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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alvarez, Winthrop, Thompson & Smoak, P.A. is Pleased to Announce that Chance C. Arias, Carla M. Sabbagh, and Libbie Reese have become Senior Counsel of the Firm.

Orlando, FL (May 2022) – AWTSPA is pleased to announce that Chance C. Arias, Carla M. Sabbagh, and Libbie Reese have become Senior Counsel of the Firm.

Chance Arias has focused his practice on complex civil litigation cases, involving personal injury, wrongful death and general insurance defense, with a focus on commercial transportation defense and commercial premises litigation. Mr. Arias began his legal career as a prosecutor in Hillsborough County. During his time as a prosecutor, he was tasked with resolving a wide variety of felony and misdemeanor cases, which included attempted homicide, drug trafficking, armed robbery, and other serious crimes against people and property. In this capacity, Chance refined his courtroom prowess with a string of successful trial verdicts and brought his trial experience over to the civil litigation arena.

Chance has extensive experience representing commercial carriers and a wide range of transportation litigation, to include catastrophic or complex multi-party collisions involving tractor-trailers, tow trucks, bus lines, and other commercial vehicles. He is part of the Firm's 24-hour Commercial Transportation Emergency Response Team. Chance also has considerable experience representing shopping centers, restaurants, night clubs, retail establishments and other premises owners in litigation arising from all aspects of premises liability. He also has experience handling a wide variety of business litigation, including Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act ("FDUTPA"), and Florida Consumer Collection Practices Act ("FCCPA").

Carla M. Sabbagh has significant appellate experience and has presented oral arguments before the various Florida District Courts of Appeal and has obtained favorable results for clients from the Florida Supreme Court, and this experience made her a clear choice to be our Firm's appellate practice leader. Ms. Sabbagh also has extensive experience in the defense of litigation arising from personal injury and wrongful death and her knowledge of insurance has served her well in handling "bad faith" claims. Carla's practice also includes representing a variety of insureds and self-insureds in a wide variety of automobile and commercial transportation litigation. Our clients also benefit from her experience in defending litigation arising from all

aspects of premises liability, including negligent security and construction defect claims. She has also represented a wide variety of clients in business litigation, and cases involving all aspects of commercial torts, copyright infringement.

**Libbie Reese** began her legal career handling a variety of general litigation, including mortgage foreclosure litigation, homeowner/condominium association foreclosure, and workers' compensation insurance defense. She then spent several years as the H.R. Manager and served as In-House Counsel for an assisted living facility before joining to our Firm to further pursue and expand her litigation experience.

Mrs. Reese has focused her practice on the representation of insureds and self-insureds in a wide variety of claims involving general insurance defense and litigation arising from all aspects of personal injury and wrongful death. Libbie handles a wide variety of litigation, including automobile and commercial transportation litigation, to include multi-party collisions involving tractor-trailers, and other commercial vehicles. Libbie also has considerable experience representing apartments, shopping centers, restaurants, night clubs, retail establishments and other premises owners in litigation arising from all aspects of premises liability.

## About Alvarez, Winthrop, Thompson & Smoak, P.A.

Alvarez, Winthrop, Thompson & Smoak, P.A. is a full-service law firm, servicing the business and litigation needs of their clients. The goal of Alvarez, Winthrop, Thompson & Smoak, P.A. is to provide competent, effective, aggressive and well-prepared representation in an efficient manner. Offices located in Orlando, Tampa, Gainesville, and Fort Lauderdale, serving clients both locally and statewide. For more information about Alvarez, Winthrop, Thompson & Smoak, P.A., please visit <a href="http://www.awtspa.com">http://www.awtspa.com</a> or contact 407.210.2796 or info@awtspa.com

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