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Client focused. Results driven.

Happy Holidays from Jimerson & Cobb, P.A.



Before we look into the new year, December has always been a month for me to do one last reflection on the prior year's events. Just look at any television channel and you will likely see some sort of recap or top 10 list for the year. It has been said that you cannot move forward if you are looking back. Rightfully so, but reflection to the past does help guide us in the future. As you reflect back on the events of this year, may the memory of failures be preserved, may the stories of success be uplifting and may the drive to excellence push you into the new year. Happy Holidays to everyone.

Very truly yours, Christopher M. Cobb, Esq.

J&C case receives national attention

An oil and gas firm based in Portland, Oregon, and represented by Jimerson & Cobb is embroiled in a dispute involving a former attorney who purportedly stole \$2.5 million in escrow funds. The case is receiving national attention, especially considering the New York-based attorney fled to Hong Kong and is currently there awaiting extradition to the United States. Chris Cobb, the representing attorney, is quoted in a Thompson Reuters article regarding the case capublished on December 2.

Click <u>here</u> to read the article.

Featured bLAWg Post: Pulling Permits for Others - Putting Your License on the Line

By: Christopher M. Cobb, Esq., and Austin Calhoun

December 2011

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If you have any type of contractor's license, listen up! Being paid to use your contractor's license to pull a permit for others may sound like a profitable proposition but is a transaction fraught with risk and one that you should avoid. The Florida Legislature enacted Section 489 to protect the public health, safety and welfare by requiring significant construction work be performed by licensed contractors. To ensure that work is completed by licensed contractors, Section 489, Florida Statutes, provides that certain acts, such as "renting your license," may be prosecuted as crimes and the Construction Industry Licensing Board has multiple sanctions as its disposal. You, the licensed contractor, must have a contract to perform the work specified in the permit you pull; otherwise you are "renting your license."

Click here to read the full bLAWg post.

Additional bLAWg Posts

TOP FIVE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT FLORIDA'S CONSTRUCTION LIEN LAW

By: Christopher M. Cobb, Esq.

Florida's Construction Lien Law is found at Chapter 713, Florida Statutes. It has long been criticized by judges, attorneys and construction professionals as complicated, unclear and often times, downright confusing. In an effort to provide some clarity, here are the Top 5 things you should know.

Click here to read the full bLAWg post.

CONDOMINIUM LIENS - HOW SAFE IS THE HARBOR?

By: Christopher M. Cobb, Esq., and Kristen Sinnott

One of the leading cases affecting condominium associations in Florida is Bay Holdings, Inc., v. 2000 Island Blvd. Condo Assn., 895 So.2d 1197 (Fla. 3d DCA 2005). For a seemingly small opinion, the impact on condominium liens is worthy of discussion. Bay Holdings addresses the Florida "safe harbor" liability of first mortgages for condominium assessment liens. Click here to read the full bLAWg post.

RECENT CASE LAW CHANGES COMMON PROCEDURE FOR OPPOSING GARNISHMENT EXEMPTION CLAIMS

By: Kelly K. Karsteadt, Esq.

It is standard practice among attorneys practicing in Florida to sign the affidavit in opposition to a claim of exemption from garnishment on behalf of their clients. A case recently decided in South Florida has effectively changed the ability of attorneys to continue with such a practice. Now, a very strict interpretation of the garnishment statute may eliminate the ability of many attorneys to seek garnishment as a method of collecting on judgments.

Click here to read the full bLAWg post.

J&C Service Spotlight: Business and Commercial Litigation



Firm Contacts

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Lora Lee- Executive Director

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Client Focus



Garza Constructors, Inc., is a full-service Construction Management, Design/Build, General Contracting firm specializing in Commercial and Residential construction projects.

Founded in 2010 and located in Jacksonville, Garza Constructors' recent construction projects include the interior renovation of Latitude 30, the commercial interior build-out of the second Metro Diner in Julington Creek and the commercial interior build-out of Cruiser's Grill in Jacksonville's Tinseltown.

Garza Constructors is also the construction manager for Latitude Global and will be overseeing the construction of as many as 7 additional Latitude locations throughout

In addition to our creditor's rights, construction law and financial services industry practice, we also offer a wide range of legal expertise to our clients, including our Business and Commerical Litigation services. Jimerson & Cobb has extensive experience representing businesses and entrepreneurs in all types of commercial litigation and handles all types of business and commercial litigation, including:

- Breach of contract or note
- Breach of Lease
- Fraud, Misrepresentation, Civil Theft
- Construction disputes
- Breach of Fiduciary Duty and Business Torts
- Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices
- Shareholder conflicts
- Violation of non-compete and confidentiality agreements relating to trade secrets
- Infringement on Intellectual Property rights and Unfair Competition claims
- Dissolution of corporations, limited liability companies and partnerships

Litigation is the strength of our practice and foundation for the firm's success. The firm has far-reaching experience handling disputes born out of the interpretation and enforcement of contractual rights. We develop and adapt our litigation strategies to the particular facts of each case with every matter sharing the common goal of achieving a resolution that best addresses our client's specific business needs. The firm advises clients regarding the costs and benefits of different strategies, including settlement and trial in assessing and minimizing potential litigation risks at each stage of the case's life cycle. As part of this process, we evaluate the feasibility of less expensive alternatives to litigation, including but not limited to alternative dispute resolution.

