

GULFSHORE BUSINESS

SEPTEMBER 2013

COURT- ROOM WIZARDS

11 ATTORNEYS YOU DON'T WANT TO FACE IN COURT

BY JENNIFER REED



YALE T. FREEMAN

Firm: Yale T. Freeman, Attorney at Law

Specialty: criminal defense and internal investigations on behalf of fraud victims

Law School: University of Miami

Years in Practice: 40

What drew you to law? The true story is I came to Florida to build track homes. My background in college was real estate. I decided to go to law school solely to better my real estate development. I went to the University of Miami, and my wife and I knew one person in town, an attorney named Joel Hirschhorn. I clerked for him. He got a couple breaks and got associated with a very prominent criminal defense lawyer, and the next thing I know, I'm

doing criminal defense. We were just so fortunate—we got to do very high-profile cases at very young ages.

Biggest success or most gratifying case? My most gratifying case involved the ValueJet air crash, where desired results in the face of what would appear to be insurmountable circumstances.

What others say: He's a master strategist. He thinks four moves ahead of his opponents. And he makes friends with his opponents. He has a nonconfrontational style and develops personal relationships with his adversaries. Based on his presentation, his clients may not get prosecuted at all, or if they are, it may be for much less than originally anticipated. —attorney Martin Raskin