



June, 2011

Firm Seminars:

Lewitt Hackman presents complimentary seminars in our Board Room for clients and friends on a variety of legal topics. **Paul C. Bauducco** and Paralegal **Sarah Thrift** will present "Utilizing Legal Professionals to Avoid Litigation" on Wednesday, July 13, 2011, from 8:00 a.m to 9:30 a.m. A light breakfast will be served and attorneys may earn one hour of CLE credit. Please RSVP to Chris Podbielski at 818.907.3271 if you'd like to attend.

Recent Professional & Community Accomplishments:

- **Kevin E. Rex** represented a long-standing client in a multi-million dollar sale to a private equity group. Kevin and **Michael Hackman** assisted the company in connection with the purchase and sale of the shareholders' shares, the exercise of warrants by various lenders, the renegotiation of senior debt and sub debt, and the renegotiation of senior management's interest in the company. The firm continues to represent that company after the sale.
- **Nicole Kamm** and **Sue M. Bendavid** resolved a matter with the State of California Employment Development Department involving an audit of the firm's client. The EDD issued an assessment of more than \$300,000. After Nicole and Sue submitted substantial written evidence and explanation for reducing the amount, EDD agreed to settle for just over \$50,000.
- **Tal S. Grinblat** was elected Vice Chair of Legislation of the State Bar of California Franchise Law Committee. The Committee recommends franchise legislation and regulations to the Legislature and Department of Corporations. Tal and **David Gurnick** attended the Franchise Law Symposium of the International Franchise Association in Washington D.C.
- **Andrew L. Shapiro** and **David B. Bobrosky** of the Firm's Personal Injury Department settled a case against an international theme park. The client had to undergo hand surgery after she slipped and fell due to negligent maintenance of the park. The theme park agreed to pay a significant six figure sum the day before trial.
- In a hotly contested matter, **Barry T. Harlan**, **Michelle S. Robins** and **Vanessa Soto Nellis** persuaded a judge to modify a couple's agreed 50-50 child custody arrangement. At the hearing the couple's 17 year old son testified on his preference. Barry, Michelle and Vanessa persuaded the court that the custody change was in the teen's best interest.



- **Nicholas Kanter**, Paralegal **Sarah Thrift** and **Paul C. Bauducco** obtained an emergency Temporary Protective Order preventing the sale of a real property in a breach of contract and fraud case brought by a client, preserving the property as a source of recovery for the client.
- **Tal S. Grinblat** and **Nicholas Kanter** defeated a motion for judgment on the pleadings filed against the firm's client in a trademark proceeding before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. Tal and Nick persuaded the Board to deny the motion as moot without need for a formal hearing.
- **Kira S. Masteller** is protecting a senior's interests against two children seeking to control where the client lives, as well as the client's assets. In another matter, Kira is preparing Protective Trusts for a family with adult children to avoid exposing their inheritance to estate tax or generation skipping transfer tax in the child's or grandchild's estates, protecting inherited assets from a child's spouse in case of divorce and protecting inherited assets from a child's creditors.
- **Michael Hackman, Andrew L. Shapiro, John B. Marshall, David Gurnick, Sue M. Bendavid, Thomas Cecil, Michelle S. Robins, Kira S. Masteller, David B. Bobrosky, Vanessa Soto Nellis, Nicole Kamm**, firm paralegals and staff participated in the EIFReylon Run/Walk for Women. With friends and family, Team Lewitt Hackman raised money to help fund research and support for women with cancer. The firm also participated in the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank's annual *Food from the Bar* campaign.
- **Tal Grinblat** assisted a software industry client in negotiating a worldwide co-existence agreement with a competitor. The competitor initially demanded that our client abandon its trademark and pending trademark application. Tal's efforts let the client to continue using its mark and cleared the way for the client to proceed to registration.
- **David Gurnick** assisted an international company in demanding that a competing business cease and desist from infringing the client's trademark.
- **Barry T. Harlan, Michelle S. Robins, and Vanessa Soto Nellis** presented a seminar entitled "Family Law - The Impact on Your Business" which was attended by Los Angeles professionals including accountants, attorneys, and business owners.
- **Michelle S. Robins** volunteered as a Family Law mediator for the Los Angeles Superior Court. Michelle helped settle two cases and was elected co-chair of programs for the Family Law Section of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association.
- **Sue M. Bendavid** and **Nicole Kamm** presented a seminar to the United Chambers of Commerce entitled, "The 10 Most Common Mistakes Employers Make," for employers in the San Fernando Valley.
- **Michael Hackman** and **Kira S. Masteller** were featured speakers for a client who held a learning seminar and wine-tasting event for their own clients.