

INSIDE:
The Top Up and
Coming Leaders of
South Florida
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Seth Beoku-Betts
Founder
Betts & Gambles Investments, LLC

Try to envision in your mind's eye the quintessential American entrepreneur. He'd be successful in numerous endeavors and would own several companies. He would stake a claim to improve the communities in which he lives and works. And in the model that has made American entrepreneurship unique among nations, he would be an immigrant. And that's the story of Seth Beoku-Betts, founder of Betts and Gambles, the Boynton Beach-based parent of Betts and Gambles Investments, and Betts and Gambles Global Equities LLC. The companies actively seek real estate, development and investment opportunities, from waterfront properties in North Carolina, to a condominium-hotel in the Dominican Republic. The company also invests in financial instruments for pension funds and wealthy individuals. With offices in Boca Raton, Wilmington, N.C., and Durham, N.C., Betts and Gambles' stamp has been felt from Florida to the Carolinas and the Dominican Republic. He also travels extensively in search of the next opportunity. He is a native of Sierra Leone and was educated in the United Kingdom and United States. He graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics and a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering. A bachelor himself, Beoku-Betts lives just off the Intracoastal Waterway in Palm Beach County, where he enjoys Scuba diving and his collection of late-model sports cars. "South Florida has become my home for so many reasons," he says. "FAU gave me a world-class education. From there, the lifestyle, the weather, and the business opportunities each provides a successful businessperson the necessities to take his or her business to an even higher level." But don't let Beoku-Betts' international background and jet-setting business acumen fool you. Seth Beoku-Betts is an "everyman" who, for the past 13 years, has rarely missed his weekend pick-up basketball game in Boca with a clutch of close friends and business executives. Beoku-Betts also is also deeply involved in his community. He regularly speaks to school kids, encouraging them with tales of entrepreneurship, incentives to stay in school – and the inspiration of an American dream success story. A philanthropist at heart, he recently donated 100 backpacks filled with school supplies to the incoming freshmen at Boyd H. Anderson High School in Lauderdale Lakes. Betts and Gambles also donated 10 Dell laptop computers, a router and two years of Internet service to the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum in Delray Beach. Beoku-Betts also donated money so the Family Resource Center Hurwit Teen Maternity Shelter in Miami Gardens could purchase home furnishings for its residents – former foster children who have children of their own. In Durham, where the company purchased 17 acres for residential development, Beoku-Betts made a donation to the Boys & Girls Club of Durham, so children there had the tools and support to pursue an education. He will soon launch his own philanthropic foundation to further support causes important to him and the communities he calls home – and build upon the vision he has for successful entrepreneurship. "I see in the next generation a vision of hope, of the possibilities they can offer – if only given a chance to blossom and grow," Beoku-Betts said. "Future entrepreneurship often starts with a nudge from someone who's already found success."

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Gabrielle D'Alemberte, Attorney – Law Offices of Robert L. Parks PL

A trial attorney in the Law Offices of Robert L. Parks, Gabrielle D'Alemberte focuses her practice on personal injury, product and premise liability, insurance and tobacco class action lawsuits. A graduate from the University of Denver's School of Law, D'Alemberte is a senior trial attorney who has represented clients in more than two dozen jury trials. She began her law career in the Florida Department of Business and Financial Regulation under Secretary Charlie Crist, who later became the state's governor, and in the Attorney General's Office under Bob Butterworth before entering the private sector. D'Alemberte has served on The Florida Bar's Judicial Evaluation Committee, which focuses on reform in the judicial system. She was accepted to and is currently participating in Leadership Miami 2010, and she is on the nominating committee for the Florida Justice Association.



Ed Kopetman, President and CEO – Accolade

Edward Kopetman is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Accolade, an architectural design firm specializing in the design and development of luxury residential communities and single-family homes throughout South Florida. Prior to serving as the CEO of Accolade, formerly known as Breakstone Homes, Kopetman was instrumental in maintaining the financial stability of Breakstone in his role as chief financial officer for more than seven years. Through his practical vision, financial sensibility and commitment to delivering superior quality projects, Kopetman has played a key role in the success of Accolade, which recently surpassed the \$500 million mark in sales of luxury homes, residential communities, general real estate and condominium units. Kopetman is a certified public accountant and earned his undergraduate degree in accounting with honors from Florida International University.



Neil Rollnick, Partner in Charge – Adorno & Yoss

Neil Rollnick is the Partner-in-Charge of the Miami office of international law firm Adorno & Yoss where he is responsible for the management of its daily operations and external marketing and communication policies. Additionally, he serves as the chairman of the firm's national real estate practice that requires him to work closely with attorneys at the firm's other 18 U.S. branches. Rollnick, who holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Miami School of Law, has over 40 years of experience in commercial and multi-family residential real estate, business law, real estate secured and asset based lending. AV-Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, Rollnick was named a 2009 Best Lawyer in America. In the past seven years, Rollnick has utilized his legal expertise and planning, conceptualization and evaluation skills to oversee transactions for the firm in excess of a billion dollars in value.