On Miami attorney Howard Srebnick's birthday this year, he received quite the gift: a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in his favor.

Srebnick successfully argued in *Luis v. United States*, that criminal defendants should be allowed to use untainted assets to pay for the lawyer of their choice. The Black, Srebnick, Kornspan & Stumpf partner called the March 30 decision a victory for the Sixth Amendment and said an opposite ruling would have "spelled the demise of the private criminal defense bar."

It was Srebnick's second time before the nation's highest court. In 2013, he argued *Kaley v. United States*, asking the court to find that assets traceable to a crime should not be restrained when needed for attorney fees. The justices ruled against him in that case.

Luis and *Kaley* are the step-children of forfeiture cases *United States v. Monsanto* and *Caplin & Drysdale v. United States*, both of which were argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1989. Many of the

MOST EFFECTIVE LAWYERS



Shore

justices on today's Supreme Court were not around to see those arguments — but Srebnick was.

As a student at Georgetown law school, he was invited to join law professors and practitioners to moot the lawyers who were preparing to argue *Monsanto* and *Caplin & Drysdale*. He then attended the oral arguments.

"This issue was the one I was introduced to as a second-year law student," Srebnick told the Daily Business Review after arguing *Luis* in November 2015. "I don't want to say it's a dream come true, but it's the culmination of my academic focus for the past 25-plus years."

Srebnick received nearly around-the-clock help from his brother, appellate attorney Scott Srebnick of the Law Office of Scott A. Srebnick, and Black Srebnick associate Joshua Shore.



Scott and Howard Srebnick

Howard Srebnick also helped secure a U.S. Supreme Court win for the defendants in *Puerto Rico v. Sanchez Valle* in June. The justices found the "dual sovereignty" doctrine barred Puerto Rico from prosecuting the defendants after an American court had ruled on the same charges.

The opinion was consistent with an amicus curiae brief Srebnick

prepared as counsel of record for the Miami chapter of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Finalists

- Beverly Pohl, Broad and Cassel
- Andrew C. Hall and Roarke Maxwell, Hall, Lamb and Hall