

John Thomas Szymkowicz

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Professional Experience:

Attorney-at-Law

In private practice, 1976 to present

Owner of, or Partner in, various firms, 1980 to present

Current Employment:

Szymkowicz & Szymkowicz, LLP.

August 1998 to present

Responsibilities include: Representing parties in complex civil cases in state and federal courts and in arbitration; drafting and reviewing contracts; advising businesses in general corporate matters, including preparation of business plans and in establishing a strategic focus; representing foreign governments and non-U.S. citizens in wide variety of civil and criminal matters.

Selected Accomplishments:

Attorney for Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, Washington, D.C.

Represented Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Washington D.C. as well as the Cultural and Medical Divisions of the Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office from 1987 through 2001.

Also represented members of the country's ruling family, the Ambassadors and other diplomats, the Central Bank, many U.A.E. students enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities and over five hundred U.A.E. military personnel serving in U.S. training programs. Maintain strong contacts at highest levels of Abu Dhabi Royal Family, U.A.E. Foreign Service and Military.

Licensed by U.S. Treasury Department to Represent Libyan Government

Provided advice to senior officials in the Libyan Government concerning U.S. law, including sovereign immunity, head of state immunity, sanctions for dealing with Libyan entities and Pan Am Flight 103/Lockerbie litigation.

Invited by Libyan Government to Deliver Lectures at Various Televised Conferences

Delivered lectures to conferences in Maastricht, Holland and Valletta, Malta which were televised in _____ concerning U.S./Libyan relations.

Established Familiarity with Special Aspects of Islamic Banking

Zarur v. Central Bank of United Arab Emirates CA 88-468-A (E.D.VA.)

Successfully represented UAE Central Bank in action brought by disgruntled consultant.

First American Bank et al. v. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, et al., CA 93-1309 (D.D.C.).

Represented the third largest shareholder of the holding company established by BCCI to purchase First American Bank. Client was one of only two defendants, and the only defendant from the United Arab Emirates, who did not pay Plaintiffs to dismiss their claims.

Advised U.S. Law Firms and Corporations on Middle East Laws, Customs and Business Practices

Counseled numerous Foreign and Domestic Entities on Compliance with U.S. Treasury Department, Office of Foreign Asset Control Regulations

Lead Attorney in Several Cases which Helped Define U.S. Sovereign Immunity Law

M.C.I. v. Alhadhood, et al., 82 F.3d 658 (5th Cir. 1996), cert. denied,

M.C.I. Telecommunications Corp. v. United Arab Emirates, et al., 519 U.S. 1007 (1996).

Successfully represented the UAE in overturning a 1.1 million dollar judgment through denial of Petition for Certiorari filed by MCI in the US Supreme Court.

Sturza v. UAE, (D.D.C.), Case # -CV-98-2051.

Successfully defended the UAE in a breach of contract and copyright infringement brought by architect. Won case on Summary Judgment. Architect represented by Covington & Burlington. Case was later overturned on appeal. (UAE was represented by new counsel on appeal).

Major Aviation Tort

Panahi v. ValuJet Airlines, Inc. St. Ct. Ful. Cty. GA 97-VS-0131962j

Plaintiff's Counsel in ValuJet Flight 592 Litigation Represented estates of UAE-Iranian family, which perished in the 1996 Valu-Jet Flight 592 airplane crash.

Bar Memberships:

United States Supreme Court. Fourth and Fifth Circuits.

All State and Federal Courts in the District of Columbia and Maryland

Pro Hac Vice appearances in California. Georgia. Pennsylvania. Texas. Virginia and Wyoming

Military Service:

United States Marine Corps. Active Duty. 1968-1971. Inactive Reserves. 1971-1976

Honorable Discharge as Captain. June 1976

Served as supply officer in Viet Nam. Okinawa. and Camp Le Jeune. North Carolina.

Decorations include Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V.

Received highest fitness report for a lieutenant in an infantry battalion engaged in combat operations in Viet Nam.

Education:

Georgetown University Law Center. Washington. DC

Juris Doctor. May 1974

University of Maryland School of Business and Public Administration. College Park. Maryland

Bachelor of Science in Economics. June 1968