

January, 2010

**Firm Seminars:**

Our Firm conducts complimentary seminars, in the conference facility at our office, for clients and friends on a variety of legal topics. Recent seminars have included the following:

“Ins and Outs of Franchising.”

“Immigration: Generally and Its Impacts on Employment and Family Law.”

“Move the Fence! Encroachments and other ‘Neighborly’ Issues.”

“Current Issues for Professional Firms  
(Accounting, Medical, and Law Practices).”

“Making the World a Safer Place:  
Case Studies of Results of Personal Injury Cases.”

“Year-End Tax and Estate Planning.”

“New Employment Laws for 2010”

If you are interested in attending any future seminar, please R.S.V.P. to Michele Avnes, at (818) 907-3281.

**Some Recent Professional and Community Activities of Our Lawyers:**

- **Keith T. Zimmet** assisted a client in selling the client’s fifty percent interest in a well-known Southern California corporation. The transaction involved numerous banks, insurance companies, and owners of some of Southern California’s most visible real estate developments.
- **Paul C. Bauducco** helped a contractor negotiate collection of several hundred thousand dollars from a customer, as a partial settlement, while preserving our client’s right to pursue other claims. In another matter, Paul helped a client settle a dispute with a professional advisor.
- **Tal Grinblat** and **Nicholas Kanter** assisted a video game manufacturer in a trademark application. Tal and Nick helped the client overcome a challenging objection from a government trademark examiner. The examiner felt the trademark would be confused with someone else’s trademark. Tal and Nick showed the examiner this was incorrect, and that the client’s mark should be allowed to go forward in the registration process.
- **Sue M. Bendavid** and **Nicole Kamm** counseled employers in complex employee situations. Unknown to one employer, an employee diagnosed as schizophrenic had delusions at work that aliens were trying to get him. At another client, an employee was on medical leave for many months and kept getting extensions from a doctor. This caused hardship due to the employee’s key job responsibilities. Sue and Nicole assisted the clients in addressing these situations.



- **Kevin E. Rex** assisted a client in selling the remaining portion of an interest in a company. Kevin assisted another client in a restructure to provide asset protection with regard to property owned by a business.
- **Thomas Cecil** defeated a bleach manufacturer's motion to be dismissed from a claim by the firm's client. The client suffered burns from the product. The court agreed with Tom's analysis that the product's label did not have sufficient instructions and warnings.
- **Tal Grinblat** assisted in resolving a franchisor-franchisee dispute on favorable terms, sparing the firm's client and all parties from litigation. Negotiations had lasted nearly a year.
- **Sue M. Bendavid** and **Nicole Kamm** settled a claim of disability discrimination for a nominal amount, far less than the amount of the claim.
- **Thomas Cecil** assisted a young client in proving U. S. citizenship based on her parents' naturalization many years earlier. Tom's assistance included obtaining translations of family historical documents from the Republic of China (Taiwan) and representing the client at multiple interviews with the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service.
- In a claim process that the government carried on for 1½ years, **Sue M. Bendavid** persuaded the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to dismiss an employee's claim of race and age discrimination.
- **David Gurnick** and **Tal Grinblat** gave a presentation entitled "Introduction to Franchise Law for Accountants", to a prominent San Fernando Valley accounting firm. Their talk discussed legal issues in franchising of interest to accountants, and the many roles accountants play in the context of franchising.
- **Stephen T. Holzer**, serving in his capacity as Chair of the United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley, was invited to ride in the annual Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce Holiday Parade.
- **David Gurnick** was publicly acknowledged for pro bono legal assistance to the Art of Peace Charitable Trust. The Trust works for peace through art, education and converting weapons into art objects. David assisted in preparing legal documents for the Trust's licensing program and Silver campaign.