

Attorney Kepler Funk selected as expert to contribute to World Justice Project

MELBOURNE (April 11, 2022) — Attorney Kepler Funk (ksep@fsdcrimlaw.com), of the Melbourne firm Funk, Szachacz & Diamond, was once again selected as an expert to contribute to the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index report for 2022. The World Justice Project is based in Washington, D.C., with chairs that have included former Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, Jimmy Carter, and Bill Gates.

Gates stated at the World Justice Forum that “The Rule of Law Index provides an unparalleled mechanism to help understand how law functions in countries around the world.”

Funk, Szachacz & Diamond recently made national news in their successful defense of former Lake County Deputy Rick Palmer. The Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., prosecuted the case.

Palmer was federally indicted with Deprivation of Civil Rights when he shot an unarmed woman with her hands raised. He was also indicted for lying to federal agents after a video of the shooting surfaced. After a weeklong jury trial in a Tampa Federal Courtroom, Funk successfully argued that the evidence was insufficient on the lying charge, and he and partner Alan Diamond secured a jury verdict acquittal of Deputy Palmer on the civil rights violation allegation.