

Robbins Russell Selected for *National Law Journal's* "Appellate Hot List"

The National Law Journal has named Robbins Russell one of the 21 firms in the publication's "2009 Appellate Hot List," which recognizes firms with "stellar records in appellate advocacy." According to the publication, "The firms on this list contributed in meaningful ways to the most important appeals of the year, whether through drafting the main briefs, presenting oral arguments or as friends of the court." The article, which appeared in the April 6, 2009, issue, included many prestigious firms. All of the other honored firms are considerably larger than Robbins Russell.

Robbins Russell lawyers have litigated literally hundreds of appellate cases in their legal careers. Their lawyers' experience includes presenting 42 arguments in the Supreme Court of the United States (with a record of 35 wins, 6 defeats, and 1 split decision). Six of the firm's 12 partners have argued cases in the Supreme Court.

The following are the firm's appellate achievements that were highlighted in the *National Law Journal* article:

In *U.S. v. Safavian*, 528 F.3d 957 (D.C. Cir. 2008). Larry Robbins argued the case with help on the briefs from Don Russell, Alice Yao, and Dan Walfish. Robbins Russell prevailed in overturning all convictions of David H. Safavian, former chief of staff of the General Services Administration, arising from his relationship with lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

In *In re Terrorist Attacks on Sept. 11, 2001*, 538 F.3d 71 (2d Cir. 2008), petition for cert. pending, No. 08-640. Larry Robbins, Roy Englert, Alison Barnes, Max Huffman, and Rachel S. Li Wai Suen represented the Saudi High Commission for Relief to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The court affirmed on sovereign immunity ground dismissal of the high commission from suits seeking to blame hundreds of defendants for the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

In *U.S. v. Howard*, 517 F.3d 731 (5th Cir. 2008). Larry Robbins and Matt Segal prevailed on the court to affirm dismissal of five convictions of the chief financial officer of Enron Corp.'s broadband unit, citing *U.S. v. Brown*, 459 F.3d 509 (5th Cir. 2006), which clarified the meaning of "honest services" fraud.