

BUSINESS GROUPS

- Business & Civil Litigation
- Commercial Finance
- Corporate
- Employment
- Environmental
- Franchise & Distribution
- Health Care
- Intellectual Property
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Real Estate
- Tax Planning

CONSUMER GROUPS

- Family Law
- Personal Injury
- Trusts & Estate Planning

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Ready to Franchise? Here's What You Need to Know: Tal Grinblat (Certified Specialist in Franchise & Distribution Law) and Katherine L. Wallman will present a one-hour webinar for anyone interested in growing their business and expanding their brand through franchising.

Register for this webinar at lewitthackman.com/events. Attorneys and Accountants may earn one hour CLE or CPE credit for attending. Email: cpodbielski@lewitthackman.com for further details.

JULY 2018

Recent Professional & Community Accomplishments

Congratulations to **Nicole Kamm**, once again named one of the *Up-and-Coming Top 100* as well as one of the *Up-and-Coming Top 50 Women Rising Stars* in Southern California. Also named to the 2018 SoCal *Rising Stars* list for Employment and Labor are **Hannah Swiss**, and **Nicholas Kanter** for Business Litigation. In Franchise & Dealership Law, **Samuel C. Wolf** and **Matthew J. Soroky** were selected.

Veronica R. Woods successfully represented our client in court to obtain a three-year restraining order. The court placed protective orders to ensure the safety of the mother and her two young children. The client also received sole legal and sole physical custody of the minor children. The court also included protection for the family dogs.

David Gurnick (Certified Specialist in Franchise & Distribution Law) advised a company in the petroleum industry on compliance with franchise laws applicable to petroleum suppliers and retail gas stations. In a separate matter, David and **Taylor Vernon** represented a prominent travel agency in acquiring the business of an out-of-state travel agency.

Matthew J. Soroky was recently retained by an independent filmmaker to advise on negotiations for an option agreement with the film's producers, and to file trademark applications for the underlying work.

Keith T. Zimmet represented a multi-national corporate client in its purchase of one of Orange County's premiere office buildings. The transaction involved parties located on four continents.

Nicholas Kanter and **Tal Burnovski Yeyni** obtained dismissal of an age and disability discrimination and harassment complaint filed by an ex-employee of the firm's client at the pleading stage. The court granted Nick and Tal's demurrer to all six causes of action with leave to amend. After the time to amend expired, Nick and Tal filed an ex parte motion to dismiss the lawsuit. The court granted the motion and entered judgment in favor of the firm's client.

Vanessa Soto Nellis (Certified Family Law Specialist) worked with a couple in a long-term, non-marital relationship to solidify a cohabitation agreement. Both parties have children from prior relationships and intend to keep all assets separate so they can be passed down to their respective children.

Barry Kurtz (Certified Specialist in Franchise & Distribution Law) and **Matthew J. Soroky** are representing a local medical clinic against an out-of-state marketing group to resolve claims that the clinic operated as a franchise, without proper registration and disclosures.



Barry Kurtz and **Matthew J. Soroky** counseled a franchisee in the group fitness industry on the franchisor's proposal to suspend development obligations to facilitate a sale and transfer of multi-unit development rights. In separate matters, Barry and Matt prepared asset purchase documents for the purchaser of a multi-unit tutoring franchise system, and the trademark purchase agreement and assignment for the purchaser of a home care franchise system.

Veronica R. Woods worked closely with forensic accountants to reach an equitable division of community property. The parties' estate is valued over \$7.2 million. The opposing counsel accepted our figures as that of the community and separate property estate.

David B. Bobrosky resolved a multi-party car accident for the other driver's policy limits, without having to file a lawsuit. Because the policy limits were not sufficient to fully compensate our client for his injuries, David pursued an underinsured motorist claim against the client's own carrier. Based on a demand letter alone, David was able to obtain the insured's policy limits as well. It is extremely important to have uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage in the greatest amounts you can afford. Your own uninsured and underinsured limits should never be lower than your liability limits.

Nicholas Kanter and **Hannah Sweiss** obtained a favorable early resolution for a local furniture retailer facing an eight plaintiff lawsuit.

David Gurnick and Paralegal **Marianne Toghia** registered a unit franchise, multi-unit franchise, and area representative franchises for a restaurant chain. Our franchisor client recently granted a unit franchise and its first multi-unit franchise.

Sue M. Bendavid presented an update on California employment law for the clients of a business insurance company. The two hour seminar covered the latest in employment litigation trends, the newest laws, and pending legislative bills. Sue, **Nicole Kamm** and **Tal Burnovski Yeyni** have all been active in keeping our own clients informed through live and web presentations, covering the above topics as well as sex harassment prevention training for supervisors, how to conduct investigations into employee claims, and the latest on company marijuana policies and the law.

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA MENTIONS

San Fernando Valley Business Journal

California Labor and Employment - A Roundtable Discussion, **Sue M. Bendavid**, participant

KPCC: Air Talk with Larry Mantle

Implicit Bias: Starbucks temporarily closing 8,000 stores for employees' discrimination training, **Sue M. Bendavid**, guest

The Northern California Record

Indio, Coachella Aren't the Only Places Where Code Violations Can Lead to Huge Legal Bills, **John B. Marshall**, quoted

KPCC: Air Talk with Larry Mantle

Power in numbers? Or confidential black hole? New site connects sexual assault victims in the workplace, **Sue M. Bendavid**, guest

The Franchise Times

2018 Legal Eagles in Franchise Law, **Tal Grinblat** recognized

The Los Angeles Times

Visits by ICE Spooking California Businesses, Workers, **Sue M. Bendavid**, quoted

Valley Lawyer (San Fernando Valley Bar Association)

Product Liability Litigation Tests Jurors' Perspectives, **Andrew L. Shapiro**, author

San Francisco Chronicle

State Senator Bob Hertzberg's Accuser Says He Should Go, **Sue M. Bendavid**, quoted

Valley Lawyer (San Fernando Valley Bar Association)

Book Review: Legal Ethics and Social Media: A Practitioners Handbook, **David Gurnick**, reviewer

Valley Lawyer (San Fernando Valley Bar Association)

Mentoring New Lawyers Roundtable, **Hannah Sweiss**, participant

Super Lawyers Magazine

2018 Southern California Super Lawyers:

Paul C. Bauducco, Business Litigation
Sue M. Bendavid, Employment & Labor
David B. Bobrosky, Personal Injury
Tal Grinblat, Franchise & Dealership
David Gurnick, Franchise & Dealership
Michael Hackman, Tax
Stephen T. Holzer, Environmental
Barry Kurtz, Business Litigation
Kira S. Masteller, Trusts & Estate Planning
Vanessa Soto Nellis, Family Law
Andrew L. Shapiro, Personal Injury
Lynn Soodik, Family Law