MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

and

THE FLORIDA BAR INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

WHEREAS

- A. The New York State Bar Association ("NYSBA") was established in 1876 with the objective of cultivating the science of jurisprudence, promoting reform in the law, facilitating the administration of justice and elevating the standards of integrity, honor, professional skill and courtesy in the legal profession. NYSBA has a number of sections, including the International Section ("NYSBA International"), which advance the interests of NYSBA members internationally.
- B. The Florida Bar ("FB") was established in 1950 as a unified, or mandatory, bar association to encourage cooperation and communication among members and to create a unified disciplinary system. The FB International Law Section ("ILS"), organized in 1981, brings together over 1,000 FB members with an interest in international law, including foreign and comparative law.
- C. Each association addresses the specialized interest of members through the establishment of sections.
- D. Each association has formed an international law section or group, the objectives of which include clarification and promotion of the rights of their respective members when practicing international law, practicing in foreign jurisdictions or otherwise becoming involved in international transactions.
- E. The ability of each association to advance the interests of its members would be enhanced through close co-operation with the equivalent sections or groups of prominent law associations in other countries.
- F. In February 2015 and February 2016, the FB ILS held its annual International Litigation, Arbitration & Transactions (ILAT) Conferences, and invited and included the participation of members of NYSBA International. The FB ILS hopes to continue including similar participation from NYSBA International when and as appropriate.
- G. NYSBA International regularly hosts its own international meetings and conferences, for which it hopes to include similar participation from members of the FB ILS when and as appropriate.
- H. There is a longstanding mutual respect between members of the FB and members of the legal profession in New York State, with many members in common.

I. The above events demonstrate that there are opportunities for additional cooperation between the FB ILS and NYSBA International and have emphasized the need for closer relations between the legal professionals of the FB ILS and NYSBA International.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE FB ILS AND NYSBA, DESIROUS OF MEMORIALIZING AN AGREEMENT RECOGNIZING THEIR COMMON INTERESTS AND GOALS AND TO FURTHER ENCOURAGE COOPERATION, RESOLVE AND STATE:

NYSBA and the FB ILS:

- recognizing their mutual interests in the law;
- desiring to strengthen their co-operation in promoting the mutual respect and exchange between lawyers in both countries and the exchange of legal information and materials;
- recognizing their mutual support for the rule of law and the development of legal research work throughout the world;
- recognizing the growing importance of trade around the world and the need for closer ties among people in the legal profession and the vital part played by the law in these relationships;
- recognizing the potential for more effectively addressing international legal issues through international programs, seminars, congresses, community outreach projects and the exchange of publications internationally;
- recognizing the advantages inherent in developing and improving understanding within each jurisdiction of the laws of the other jurisdictions relevant to international business transactions, commercial disputes, human rights and the transnational delivery of legal services; and
- recognizing that this agreement is not legally binding and is not intended to have any legally binding effect on the parties and shall be valid for three (3) years commencing on the date hereof provided that it can be terminated at any time by either party giving written notice to the other party and such termination shall be effective within 30 days after receipt of written notice;

hereby agree that they will seek to enhance the honor of the law and the profession of law and to develop and maintain a relationship based on mutual respect and co-operation, and that through exchanges based on mutual respect and co-operation, and specifically through exchanges as appropriate of legal publications, materials and information, as well as visits of lawyers, and possibly through the conduct of educational events, they will endeavor to strengthen the bonds which join them as members of the international legal profession.

for the New York State Bar Association

for The Florida Bar International Law Section

Signed

Witness

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