

November, 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:

- **John B. Marshall** and **Kevin E. Rex**, with assistance from Paralegal **Amy Bernardino**, concluded a sale of several hospitals and related assets for over \$100 million. The firm represented a public Health Care District and the sale included a government Chapter 9 bankruptcy proceeding, litigation and a trial to defeat a challenge to the sale, transitioning over 1,300 employees, the requirement of a public election, and numerous regulatory issues. John has acted on behalf of the firm as general counsel to the seller for eighteen years.
- A shareholder-employee sued to dissolve a corporation represented by the firm. The plaintiff also claimed wages and benefits were owed. **Sue M. Bendavid** defended and asserted cross-claims for breach of fiduciary duty, disloyalty, trade secret misappropriation and interference. Sue arranged for a private settlement meeting between the parties and their counsel and the plaintiff ended up giving up ownership in the corporation and withdrawing all claims.
- **Tal Grinblat** and **Nicholas Kanter** won an Internet arbitration in the National Arbitration Forum. The case involved a company that used a client's registered trademark as part of a business name and several domain names. The arbitration panel ordered the infringer to immediately transfer the domain names to the firm's client.
- **Michelle S. Robins** and **Barry T. Harlan** of our Family Law Department helped a client obtain a court order for a Custody Referee in a contentious custody dispute.
- **Paul C. Bauducco**, with extensive help from paralegal **Sarah Thrift**, won a summary judgment motion and dismissal of a case against the firm's client. The nature of the dismissal preserved a claim the client may wish to bring against the adverse party.
- The U.S. Trademark Office originally issued a refusal to register a client's trademark, claiming it was merely descriptive. **Tal Grinblat** persuaded the examiner to reverse the original decision and let the application proceed in the registration process.
- **Kevin E. Rex** assisted a client in extending the maturity date on the client's senior debt and subordinated debt to permit the client to move forward on its reorganization plan. In another



matter, Kevin provided legal advice to an officer, director and investor of several privately owned companies in order to help the client analyze and understand the client's respective fiduciary duties to fellow investors and entities.

- **Sue M. Bendavid** conducted Supervisory Training on unlawful harassment, discrimination and retaliation. State Law requires California companies with over 50 employees to provide such training to supervisors every two years. Companies that have not provided this training recently, should contact Sue for information.
- **Keith T. Zimmet** assisted a client in reviewing numerous zoning, environmental, and financing issues relating to a proposed construction site. In another matter, Keith assisted a client in restructuring the client's working capital lines of credit.
- **David Gurnick** prepared a legal disclaimer for the new Facebook page of a client whose branded products are sold nationwide. In another matter, David provided franchise law advice to a separate law firm, helping them advise their client on investing in a health oriented business franchise.
- **Nicole Kamm** presented a seminar on California's wage and hour laws to members of SCORE Los Angeles, a nonprofit that provides professional guidance and information to new and emerging businesses.
- **Thomas Cecil, Tal Grinblat, David Gurnick, Stephen T. Holzer, John B. Marshall, Michelle S. Robins, and Andrew L. Shapiro** attended the annual installation dinner of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association. David Gurnick was installed as Secretary of the Association.. David is also serving again as chair of the Association's Litigation Section. Steve Holzer completed his term as president of the Valley Community Legal Foundation.
- **Keith T. Zimmet** attended the Corporate Counsel Awards Luncheon sponsored by the Los Angeles Business Journal. The luncheon participants included counsel representing some of the most well-known companies in the greater Los Angeles area. Earlier in the month, Keith attended the 11th Annual Justice Armand Arabian Award luncheon, during which awards were presented by former California Supreme Court Justice Armand Arabian.
- **Stephen T. Holzer** was elected President of the Americanism Educational League and presided at its 83rd annual awards dinner. The League promotes education of America's youth in the moral, political, social and economic values that have made America free and strong.
- **David Gurnick** spoke on copyrights, trade secrets and patents in franchising at the 33rd annual American Bar Association Forum on Franchising.
- Paralegals **Amy Bernardino, Addie De La Torre, and Sarah Thrift** attended the 34th annual Conference of the Los Angeles Paralegal Association. Sarah was a co-chair and Amy was a member of the organizing committee. **Barry T. Harlan** and **Sue M. Bendavid** spoke at the event on Family Law and Employment Law topics, respectively. Lewitt Hackman was a sponsor of the event.