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KEY PARTNERS AWARDS

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WILSON ATKINSON III

Founder, Atkinson, Diner, Stone, Mankuta &
Ploucha, P.A.

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EDUCATION

- B.S.B.A., University of Florida
- J.D., University of Florida

PERSONAL NOTE

- Atkinson has five successfully married children and 14 grandchildren.



Wilson Atkinson III has been an established leader in the South Florida legal community for more than three decades. He has a reputation for his integrity, effectiveness and volunteerism.

In 2011, Atkinson completed what became a fifteen-year odyssey: the project approval, 99-year lease and EB5 financing of the \$127 million Margaritaville hotel and entertainment project on Hollywood Beach. To do so, Atkinson assembled and managed a team of immigration attorneys and consultants who obtained EB5 financing for the project and also worked closely with a team of hospitality industry experts. Particularly gratifying Atkinson is that he had represented two other developer clients since the mid-1990s, going up against one of the most powerful lobbyists. The first two times, he lost to the same op-

posing attorney on projects that never got off the ground due to their inability to obtain financing. This time, he prevailed.

Among Atkinson's community involvement, he served the Leadership Broward Foundation, is former chairman of Florida Bar Grievance Committee, former commissioner and chairman of the South Broward Hospital District, and former chairman of the Downtown Hollywood Redevelopment Committee.

To Atkinson, a key partner is "a person who reflects a commitment to plan for the future of the law firm so as to enhance and preserve its reputation and position in the community," he says. "The person enjoys and strives to represent clients that wish to apply the law to ethically better their position without the desire to undermine or take advantage of the people they are working with."