



Chris Searcy

Chris Searcy in '2009 Top 100 Lawyers'

Eight SDSBS attorneys named 'Florida's Super Lawyers'

Two SDSBS attorneys named as 'Rising Stars'

(The Super Lawyers article on Chris Searcy is inserted in this issue of SDSBS newsletter Of Counsel.)



Earl Denney



Jack Scarola



Greg Barnhart



John Shipley



Darryl Lewis



Chris Speed



Cal Warriner



Karen Terry



Sia Baker-Barnes

SDSBS attorneys **Chris Searcy, Earl Denney, Jack Scarola, Greg Barnhart, John Shipley, Darryl Lewis, Chris Speed,** and **Cal Warriner** were named to the list of "Florida's Super Lawyers for 2009," the annual consumer guide published by Law and Politics. Only five percent of Florida attorneys have been named to the list. Chris Searcy was also named to the "List of Top 100 Lawyers." The Super Lawyer selection process is based on peer nominations, blue-ribbon panel reviews, and independent research. The publication also named **Karen Terry** and **Sia Baker-Barnes** as "Rising Stars." ■

Accolades

Senators Nelson and Martinez invite Chris Searcy to serve on Southern District Judicial Nominating Commission for two-year term

Chris Searcy has accepted an invitation from U. S. Senators Bill Nelson and Mel Martinez to serve on the Judicial Nominating Commission, an organization jointly established by the senators for the purpose of reviewing applications and recommending the most qualified candidates to serve as U. S. District Court Judges, U. S. Attorneys, and U. S. Marshals in Florida. The JNC is divided into three conferences, corresponding to each of the three federal judicial districts in the state. Mr. Searcy will serve on the Southern District Commission for a two-year term. ■



Sia Baker-Barnes elected to board of the Florida Justice Association

In June 2009, **Sia Baker-Barnes** was elected to the board of the Florida Justice Association. The FJA is dedicated to strengthening and upholding Florida's civil justice system and protecting the rights of Florida's citizens and consumers. ■

SDSBS sponsors Virgil Hawkins 'Florida's First' Legacy Gala at the Florida Bar Convention

The Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter of the National Bar Association held its "Florida's First" Legacy Gala on Saturday, June 27, 2009, in conjunction with the Florida Bar Convention. The Gala honored Florida's first black lawyers, a project spearheaded by Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Peggy Quince. The event featured a historical video and the unveiling of a book that records the history of the pioneers, *Florida's First Black Lawyers (1869-1979)*. SDSBS was a sponsor of the event and attorney **Sia Baker-Barnes** was a member of the research committee, writing several biographies for the book. ■

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