Jimerson & Cobb takes a professional, yet down-to-earth approach to the practice of law. We understand that, for commercial clients, sound legal decisions must make good business sense and be in line with corporate moral philosophies. We employ this approach through every step of the litigation process, from pre-suit diligence, to pre-trial discovery and on through trial and appeals. Without sacrificing aggressive advocacy, we pride ourselves on finding a balance between asserting rights and reducing liability exposure.

For more information about our <u>Business and Commercial Litigation</u> <u>practice</u>, or to discuss your legal concerns with a lawyer who understands creditors rights and commercial collection law, <u>contact</u> our offices today.

Industry News

FLORIDA HAS MOST MORTGAGE FRAUD CASES FILED

Florida had the <u>most mortgage fraud cases</u> filed of any state in the third quarter, according to MortgageDaily.com's Mortgage Fraud Index.

NFL OWNERS APPROVE KHAN AS NEW JAGUARS OWNER The National Football League owners have approved Shahid Khan as the <u>new owner</u> of the Jacksonville Jaguars.

the United States.

In addition to its commercial operations, Garza Constructors performs repairs, renovations and additions to high end residential projects.

Garza Constructors' principal is Jonathan Garza, who was born and raised in Jacksonville and studied Building Construction at the University of North Florida.

Garza Constructors has been able to maintain consistent growth in what is one of the hardest economic conditions seen in the construction industry in decades. This is a direct testament to Garza's personal dedication, work ethic and quality of construction.

Jimerson & Cobb is very proud and thankful to represent Garza Constructors, Inc., and wishes it continued success and growth in 2012.

Results Driven

- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys analyzed Florida Building Code for local roofing contractor to seek approval of alternative roofing system.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys sought and obtained relief from stay in bankruptcy proceeding and pursued commercial foreclosure on behalf of secured creditors.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys settled Federal court action surrounding declaration of Florida Condominium Statute.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys negotiated and obtained full recovery settlement for medical products supplier after complex litigation initiated.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys

FDIC REACHES \$64 MILLION SETTLEMENT The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. has reached a <u>\$64 million settlement</u> with three former executives of Washington Mutual, Inc.

SIX UP FOR DUVAL JUDICIAL SEAT

The Fourth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission sent six names to Gov. Rick Scott to <u>consider for the open seat</u> on the Duval County bench created by the appointment of Judge Tyrie Boyer to the Circuit bench.

TOP JACKSONVILLE BUSINESS STORIES OF 2011

The recession may have continued throughout 2011, but there were more business-related news that developed this year than just high unemployment numbers, stagnating wages and the Occupy Wall Street movement.

JACKSONVILLE MAYOR WELCOMES \$10 MILLION GRANT FOR PORT

The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant will supply \$10 million to help build an <u>intermodal container transfer facility</u> at JAXPORT.

J&C Firm News

- *Chris Cobb will speak at American Conference Institute's premier Construction Litigation Conference this spring. The conference will be held in Orlando at the Caribe Royale Convention Center from February 29 through March 1. Click here to read more about the conference.
- *Paralegal Alexia Vizcarra-Coronel volunteered her time and skills as a photographer during a pre-event for The Princess Project, an event that raised money to create custom-made dresses for little girls in homeless/rescue shelters. The event was held on December 14 at the Hyatt Downtown. Jimerson & Cobb served as a corporate sponsor.
- *Jimerson & Cobb is proud to be a sponsor of the upcoming Junior Achievement Bowl-A-Thon to support volunteers and learning in the classroom. The Bowl-A-Thon will be held on Saturday, January 28, At Bowl America on San Jose Boulevard in Jacksonville. Visit the Junior Achievement site or click here to view a brochure on the event.
- *Congratulations to file clerk Henry Farber and his wife, Jenn, who just welcomed into the world a healthy baby boy. Zayden Blake Farber was born on December 15 at 5:14 p.m. He weighed in at 7 lbs. 14.5 oz. Best wishes to the new parents!
- *The firm held its first holiday season kick-off breakfast the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We chowed down on homemade pancakes from Lexi, a breakfast casserole from Kelly and numerous early morning fix-ins.
- *Play a Round Fore UNF: save the date for the University of North Florida's Alumni Assocation's 6th Annual Golf Tournament on April 30, 2012. You will not want to miss out on this great event! The money raised will benefit UNF Student Scholarships and the UNF Alumni Association. For more information, contact attorney Chris Cobb.

- substituted as counsel for construction defect case in Alachua County, Florida.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys represented landlord in obtaining resumption of commercial lease for bankrupt tenant in Chapter 11 proceedings.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys litigated forgery defense claim to personal guaranty matter.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys represented HVAC contractor in obtaining full value recovery against Fortune 500 company in disputed goods and services litigation.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys settled construction defect case against roofing contractor.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys successfully defended summary judgment claims in complex lender liability action.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys filed Motion for Summary Judgment in contract dispute surrounding temporary labor costs.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys represented publicly traded company regional bank in multiple complex commercial loan workouts and foreclosures.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys prevailed on appeal of Final Judgment foreclosing construction lien for HVAC work.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys represented commercial bank in obtaining recovery on SBA guaranties after liquidation.
- *Jimerson & Cobb attorneys defended preference action claims resulting in substantial discount settlement from alleged preferential transfers.

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<u>Business and Commerical Litigation</u> | <u>Condominium Law</u> | <u>Construction Law</u>

Corporate Formation, Transactions and Operations | Creditors Rights and Commercial Collections

<u>Landlord-Tenant Law (Commercial)</u> | <u>Real Estate Law</u> | <u>Trade Secret Law</u>

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