

Q&A: Robin Bresky, of Schwartz Sladkus, on Growing a Regional Office

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Robin Bresky of Schwartz Sladkus Reich Greenberg Atlas. Courtesy photo

Robin Bresky forged a path from solo practitioner to leading a boutique appellate firm that later merged with New York-based Schwartz Sladkus Reich Greenberg Atlas.

Today, she leads the firm's South Florida office.

In this conversation, Bresky discusses the strategy behind expanding a regional office and explains why she launched initiatives focused on attorney wellness and mentorship.

Q: What's the hardest part about growing a regional office, and what do you wish someone had told you before you took it on?

A: The hardest part of growing a regional office is balancing strategic growth with culture. You can hire talented lawyers and bring in strong clients, but building a cohesive team that feels connected (to each other and to the firm's broader vision) takes intentional effort.

What I wish someone had told me earlier is that growth isn't just about expansion, but rather about consistency, communication, and trust. You have to be present, listen closely to your peers, and invest time in mentorship, even when the pace is demanding. Managing expectations, both internally and externally, is also critical. Growth brings opportunity, but it also brings complexity, and success depends on having the right people, clear processes, and a shared commitment to excellence and professionalism from day one.

Q: How do you balance serving local clients with the broader strategic goals of a firm based in New York?

A: It starts with alignment and communication. Our clients in Florida expect personalized service and a deep understanding of the local legal and business landscape, and that can never be compromised. At the same time, being part of a national firm allows us to draw on broader resources, institutional knowledge, and collaboration across offices.

I'm intentional about making sure our Florida team is empowered to serve clients efficiently and independently, while also staying closely connected to firm leadership and strategy. Regular communication, shared standards, and cross-office collaboration help ensure we're delivering consistent quality everywhere. When local insight and firmwide vision work together, clients benefit from both regional responsiveness and national strength.

Q: You founded the Attorney Wellness Exchange in 2018. What prompted you to take that step?

A: I was seeing too many talented, successful lawyers struggling quietly with stress and burnout. The legal profession often rewards overwork and discourages vulnerability, and I felt there was a real need for a space where attorneys could focus on their well-being without stigma. I wanted to bring together experienced lawyers who were established in their careers but still searching for balance and fulfillment.

AWE was designed to be practical and supportive, offering access to high-quality speakers on topics like stress management, nutrition, sleep, and mindset, while also fostering genuine connection. It started as a small, in-person group in Florida and has since grown nationally, but the goal has always remained the same: helping attorneys build healthier, more sustainable lives and careers.

Q: Tell me about the mentoring program you launched with your firm. What problem were you trying to solve?

A: I launched SSRGA's Women Lawyer Mentoring Program to address a gap I've seen throughout my career: talented women often lack access to consistent mentorship and sponsorship at critical points in their professional development. Early on, I experienced how isolating the profession can be, especially in environments where women are underrepresented in leadership.

The program was designed to create intentional connections between women attorneys at different stages of their careers, offering guidance, advocacy, and practical insight that isn't always taught formally. We focus not just on legal skills, but on confidence, business development, leadership, and navigating challenges unique to women in the profession. The goal is to retain strong talent, support advancement, and ensure women lawyers feel seen, supported, and empowered to grow within the firm and the profession.