

CLIENT UPDATE

January, 2007

By: *Kenneth J. McGuire*



Life continues to be very busy and interesting at Stein McGuire over the last few months. Here are some of the highlights and activities of some of the firm's members.

Michael F. Martino and Janet S. Bayer successfully tried a 21 day case proving a case for a palimony judgment in the amount of \$432,660.00 against our client's paramour. An added twist in the case involved the fact that the client resided with her paramour and his elderly and dependent wife for a number of years before being ejected from the residence, and a portion of the judgment was assessed against the wife for the care and companionship our client provided her during the time the three people resided together.

Leading the firm's trust and estate department, Jud Stein was elected a Fellow of the American College of

Trust and Estate Counsel, a "Super Lawyer" in New Jersey and one of the "Best Lawyers in America," all in a six month period!

Jud, who lectures extensively, recently conducted a seminar for the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants regarding "The Use of Premarital Agreements in Estate Planning." He also participated in a continuing legal education panel for New Jersey lawyers explaining about Estate Planning For Special Situations, specifically those regarding charitable contributions.

In a paper-heavy and complex transaction, Adam Dubeck and I represented a longtime client in a \$35,000,000 asset-based loan from Wachovia Bank for their inventory purchase requirements (we thought it was exciting work!).

Due to his background in the guardianship and estate planning process, Adam also recently conducted a seminar on guardianship procedures in New Jersey to an audience of social workers and

officials from assisted living facilities. As our population continues to age and live ever longer, the issue of guardianship over the person or property of our elder relatives is an increasing area of involvement for our firm and we're fortunate to have someone with Adam's experience at the ready.

Larry Berkeley attended the International Council of Shopping Centers Law Conference in Orlando, Florida in connection with the firm's representation of malls and shopping centers in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area. Additionally, Larry continued his successful representation of national companies when a patron filed a \$300,000 lawsuit against a Chuck E. Cheese Restaurant. At Larry's urging, the jury returned a verdict of just \$15,000.

The firm's employment law group has continued its winning ways on both sides of the issues. Bob Gigl recently settled several employment discrimination cases for substantial monetary amounts for various

plaintiffs (the details cannot be released as the employers negotiated for a Confidentiality Agreement as part of the settlements).

Also, Jim Pantages and Janet Bayer successfully defended a Federal Credit Union which was sued by an employee on the basis of employment discrimination. The trial court rejected the case and the decision was affirmed on appeal.

Finally, Michael Martino was asked to present a seminar for certified public accountants on the issue of civil liability against accounting firms at a presentation before the IMA of North Jersey and Westchester.

These are just a few areas in which members of the firm have been engaged over the last few months for other clients and we welcome an opportunity to assist you with your legal needs in the future.

To learn more about the firm and the services we offer, contact us at the telephone number below, or visit our website at www.steinlegal.com. Thank you for your business.