

October, 2010

Firm Seminars:

Our Firm conducts complimentary seminars, in our office's conference facility, for clients and friends on a variety of legal topics. The next in the series, "**Year-End Tax and Estate Planning**," to be held on **Wednesday, December 1, 2010, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.**

If you would like to attend a future seminar, please contact Michele Avnes, at (818) 907-3281.

Some Recent Professional and Community Activities of Our Lawyers:

- **Keith T. Zimmet** assisted a client in negotiating a complex series of credit facilities totaling over \$60,000,000. The multi-tiered transaction involved several banks and state agencies, and included traditional credit lines, the issuance of tax exempt revenue bonds as well as letters of credit.
- **Sue M. Bendavid** helped an entertainment company deal with a high profile individual (independent contractor) who claimed to be an employee and asserted several employee claims. Sue helped the client turn a potentially contentious and costly matter into a mutual separation on amicable terms.
- In Family Court, **Michelle S. Robins** defeated a motion brought by an opposing party seeking substantial attorneys fees from the firm's client. The Court denied the other side's motion so that the firm's client was not required to pay the other party any attorneys fees.
- A government examiner claimed a client's trademark for a computer game was descriptive and not registrable in the U.S. Trademark Office. **Tal Grinblat** showed the examiner that the trademark was a play on words. Tal persuaded the examiner to reconsider. The examiner then withdrew the objection and the client's mark has moved forward in the registration process.
- Within days of receiving a wage and hour claim filed at the State Labor Board (Department of Industrial Relations), **Nicole L. Kamm** resolved the matter directly with the claimant, avoiding Labor Board involvement, and sparing the firm's client the expense, time and risks of further proceedings.
- **Kevin E. Rex** assisted in renegotiating a buy-sell agreement with a shareholder who decided to ease into retirement and continue to work with selected customers of the firm's client. In another matter, Kevin assisted a client in submitting an offer to buy a competitor's business. The matter involved several competing offers. Kevin helped another client negotiate terms of a potential sale of a business to a prospective buyer.



- **David Gurnick** advised heirs of a famous American on licensing their late parent's name and likeness. In one license the heirs were able to double the negotiated licensing fee.
- **Paul C. Bauducco** represented a client defending a claim for collection of money. Paul brought a cross-complaint for misconduct by the other party. The settlement resulted in the other party paying money to the firm's client.
- **Barry T. Harlan** gave a presentation on "Family Law and Estate Planning Cross Over Issues" to judges and lawyers at the Beverly Hills Bar Association Estate Planning Section
- **Sue M. Bendavid** and **Nicole L. Kamm** participated in an interactive "Dialogue for Freedom" with students from Millikan Middle School in Sherman Oaks. The program, created by Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, and conducted locally by the Diversity Committee of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association, explores concepts of freedom, law and justice.
- **Tal Grinblat** was appointed to another term on the Franchise Law Committee of the State Bar of California. Tal previously served from 2005 to 2009, including a year as committee chair from 2008 to 2009. From 2009 to the present, Tal served as an ex-officio member.
- **Nicole L. Kamm's** article, "Bodyguard for Electronic Information: Protect Electronic Information with a Comprehensive Policy," was published in Valley Lawyer magazine. Earlier this year the article was published in HR Magazine, a national publication for human resources professionals.
- **Nicholas Kanter, Tal Grinblat, and David Gurnick** presented a seminar to clients and friends of the Firm entitled "Franchising in the Current Economy." A lending officer with Union Bank also participated, speaking on SBA financing of franchise investments.
- **David B. Bobrosky, Tal Grinblat, David Gurnick, Stephen T. Holzer, Keith T. Zimmet,** and paralegals **Addie De La Torre** and **Sarah Thrift** attended the 6th Annual Mayor's Luncheon, hosted by the San Fernando Valley United Chambers of Commerce. Stephen T. Holzer chairs the sponsoring organization and Los Angeles Mayor Villaraigosa was the featured guest and speaker. Several other Mayors and officials also attended.
- **Vanessa Soto Nellis** and her husband welcomed their first child, a daughter.