

HOW MUCH IS PUTIN REALLY WORTH?

36TH
ANNUAL
BILLIONAIRES
ISSUE

WALL STREET'S TOP TRADER SEES TROUBLE AHEAD

TRUMP'S BIG SOCIAL MEDIA SCORE

TECH'S NEW BAD BOY BILLIONAIRE

Forbes

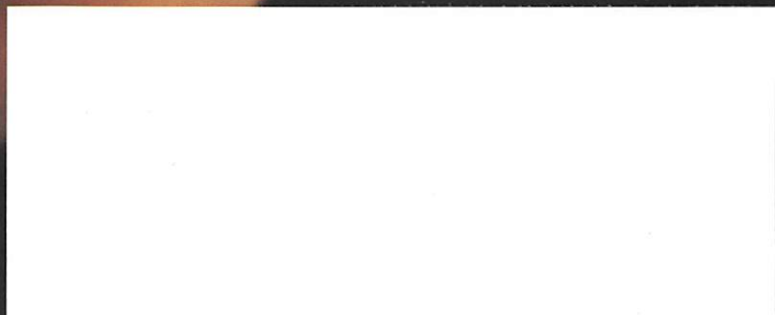
Gaming
Billionaire
IGOR BUKHMAN
Straddling
Ukraine and Russia

"WE ARE LITERALLY
BETWEEN TWO FIRES.
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR
US TO MAKE DECISIONS,
BUT WE MUST DO IT."

EUROPE ON FIRE

INSIDE THE PERILOUS WORLD OF
OLD-SCHOOL RUSSIAN OLIGARCHS AND
NEW UKRAINIAN ENTREPRENEURS.
OUR ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE WAR'S
BUSINESS BATTLEFIELD.

PLUS: RANKING THE 2,668 RICHEST
PEOPLE ON THE PLANET



COLUMBUS LAW

GOOD PEOPLE, DOING GREAT LEGAL WORK, EXCEPTIONALLY WELL.

More than a remarkable legal practice, Perez Morris is a conduit for good.



Firm Managing Partner Sarah Perez recalls a conversation with her father-in-law, Founding Partner Juan Jose Perez, before she took reign of the firm. "I asked what he wanted his legacy to be, expecting some answer about the size of the practice," she says. "But instead, he said it should be the causes the firm supports. He always wanted to use this firm as a vehicle for doing good—for our people, for our clients, and for our community. And that's stuck with me."

The Columbus-based firm has been steadily expanding since its inception in 1997 with offices in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts, offering first-tier legal service in the areas of tort litigation, employment litigation, commercial litigation, and property loss subrogation. Partnerships across the nation with other woman- and minority-owned firms bring a powerful network of expertise in nearly all areas of business law.

A NEW GENERATION

As of December 2020, Perez Morris became a certified woman-owned firm with Sarah at the command, a succession several years in the making. While she's quick to honor her predecessors, she also acknowledges the new era that came with her. "When I took over, there was a change in gender, a change in generation, and a change in working-parent status," she says.

As a millennial, she brings a perspective that is both fresh and seasoned. She champions a culture of community and inclusivity, recognizing that today's lawyers have different needs and values than previous generations.

"Millennials get a bad rap for not being loyal, so we put intentionality around our culture to retain great talent," she says. One of those strategies is a flexible work schedule particularly conducive to working parents. As a mother of three young children, Sarah intimately understands the value of professional autonomy. "If you build a culture of trust, employees will thrive when they're allowed to spread their wings and take ownership of their career," she says.

PASSION PROJECTS

Compelled by her compassion for working mothers, Sarah and her husband founded The Overcomer Foundation in 2018, a nonprofit that provides childcare costs for single mothers advancing their education. "Childcare can be a huge barrier to obtaining education and employment, and my heart breaks for mothers who don't have the extra hands or resources to help," she says. The foundation provides funding for high-quality childcare and connects mothers to mentorship and employment resources.

Though no longer managing the firm, Juan Jose continues to practice law and focuses his time and energy on spearheading the Vista Village project, a best-in-practice transitional housing community where homeless individuals are given the opportunity to move to a stable and supportive environment leading to economic self-sufficiency.

Perez Morris is also a proud sponsor of the Columbus Eagles FC, the city's professional women's soccer team.

As the firm grows, Sarah ensures they'll be measured and strategic, never sacrificing service for size. "We're sticklers for making sure our acquisitions align with our values. We have a warmth at Perez Morris that you don't always feel at other firms."



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