
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

OCT. 16, 2022

Balkan, Patterson & Charbonnet

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BOCA RATON LAW FIRM WINS THREE MAJOR CASES IN COURT JUST IN THE PAST 10 MONTHS – Board Certified Makes Difference

Boca Raton, FL: Most attorneys never set foot in a courtroom, despite what you see on television shows. A small percentage of lawyers and law firms have substantial trial experience. Less than 1% of attorneys in Florida are Board Certified in Civil Trial Law by the Florida Bar. Adam Balkan, Board Certified Civil Trial Attorney with the firm of Balkan Patterson & Charbonnet, has recently won three major trials in Florida courtrooms over the last ten months. These cases are outlined below, and total five million, five hundred thousand dollars in judgments.

“I respect my peers, and we have many good attorneys in Florida. But consumers often don’t understand the differences that Board Certification and trial experience make,” explains Balkan. “Any attorney who passes the Bar exam can open for business and take on any type of case. Their clients aren’t sure what their level of ability or knowledge is in that area of law. Having Board Certification as a Civil Trial lawyer is an achievement that my law firm puts into use every single day.”

It is extremely rare to win three major court trials in a year or two, let alone in ten months. Leah Charbonnet, a highly talented trial lawyer, recently joined the law firm and has tried dozens of jury trials in both State and Federal courts. Ms. Charbonnet was instrumental in obtaining the verdict last month in Palm Beach County. “We are poised and ready to take our clients into the courtroom if necessary. Having an attorney that tries cases benefits not only the clients whose cases go to trial, but it serves to maximize recoveries for the plaintiffs. Defense counsel knows that our firm is ready and willing to come to court,” she states.

CASE OUTLINES, 3 VERDICTS WON BY BALKAN, PATTERSON & CHARBONNET:

Timothy Karlsen v. Competitive Concrete Pumping, Inc. et al

Case No. 19-CA-3132 Collier County

Plaintiff was rear-ended at an intersection after he stopped for an emergency vehicle. He suffered traumatic brain injury resulting in mild cognitive impairment. He lost his ability to work in sales and much of his capacity to enjoy the things he used to do. Jury awarded a total

of \$4.7 million, which was reduced by 15% for comparative negligence. The actual verdict is \$4,000,000. Verdict date: December 9, 2021.

Rhon West v. Edna Limage

Case No. 19-16622 Broward County

Plaintiff was on motorcycle on I-95 when and SUV merged into his lane and hit him. Defendant denied liability and claimed Plaintiff rode into her. Plaintiff had surgery on knee and foot. Jury awarded \$1,000,000, which was reduced for 20% comparative negligence for an actual verdict of \$800,000. Verdict date: February 25, 2022

Central Dynamics Corp., d/b/a Cendyn v. Meghan Smith/ Meghan Smith v. Cendyn

A complex employment case involved Plaintiff leaving her job in 2013. Her employer sued her for Misappropriation of Trade Secrets and Breach of a Confidentiality Agreement (she was accused of forwarding work emails from her Cendyn account to her own personal account). The plaintiff countersued (called a Counterclaim) for seven years of unpaid commissions that were due to her. At trial the Judge issued a directed verdict against Cendyn for its Misappropriation of Trade Secrets and Breach of Confidentiality, which means the Judge dismissed their case due to lack of evidence. The Plaintiff won her counterclaim and was awarded \$700,000. Verdict date: September 20, 2022

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

July 26, 2022

Balkan, Patterson & Charbonnet

Boca Raton, FL:

The law firm of Balkan & Patterson proudly announces the addition of a new partner and a new name for the firm! Leah Charbonnet joins the firm in representing plaintiffs in personal injury, defective products, premises liability and commercial litigation claims. Prior to joining Balkan & Patterson, Leah represented insurance companies and their insureds for more than a decade. She left insurance defense to use her knowledge, experience, and skills to advocate for victims of catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death involving motor vehicle collisions, premises liability and defective products. Her insight on how insurance companies analyze, evaluate and defend cases will greatly benefit her clients.

She attended high school in Broward County at J.P. Taravella and went on to obtain her B.A. from Tufts University. Following her completion of her undergraduate studies she worked at State Street Global Advisors in Boston, until moving to Houston to work for a law firm specializing in mass tort pharmaceutical litigation. She went on to attend law school at the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law, where she served on UMKC Law Review and obtained her J.D. in 2006.

In 2006, Charbonnet returned to Florida where she was admitted to the Florida Bar, focusing on her personal injury practice. She has represented both individual and corporate clients and has litigated thousands of cases. She has successfully tried dozens of jury trials in both State and Federal Courts.

Charbonnet resides in Deerfield Beach with her husband Mark and her two sons, Nicholas and Ryan. She enjoys spending time with her family, boating, and traveling. “I’m excited for my future, working with Adam Balkan,” she stated. “Our clients will be my absolute top priority”.

Effective July 18th, 2022, the new law firm name is Balkan, Patterson & Charbonnet, located at 1877 S. Federal Hwy, Suite 100, Boca Raton, FL 33432