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Linda D. Friedman

Partner, Stowell & Friedman, Ltd.



Ray Garcia

The Law Office of Ray Garcia, P.A.

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Linda D. Friedman is currently the managing partner of Stowell & Friedman, Ltd. where she has practiced law since 1989. In this informative interview, she discusses the case of *Martens V. Smith*, the landmark sexual harassment suit that exposed Smith Barney's notorious "Boom Boom Room" in the Wall Street firm's Garden City, Long Island, branch office. There, male employees allegedly retired to drink alcohol and deride their female counterparts in extremely harsh terms.

Linda was also lead counsel on the statistical evidence hearing held in the case of *Cremin v. Merrill Lynch*, which resulted in a class wide pattern and practice finding of gender discrimination as part of a settlement process and recovery of hundreds of millions of dollars for women. She has been counsel in other high-profile significant verdict cases, for example, *Sumner v. Merrill Lynch*, *Biondo v. City of Chicago* (four jury trials in a class action race discrimination suit); *Dornbos v. County of Cook*, (an FLSA collective jury trial for the Bomb

Squad) and Roche v. City of Chicago (a collective action successfully challenging the City of Chicago's mandatory age retirement policy for approximately 50 plaintiffs who filed related actions).

During her career, Linda has received many honors, including from DePaul University College of Law where she was recognized by the Women's Alumni Association and recently from Working Women where she was named one of 35 Champions for Change this year in celebration of the organization's 35th Anniversary. She has been featured in Law and Leading Attorneys each year it has reviewed candidates. Linda has also appeared on CNBC, CNN and been asked to comment on legal stories for the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Fortune, DOW, Reuters, Bloomberg, and many others.

Ray Garcia is a highly distinguished attorney with considerable expertise in the fields of commercial litigation, bankruptcy, foreclosure defense, labor disputes, real estate and business law. In this insightful interview, he discusses fraud in residential loan applications whereby the lender or the broker would inflate and falsify the income and assets of the homeowner in order to qualify him/her for a loan they could obviously not afford. Brokers representing lenders often did not care about this situation because they got their commissions at closing regardless of whether the borrower paid or not. Most originating lenders, especially the sub-primes, did not care, either, because they were going to package these loans and then sell them to investors.

You can listen to these fabulous guests on ABC Radio Networks or by listening now right here.

Hosted by Steve Murphy.



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