

# PodhurstOrseck

TRIAL & APPELLATE LAWYERS

**Podhurst Orseck's Robert C. Josefsberg Receives 2010 Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award**  
*Highest statewide pro bono award bestowed for thousands of pro bono hours dedicated to serving legal needs of the poor*

MIAMI – March 29, 2010 – Robert C. Josefsberg, senior partner at leading trial and appellate law firm Podhurst Orseck, has been selected as the recipient of the 2010 Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award, the highest statewide pro bono award bestowed by the chief justice of The Florida Supreme Court. The award was presented by Chief Justice Peggy A. Quince at a ceremony held at the Florida Supreme Court in Tallahassee.

The Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award commemorates the late Miami civil rights lawyer Tobias Simon who was well-known throughout Florida and beyond as a tireless civil rights attorney, a crusader for prison reform and an appellate authority. The award is intended to encourage and recognize extraordinary contributions by Florida lawyers in making legal services available to persons who otherwise could not afford them, and to focus public awareness on the substantial voluntary services rendered by Florida lawyers in this area.

Josefsberg's principal areas of practice are commercial litigation, criminal litigation and white-collar crime. Providing free legal assistance to individuals and charitable organizations that serve the community, Josefsberg has devoted thousands of pro bono hours to serve the legal needs of the poor. Since he began practicing law, Josefsberg has served as an advocate, mentor, officer, director, lecturer, and legal adviser to local legal aid organizations.

As an active member of the Dade County Legal Aid Society and Put Something Back's pro bono panel, Josefsberg is known to take on challenging cases regardless of the issue, time and costs involved. He is also recognized for his mentoring of countless new attorneys and law clerks. Over the years, Josefsberg has handled adoption, divorce, custody, visitation, guardian ad litem, general civil, consumer, foreclosure, probate, and not-for-profit matters totaling approximately 1,800 hours.

Josefsberg served as general counsel to Gov. Bob Graham in 1980. From 1963 to 1966, he served as an Assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida and was Special Counsel to the Dade County Grand Jury from 1967 to 1968. He was Co-Director of the Miami Study Team for the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence from 1969 to 1970. He was also a member of the U.S. Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Criminal Rules and the American Bar Association Standing Committee on the Judiciary.

The Tobias Simon award was created in 1982 and is believed to be the first of its kind in the country

conferring recognition by a state's highest court on a private lawyer for voluntary, free legal services to the poor. A permanent plaque listing the names of all award recipients hangs in the lawyers' lounge of the Florida Supreme Court Building in Tallahassee.

Miami-based Podhurst Orseck, P.A., established over four decades ago, is a top flight boutique trial and appellate firm focusing its practice on tort litigation matters including aviation, products liability, serious personal injury, and wrongful death claims, as well as complex commercial litigation and white collar defense. Additionally, the firm has a strong appellate practice, handling appeals for its own attorneys and attorneys throughout the nation, in various state and federal appellate courts, including the United States Supreme Court. The firm has consistently received an AV-Rating from Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, the highest possible rating, based on legal ability and general ethical standards. For more information, please visit [www.podhurst.com](http://www.podhurst.com).

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