

Arnall Golden Gregory Shuttters Miami Office After 18 Months

By **Carolina Bolado**

Law360, Miami (September 09, 2013, 7:11 PM ET) -- Atlanta, Ga.-based [Arnall Golden Gregory LLP](#) has closed its Miami office just a year and a half after opening it following the office's managing partner Andrew Spector's decision to start his own boutique firm serving clients in the global logistics and supply chain industry.

Spector, who had left [Hyman Spector & Mars LLP](#) in February 2012 to start up AGG's Miami office, told Law360 on Monday that he wanted to return to a boutique platform, which he thinks works best in his specialized area of the law.

“We've got a really strong client base, and we felt that our practice, the way we did things, what we looked at going forward, it just worked best with us having full control over how we wanted to organize the practice and manage our relationships with the clients,” Spector said.

Spector, whose new firm is called Spector Rubin PA, said the split with AGG last month was amicable.

“It's a very good firm, with good people,” Spector said. “I came to them and said, I think I want to go in a different direction. I came with my clients and left with my clients. It wasn't like a situation with other departures.”

A representative for AGG did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday.

Spector's practice focuses on litigation, risk management and consultative work in the logistics, transportation and international trade areas. His clients include logistics companies and freight forwarders, he said.

Given the level of specialization necessary to represent clients in this niche area of the law, Spector said boutique firms are a better fit for this type of practice.

“To do the work that we do, the knowledge really isn't in a law book,” Spector said. “It's not

something that typically someone working their way up the ladder in a law firm would learn. It's so intertwined with business sensitivities that to me it seems to be best suited to that specialized boutique platform.”

Spector brings with him the core of the AGG Miami team, Marc A. Rubin and Robert M. Borak, both of whom worked with Spector at Hyman Spector & Mars. Both Rubin and Borak will be partners in the new firm.

In addition to the three partners, the firm has hired three attorneys as of counsel to help clients with various aspects of their businesses, according to Spector.

Former white collar defense attorney Ron Gainor, who also has worked as a state prosecutor in Miami, will help clients with proactive risk management in the current regulatory landscape, Spector said. Commercial litigator Troy Geisser is well versed in the world of heavy cargo and will be the firm's point person in New York, according to Spector.

And Corinne Aftimos, who worked as an associate at [Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod LLP](#) and clerked for U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Robert A. Mark, will help clients deal with business interruptions and complications caused by bankruptcies in the cargo and transit world. Spector added that Aftimos' family is in the freight forwarding business and that she has worked in-house at a major steamship line, so she is well versed in the freight cargo business.

--Editing by Chris Yates