

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For information contact: David S. Kinchen
Marketing Director
Shutts & Bowen LLP/Miami
(305) 415-0473

**EIGHT SHUTTS & BOWEN ATTORNEYS IN MIAMI, FORT LAUDERDALE,
AND ORLANDO RATED TOPS IN THEIR FIELD BY CHAMBERS AND
PARTNERS LEGAL GUIDE**

Firm's Banking Practice Receives Highest Ranking in Florida

MIAMI — June 16, 2008 — Eight attorneys at the Florida law firm of Shutts & Bowen LLP have been named top lawyers in their fields by London-based Chambers & Partners in the latest edition of "Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers." The firm also was recognized in the 2008-2009 edition for excellence in the following practice areas: banking and finance, corporate/M&A, real estate, construction, and zoning/land use.

Since this prestigious U.K. publisher of legal guides began publishing rankings of U.S. law firms and lawyers in 2003, Shutts & Bowen's financial services practice has achieved the guide's highest possible ranking every year. In addition, Shutts & Bowen Chairman Bowman Brown has been ranked number one in Florida in the banking and finance practice area since the inception of the U.S. guide.

The eight attorneys included in the latest guide to the nation's top lawyers are: Shutts & Bowen Chairman Bowman Brown in Miami (banking and finance/regulatory and transactional), partner Kevin Cowan in Miami (real estate), partner John H. Dannecker in Orlando (construction), partner Luis de Armas in Miami (corporate/M&A), partner Michael J. Grindstaff in Orlando (real estate: zoning and land use), partner Rod Jones in Orlando (banking and finance), and partner George I. Platt in Fort Lauderdale (real estate: zoning and land use). Bowman Brown was given a star rank, above the #1 ranking, in Banking & Finance/regulatory. Partner Brent C. Bell in Orlando has been named an up and comer in the area of Construction Law.

To determine the rankings, Chambers and Partners conducts independent research that includes more than 10,000 telephone interviews over an eight-month period. A team of 40 full-time researchers interviewed business people and lawyers throughout the country to assess the attorneys' and firm's legal abilities, professional conduct, client service, diligence, commitment and other qualities most valued by clients.

Following is a brief description of the Shutts & Bowen attorneys who received top recognition from Chambers and Partners:

Miami —

BOWMAN BROWN, Chairman of the firm's Executive Committee and Financial Services Practice Group. Mr. Brown has an extensive practice representing domestic, interstate and international banks, broker/dealers and insurance companies, and drafting laws and regulations addressing the development of international banking and insurance in Florida. Chambers notes that a client of the Financial Services Group said: "*Simply spectacular - Shutts & Bowen is undoubtedly the number one destination for premier finance advice.*" Chambers and Partners

said peers and clients said *“in work relating to financial matters, all roads lead to Bowman Brown.”* Mr. Brown practices in the firm’s Miami office and is a resident of Coral Gables.

KEVIN D. COWAN, Co-Chairman of Shutts & Bowen’s Miami Real Estate Department. Mr. Cowan’s experience ranges from downtown office or anchor/tenant retail leases to mega yacht marina/mixed-use hotel/retail developments, commercial ground leases and related financing, and large-scale condominium developments. In addition, he represents institutions in connection with the sale or acquisition of office complexes. Chambers and Partners calls him *“precise and meticulous.”* Mr. Cowan practices in the firm’s Miami office and is a resident of Miami Beach.

LUIS A. DE ARMAS, a partner in the Miami office, is a Member of the Firm’s Management and Distributions Committees. A resident of Pinecrest Mr. de Armas was recognized by Chambers and Partners for his experience with cross-border capital markets and mergers-and-acquisition work, both outbound and inbound.

Orlando —

JOHN H. DANNECKER, a partner in the Orlando office, heads the Construction Litigation Team for Shutts & Bowen. The Chambers and Partners guide said *“Peers point to his *“loyal client base”* as an indication of his talent: *“He has clients who have followed him wherever he goes.”* A resident of Winter Springs in Seminole County, Mr. Dannecker is a member of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America as well as a member of both Associated General Contractors and Associated Builders & Contractors.*

MICHAEL J. GRINDSTAFF is a partner in the Orlando office’s Real Estate Practice Group. Chambers and Partners says Mr. Grindstaff’s *“practice...is *“brimming with excellence.”* His real estate and land use practice focuses on the acquisition, zoning, permitting, development and sale of retail shopping centers, mixed-use developments, residential subdivisions, multi-family apartment complexes, and office buildings. Mr. Grindstaff resides in Winter Park, Florida.*

ROD JONES is a partner in the Financial Services Practice Group in Orlando. A Winter Park resident, he concentrates on bank regulatory matters, including *de novo* bank formations, conversions, mergers and acquisitions, and bank holding company formations, with a particular emphasis on issues affecting community banks. Before joining Shutts & Bowen, he was the Director of the Division of Banking of the Florida Department of Banking and Finance from 1984 to 1989, where he was responsible for licensing and supervising more than 500 state-chartered financial institutions in Florida and reviewing applications to organize more than 100 new banks. The Chambers and Partners guide said Mr. Jones *“scoops market admiration due to his regulatory expertise.”*

BRENT C. BELL is a partner in the Construction Litigation Group in Orlando and was named an Up and Comer in Construction. Chambers and Partners says he *“continues to make a name for himself as a litigator *“who’s assertive, confident in his abilities and adept at handling any situation.”* He assists clients with litigation avoidance and also handles disputes through negotiation, mediation, administrative proceedings, arbitration and litigation. He handles cases involving construction defects, lien and bond law, defective products and product liability claims. He also works on contracts, drafting and enforcement. Mr. Bell is a frequent lecturer to audiences in the construction industry. He often speaks on bond and lien laws, construction defects, project delivery systems, the anatomy of construction lawsuits, the fundamentals of construction law and collections. He is a resident of College Park.*

Fort Lauderdale

George I. Platt - Mr. Platt is known for his considerable experience in Government law and has a reputation as a leading government lawyer and a prominent lobbyist in Broward County. With more than 30 years in practice, he counsels clients on regulatory law, government relations, land use, environmental law and related corporate issues. He is a resident of Fort Lauderdale.

Founded in 1910, Florida-based Shutts & Bowen LLP counsels businesses both nationally and internationally. The firm has more than 200 attorneys, and offices in Fort Lauderdale, Miami, Orlando, Tallahassee, Tampa, West Palm Beach and Amsterdam.

###