

Gala Script

7:45 – SALADS ON TABLE

8:00 – BEGIN PROGRAM

(EMCEE)

Welcome to the Coral Gables Bar Association's Annual President's Ball. The Association's mission is to promote the exchange of ideas and information, the observance of the highest professional and ethical standards, the education of our members on relevant issues in the legal profession and service to the community and the City Beautiful. Now, we introduce President Bruce Bounds. Mr. Bounds has served as the president of this organization for the past year.

(BRUCE)

Thank you all for joining us tonight. I would like to begin by thanking our honored guests for attending our 2012 President's Ball. First, we are grateful for the support of the judges in the community. Would all the judges present please stand and be recognized? [They stand, applause] We are also pleased to welcome Tarlesha Smith representing the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association and President Garrett Biondo of the Dade County Bar Association. Would the voluntary bar leaders present please stand and be recognized? [They stand, applause] We have the City Attorney for the City of Coral Gables Craig Leen. Would you please stand and be recognized?

Finally, it is our honor to welcome the Honorable Jim Cason, Mayor of the City of Coral Gables. Please stand as Mayor Cason leads us all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(BRUCE AND MAYOR SHAKE HANDS, BRUCE SITS)

[Pledge]

(EMCEE)

Now, please be seated for the invocation, to be given by The Very Reverend Douglas McCaleb, Dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Completed in 1925, Trinity Cathedral is an urban faith community based in a Romanesque Revival structure currently under restoration.

(DEAN MCCALEB STANDS)

[Invocation]

(EMCEE)

Thank you. Enjoy your meal. We will begin the program in a few minutes.

8:15 DINNER SERVED

8:30 KEYNOTE SPEAKER INTRODUCED

(EMCEE)

Tonight we are pleased to present Keynote Speaker Billy Corben. A Miami native, Corben co-founded Rakontur, a Miami-based media studio, in 2000, and released his feature documentary debut at the Sundance Film Festival in 2001, making him the youngest director to premiere in Sundance history. His next film, Cocaine Cowboys, premiered at the 2006 Tribeca Film Festival, was called “a hyperventilating account of the blood-drenched Miami drug culture in the 1970s and 1980s” by the New York Times and selected as New York Magazine’s Critic’s Pick. It aired on Showtime and was the highest rated documentary in the cable network’s history. Corben is also known for directing The U, a feature documentary about the championship history of the University of Miami Hurricanes Football program, produced by Rakontur for ESPN’s 30 for 30 series, became the highest rated documentary in the network’s thirty-year history when it debuted in 2009. On Tuesday, he premiered his latest film "Broke" on the second ESPN 30 for 30 series to rave reviews. Please welcome Mr. Billy Corben.

(BILLY CORBEN SPEAKS)

[Speech]

(EMCEE)

Thank you Mr. Corben. We will resume the program shortly.

8:45 DESSERT SERVED AND RECOGNITION OF IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT AND PAST PRESIDENT’S AWARD

(EMCEE)

And now we acknowledge the service of our immediate past president, Mr. Bruce M. Bounds. Bruce has made great contributions to the association and the community during his tenure. The Association looks forward to continuing its service to the legal community and outreach to those in need. We thank him for his service and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

[Applause]

(BRUCE)

Thank you all. It has been a pleasure to serve for the past year as President, and I now understand what dedication has been required of our past-presidents to make this organization a success for so many years. With that in mind, we would like to acknowledge all of the past presidents of the association. Would the past presidents stand and be recognized? [applause]

Now, I would like to present the past president’s award. The past president’s award is given to acknowledge members of the association who have made extraordinary contributions to the association.

First, we would like to acknowledge the Honorable Don S. Cohn. Judge Cohn has been a stalwart supporter of our association, attending so many events that it is difficult to keep track.

