## **INFORMATION REGARDING QUALIFICATIONS** *Raymond Paparella, Esq.*

Raymond Paparella is an Associate Attorney of Spiegel & Utrera, P.A. Raymond Paparella's Florida Bar Membership Identification Number is 0067814. His background, training and experience is as follows:

## **BACKGROUND**

Born on July 10, 1962 in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Attended high school in Archbald, Pennsylvania and graduated in 1980. Attended and graduated from Villanova University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1984 with a B.S. in Business Administration, majoring in finance, with a minor in accounting. Played four years of varsity baseball at Villanova University and was drafted by the Houston Astros in 1984 professional baseball draft. Eventually played with both the Houston Astros and Minnesota Twins.

## **TRAINING**

Attended Nova Southeastern University School of Law in Fort Lauderdale, Florida beginning in 1992 and graduating with a Juris Doctor degree in December 1994. Became a member of the Florida Bar in 1995 and has been a member in good standing continuously since that time. Also became a member of the American Bar Association in 1996 and has been a continuous member in good standing since that time.

## **EXPERIENCE**

After playing professional baseball, moved to Florida in 1988 and worked as Financial Principle in the securities business and as an accountant in the real estate business. Thereafter worked for Blockbuster Entertainment in their international headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, Florida from 1990 through 1995 within both the Real Estate and Legal Divisions. While there, was responsible for negotiating and drafting many of the companies nationwide store leases. In 1996, began practicing in the area of civil litigation, particularly insurance defense and continued for two years. Subsequently opened his own practice specializing in personal injury litigation, family law, corporations and immigration. Eventually, simultaneously he and a client began the company Home Field Advantage, Inc. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida which concentrates on the representation of professional athletes, handling both contractual and litigation issues for their clients, including both professional basketball and baseball players. Joined Spiegel & Utrera, P.A. as a Litigation Associate in August, 2001.