

Lewitt Hackman invites clients and friends to a complimentary seminar:

2017 Year-End Tax Planning: Do We Have Tax Reform?

approved for 1.5 hours of MCLE credit and 1.5 hours CPE** credit*

There's a lot of talk about reforming the tax code lately. But what does it all mean?

Michale Hackman (Certified Specialist in Tax Law) and **Kira S. Masteller** will present their annual year-end tax seminar, tackling that very question. Topics will include:

Estate Tax Repeal

- What happens to gift tax?
- Have the basis rules changed?
- Why do you need estate planning if there's a repeal?

Deductions

- State Income Tax
- Property Tax
- Medical Expenses
- Limits on Residence Interest

Reduced Tax on Pass-Through Business

- Partnerships and LLCs
- S-Corporations
- Other Structures
- How Owners Will Be Taxed
- Changing to Pass-Through Entities
- The Kansas Experience

Steps to Consider Before Year-End



Michael Hackman, Esq.
Chair & Shareholder
Tax, Trust & Estate Planning
Practice Groups



Kira S. Masteller, Esq.
Shareholder
Trust & Estate Planning
Practice Group

**Seating is limited. Please RSVP to Chris Podbielski:
818.907.3271 or cpodbielski@lewithackman.com**

* Lewitt Hackman is a State Bar of California approved MCLE provider.

** CPE Credit: This is a Group-Live seminar requiring no prerequisites or advance preparation. You will receive basic information about current federal and California tax law affecting business and estate planning. Lewitt Hackman is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy on the National Registry of DPE Sponsors. State Boards of accountancy have final authority on acceptance of courses for credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors: www.learningmarket.org. For more information regarding program cancellation policies or any other concerns, please contact Michele Avnes of our office at (818) 907-3281.

- **Tuesday, December 5, 2017**
Check In: 7:30; Presentation: 8:00 a.m.
- **at Lewitt Hackman**
- **Light Breakfast Served**
- **Parking Validated**
- **No Charge to Attend**

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Congratulations to **Sue M. Bendavid**, recognized as one of the *Valley 200* by the *San Fernando Valley Business Journal*. The honor highlights the leadership of 200 business professionals in the Valley, particularly those that had the most influence on strengthening the economy and improving the community.

John B. Marshall and **Paul C. Bauducco** prevailed on a motion for protective order, prohibiting abusive and harassing deposition tactics against our clients. Additionally, Paul and John won monetary sanctions against the opposing party and their counsel.

Kevin E. Rex worked with a client to negotiate the sale of a privately held, family owned business for over \$70,000,000. The purchaser was looking for a platform company to complement their current business. Our client had offices in multiple states and was an ideal add-on, growth target for the purchaser. **Kyla A. Parrino** assisted Kevin throughout the due diligence and negotiation process.

Thomas Cecil represents one of several people hurt in a high profile shooting incident at Los Angeles International Airport. The City of Los Angeles and LAX filed a demurrer, claiming the suits should be dismissed because of various government immunities and other protections. Tom defeated the motion to dismiss in both the Trial and Appellate Courts, by successfully arguing that there was a mandatory duty to provide proper security, despite such immunities.

Vanessa Soto Nellis represented a client seeking a prenuptial agreement. Our client is an entrepreneur with several business interests, set to marry a retail business owner. Because both parties knew how best to protect their current assets and what they could reasonably expect from each other in the future, the couple came to terms smoothly and expeditiously.

David B. Bobrosky obtained a six figure settlement for a client who suffered relatively minor soft tissue injuries when his car was rear-ended on New Year's Eve.

Stephen T. Holzer obtained dismissal for a client from a complaint alleging violation of Proposition 65, the state law requiring businesses with 10 or more employees to warn consumers of products that contain harmful chemicals.

Nicholas Kanter, **Hannah Sweiss** and **Tal Burnovski Yeyni** represented an international manufacturer who faced a weighty discrimination complaint with 16 causes of action. Nick, Hannah and Tal demurred to each cause of action. The Court sustained the demurrer in its entirety, effectively dismissing the entire case.

Barry Kurtz and **David Gurnick** (both Certified Specialist in Franchise & Distribution Law) and **Matthew J. Soroky** convinced the Department of Business Oversight that a business relationship that the DBO claimed could be a franchise was in fact a license arrangement. Because of Barry, David and Matt's success, our client's agreement will not be subject to franchise registration and disclosure laws.

Michael Hackman (Certified Specialist in Tax Law) and **David Gurnick** worked with a prominent consumer product maker in negotiating a memorandum of understanding to acquire significant interest in a supplier.

Andrew L. Shapiro represented a musical celebrity who suffered injuries in a trip-and-fall case. The accident resulted in surgery to her ankle and effectively postponed her musical tour for two months. Andy helped our client reach a generous settlement without all of the negative publicity that would have been generated in litigation.

Kira S. Masteller represented adult children in a probate court proceeding, in which our clients have petitioned for the Court to compel the removal of a sibling as Trustee of their parents' estate due to mismanagement. The proceeding will require the current Trustee sibling to account for all the Trust assets and potentially pay restitution for the gross mismanagement of those assets.

Sue M. Bendavid and **Amy I. Huberman** represented a client accused of meal and rest break violations and unfair business practices. Sue and Amy obtained a full waiver of all known and unknown claims for four percent of the initial demand.

Melissa L. Mayer representing a father, negotiated a custodial timeshare order that gave both parents equal custody. Melissa's successful negotiation occurred after the mother filed a motion in the Family Law Court requesting sole physical custody of the children.

Kevin E. Rex and **Katherine L. Wallman** represented a client in expanding its national presence by acquiring a competitor which operates in five states. Kevin negotiated the asset purchase agreement and real estate leases while Kate worked on the schedules and ancillary agreements.

Veronica R. Woods successfully represented a client in a highly contested child custody case. A move-away was prevented, and our client ended up with majority timeshare of her minor children.

David Gurnick and **Samuel C. Wolf** obtained favorable court rulings showing that several provisions of a business agreement were unconscionable and unenforceable. David and Sam showed that the parties were in an imbalanced relationship in which a publicly traded company took advantage of our client.

Nicole Kamm successfully discredited claims made against our client for unpaid wages, missed breaks, wrongful termination and retaliation. The Plaintiff worked for our client for a month before voluntarily resigning, and demanded more than \$25,000. Nicole obtained a full release of all claims for just a couple hundred dollars.

Keith T. Zimmet restructured a major equity and debt investment in a local manufacturing facility. The transaction involved private equity, senior and subordinate lender financing, as well as obtaining the consent of several trade creditors.