Judge Cohn, in appreciation for your support, we would like for you to accept this award and congratulate you on your re-election. [PRESENT AWARD]
[APPLAUSE]

Second, we would like to acknowledge Sandra Bennett, of Findlaw. For the past year, Sandra has taken on the responsibility of accepting reservations to attend our monthly mixers, as well as checking in guests at the events. Without her help, the mixers would not have been such a success. Thank you Sandra, and in appreciation for your help, we would like to present you with this award. [PRESENT AWARD] We look forward to your service on the publicity committee this year.
[APPLAUSE]

Finally, we would like to acknowledge Kayla Riera-Gomez. Kayla has served as treasurer for the past year, ensuring that our budgets are met, taking reservations for our events, and generally making sure that we can continue to serve the community. Kayla, you have been amazing this year – a full time attorney at Fowler White Burnett, the mother of Christopher with Michael on the way, the wife of Tim, and still an extraordinary contributor to this association. Thank you Kayla and we look forward to your service as President-Elect. [PRESENT AWARD]

[APPLAUSE]

(EMCEE)

The oath of office will be administered by Judge Celeste Hardee Muir. Judge Muir has been a member of the bench since she was appointed to County Court by Governor Graham. Elevated to the circuit bench in 1990 by Governor Martinez, she has served as a judge in criminal, civil, family and most recently in the probate division since 2005. She has served on the Mayor's task force against mortgage fraud and currently serves on the executive council of the Florida Bar Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section. She has been a staunch supporter of our association. Please welcome Judge Muir.

[Applause]

(EMCEE)

Now, we welcome Mayor Cason and the Association's Board of Directors for 2012-2013 to the stage:

David Bianchi
Andres Correa
Jorge Fors, Jr.
Javier L. Gonzalez
Kim Greenberg
Pedro Herrera
Amir Isaiah
Jerome J. Kavulich
Veronica Lacayo
John P. Murray

Diane Perez
Heidi M. Roth
Laura L. Russo
Blake Sando

(JUDGE)

[Oath]

I do solemnly swear,
that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Florida,
that I will adhere to the bylaws of the Coral Gables Bar Association,
that I will promote the mission and purpose of the Coral Gables Bar Association,
and that I will faithfully fulfill all the duties incumbent on me,
according to the best of my abilities and understanding,
So help me God.

[APPLAUSE]

(MAYOR PRESENTS CERTIFICATES TO EACH DIRECTOR AND SHAKES HANDS)

(EMCEE)

Now, we invite the officers for 2012-2013 to the stage

Secretary Jim Roen	[pronounced Rowen]
Treasurer Tomas Pila	[pronounced Pee-lah]
President-Elect Kayla Riera-Gomez	Ree-air-ah Gomez]
President Jane Muir	[pronounced Mew-err]
Immediate Past-President Bruce Bounds	

(JUDGE)

[Oath]

I do solemnly swear,
that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Florida,
that I will adhere to the bylaws of the Coral Gables Bar Association,
that I will promote the mission and purpose of the Coral Gables Bar Association,
and that I will faithfully fulfill all the duties incumbent on me,
according to the best of my abilities and understanding,
So help me God.

(MAYOR PRESENTS CERTIFICATES TO EACH DIRECTOR AND SHAKES HANDS)

[Applause]

8:55 CHAMPAGNE TOAST

(EMCEE)

Standing in for Mr. William Benson, please welcome Dan Felix, COO of Billionaires Row, a world-class event planning, branding and promotional firm. From Miami to Monaco, Billionaires Row is best known for top shelf events and launches that co-mingle celebrities, athletes, socialites and corporate notables at world renowned locales such as the the Kentucky Derby, the Grammys and the Superbowl. We are honored to have the support of Billionaires Row for our

President's Ball, and in celebration of the launch of the 2012-2013 year of the Coral Gables Bar Association, we invite Mr. Felix to give a toast.

[OR- IF WILLIAM BENSON ATTENDS: Please welcome Willim Benson, CEO of Billionaires Row, a world-class event planning, branding and promotional firm. From Miami to Monaco, Billionaires Row is best known for top shelf events and launches that co-mingle celebrities, athletes, socialites and corporate notables at world renowned locales such as the the Kentucky Derby, the Grammys and the Superbowl. We are honored to have the support of Billionaires Row for our President's Ball, and in celebration of the launch of the 2012-2013 year of the Coral Gables Bar Association, we invite Mr. Benson to give a toast.]

[Speech, toast, applause]

9:00 JANE MUIR GIVES SPEECH

[APPLAUSE] Start playing music- start with kind of oldies to warm people up ok? ☺)

END