

NORMAN AND JANE MOSCOWITZ

EIGHT YEARS AGO, Norman and Jane Moscowitz teamed up to open Moscowitz & Moscowitz, PA, their own Miami litigation firm. But their personal collaboration goes back much further, as they celebrated 39 years of marriage in August. "We're the leading edge of the baby boomers," says Norman Moscowitz. "We're both 62, but I'm two days older than Jane."

Jane Moscowitz grew up in Texas, and earned a bachelor's degree at the University of Houston, and master's degree from Rutgers University. Norman, a native New Yorker, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Columbia College and Princeton University. The two met as summer camp counselors in the Catskills, and married soon after graduating from college. It took them several more years to decide to go to law school. They graduated from Harvard Law School together in 1977.

"We were moot court partners in our first year in law school, so we've been working together a long time," says Norman. After earning their law degrees, Jane joined the U.S. attorney's office in Baltimore, while Norman worked in Washington, DC, on denaturalization and deportation cases involving Nazi war criminals.

The Moscowitzes came to Miami in 1982, working for the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of Florida. They also began a family and have daughters, Ariela, 24, and Anna, 18. Jane joined Steel Hector & Davis in 1987, but after five years, realized she wasn't "cut out for life in a large firm," she says. Instead, she joined attorney Jeanne Baker in a criminal law partnership, Baker & Moscowitz. Then, when Baker joined the public defender's office, she formed her own firm, Jane W. Moscowitz, P.A.

Meanwhile, Norman spent 11 years with the U.S. Attorney's Office, and then joined Bilzin Sumberg in 1993. Six years later, he had an opportunity to represent a client in the criminal case resulting from the 1996 ValuJet crash in the Everglades. However, the firm had a conflict so he decided to leave and do the case. "Jane also had a defendant in the trial," he recalls "After the trial, I decided to take the plunge and join her. The time was right for both of us and things have worked out very well."

Jane says she and her husband usually have their own cases and "backstop" each other. "When we do have a case together, we don't always agree about how something should be handled," she adds. "Since we're equal partners, sometimes we compromise – but at other times one defers to the other."

Both partners at Moscowitz & Moscowitz focus on criminal litigation, fraud-related civil matters and public company investigations. "I really trust Jane and value her judgment and advice," says Norman. "We consult each other all the time, much to the betterment of our clients – and the boredom of our children."