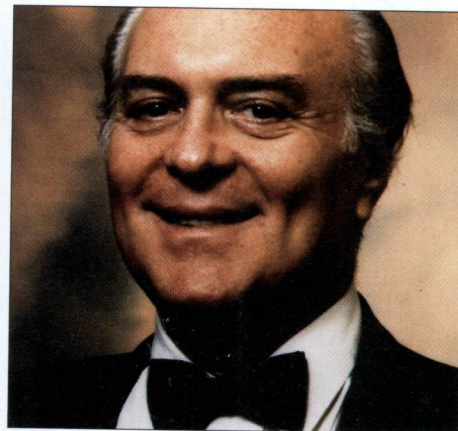


PHOTO: CHRIS GROSSO

James Ferraro
Attorney, Miami

As ultimate champion for the underdog, James Ferraro is on a constant mission. "I want to take on the whole world," he says rather seriously. "It's mercenaries like us that can bring out the truth and take on corporate America." He is not kidding: In 1997 Ferraro was one of 10 finalists for Trial Lawyer of the Year for becoming the first attorney to successfully try a case against DuPont for manufacturing a product that caused a child to be born without eyes. Specializing in asbestos litigation for over 16 years, he's tried many cases that resulted in multi-million dollar verdicts and his negotiated settlements are in the half billion dollar range. His Miami-based law firm, Ferraro & Associates, P.A. currently represents over 40,000 asbestos claimants. But winning trials and making money are not the only things that fuel him — the former University of Miami football player has an intense passion for children's charities. This year alone, he was the highest donor at the Make-A-Wish foundation fundraising gala. He jumped on stage and announced he'd match any wishes pledged that night. His total donation was just under \$100,000. "The best thing a person can do is help other people if you have the means," he says. "You need to be productive and keep a balance with what you have. You can have 10 cars, but you can only drive one at a time."



Melvin Dick
Senior Vice President, Southern Wine and Spirits, Miami

Nearing his 40th anniversary with the company, Melvin Dick heads up the wine division of Southern Wine & Spirits of America. The Miami-based enterprise chalked up \$5.5 billion in sales in 2004, representing more than 17 percent of total domestic wine and spirits wholesaler revenue. Dick, who gained much of his competitive nature from childhood hero and lifelong friend Sugar Ray Robinson, says his core business philosophy is, "Shoot for the moon, and when you're there, go a little further." >