

Billionaire Carl Icahn to move hedge fund to South Florida



By [Ashley Portero](#) – Reporter, South Florida Business Journal

Billionaire [Carl Icahn](#) reportedly will move his New York hedge fund to South Florida next year, the latest Big Apple resident to flee the region for the Sunshine State.

Icahn, the legendary Wall Street investor with an estimated net worth of \$17.6 billion, told employees his publicly traded Icahn Enterprises (Nasdaq: IEP) will relocate to Miami in April, according to *The New York Post*.

According to the report, Icahn said the firm's New York City and White Plains locations will close. He reportedly offered a \$50,000 relocation benefit to staff who move to Miami. Employees who want to stay in New York will be let go without severance, according to the report.

Icahn already has South Florida connections, with a home on Miami Beach's Indian Creek Island.

Icahn Enterprises did not return the *Business Journal's* request for comment.

In recent years, a growing number of northeast hedge funds, private equity firms and wealth management offices have set up shop in South Florida.

The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County reports more than 70 financial services companies have moved to the county within the last three years.

Miami's Downtown Development Authority has also increased efforts to recruit financial companies to Downtown Miami. The DDA reports there was a 95% increase (42 to 82) in the number of U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission-registered investment advisors in the area between 2014 and 2018, exceeding Florida's 27% growth rate.

“Miami has long benefitted from low taxes and beautiful weather, and now we’re marketing our city based on the finance ecosystem that has emerged, the ease of doing business in our downtown and the cosmopolitan lifestyle we offer companies and employees,” Miami DDA Board Member **Nitin Motwani** said in a statement.

More than 452,000 New York residents relocated from the state in 2018, the third-largest outflow in the U.S., according to the U.S. Census Bureau. About 63,000 of those New Yorkers moved to Florida.

The increase of New Yorkers migrating to Florida could be tied to the the Tax Cuts and Job Acts of 2017. The law limits federal deduction for state and local taxes to \$10,000, a loss for residents of high-tax states. New York's state personal income tax ranges from 4% to 8.82%. New York city imposes an additional 3% to 3.8% income tax.

Florida is one of nine U.S. states that does not have a state income tax.

SOUTH FLORIDA BUSINESS JOURNAL