

CLIENT UPDATE

December, 2007

By: *Kenneth J. McGuire*



All of us at Stein McGuire wish all of you a very joyous holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year.

Since our Summer News Alert, when we told you that the firm continued to enjoy business expansion with the addition of two more lawyers in our Litigation Department, we have expanded once again. James Falcicchio, an attorney with almost 20 years of experience in complex defense litigation, has joined our other recent additions, Brigid Farley and Greg Grysko, in the ever-expanding Litigation Department.

Jim is a New Englander having been educated at Boston University and New England School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts. We welcome Jim and look forward to his counsel and direction in our Litigation Department and successful work for our clients.

In other expansion news -

that is, the expanding list of awards received - Jud Stein, Jim Pantages and Mike Martino have again been named to the list of "Super Lawyers" in New Jersey. What's interesting is that the Super Lawyers list comes from a survey of attorneys in New Jersey. As you can imagine, it is quite an honor to be recognized by your peers as an attorney with "super" abilities and we congratulate Jud, Jim and Mike on their third consecutive designation.

In keeping with his "super" status, Mike is frequently called upon to conduct seminars for other attorneys in New Jersey. This Fall, he was asked to present a seminar for a number of young attorneys entitled "Winning Your First Civil Trial." We were delighted to hear reports of a 'standing room only' crowd and Mike's presentation was enthusiastically received by all of the younger lawyers in attendance from all over Northern New Jersey.

In another speaking engagement, Bob Gigl, along with Jim Pantages and Janet Bayer, recently presented an Employment Law seminar at the request of a large accounting firm in the area. The management

of the firm approached us to present the seminar to not only demonstrate examples of "best practices" in action, but also teach the accountants how to recognize "danger signals" in their work for their own clients.

One way for all attorneys to maintain a high level of industry awareness and involvement for their clients is by participating in regional and national conferences and seminars. Last month, Jim Pantages and Mike Martino did just that by attending the Defense Counsel Seminar in Chicago, Illinois. Also, Scott King and I attended a seminar on commercial real estate practice for experienced practitioners, and Adam Dubeck attended the Twelfth Annual Conference on Guardianships and Elder Law.

While such activities and continuing legal education are not mandatory in New Jersey, we find that it is an excellent way to hone skills, stay abreast of current issues and decisions, and put the information to work for your clients, as Adam did when he conducted seminars on guardianship issues and estate taxes at two active adult

communities in New Jersey. These seminars are very well received as elder law issues are of great concern to the aging "Boomer Generation" and are becoming a larger part of the legal services we render.

Finally, we are very proud of our partner, Greg Keller, who has accepted a request to become a Trustee of the Morris County Housing Partnership Community Development Corporation. The Trust is responsible for the construction of affordable housing units in Morris County. Greg is also a Trustee of the Morris County Agricultural Development Committee. Between the work he does here at the office and his very busy home life with three sports-minded daughters, it is very impressive that Greg finds time to extend himself to do this pro bono work for the people in Morris County.

These are just a few examples of recent work and accomplishments; we invite you to learn more about the firm and stay in touch by contacting us at the number below or visiting us on the web at www.steinlegal.com. Again, Happy Holidays.