

## Partners Notes

### Sills Cummis & Gross P.C. Announces Its 2009 New Jersey Super Lawyers

Sills Cummis & Gross has announced that 38 lawyers have been recognized for inclusion in the 2009 edition of *New Jersey Super Lawyers* and the *Super Lawyers – Rising Stars Edition*. Members of the firm Lynne Anne Anderson and Beth S. Rose were included as Top 50 Women New Jersey Super Lawyers. Members Lawrence S. Horn and Jack M. Zackin were included as Top 100 New Jersey Super Lawyers.

The firm's 2009 Super Lawyers are: Robert J. Alter – Tax; Lynne Anne Anderson – Employment & Labor; Margaret F. Black – Real Estate; Joseph L. Buckley – Business Litigation; R. Max Crane – Mergers & Acquisitions; Thomas J. Demski – Business Litigation; Robert R. DiVita – Real Estate; David W. Garland – Employment & Labor; Bruce I. Goldstein – Business Litigation; Jeffrey J. Greenbaum – Class Action/Mass Torts; Steven E. Gross – Mergers & Acquisitions; Thomas J. Hall – Land Use/Zoning; Gary W. Herschman – Health Care; Lawrence S. Horn – Criminal Defense; White Collar; Simon Kimmelman – Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights; Mark S. Levenson – Real Estate; Simon Levin – Estate Planning & Probate; Arlene Elgart Mirsky – Mergers & Acquisitions; Kevin J. Moore – Land Use/Zoning; Jeffrey H. Newman – Real Estate; Thomas S. Novak – Business Litigation; Mark S. Olinsky – Business Litigation; Beth S. Rose – Class Action/Mass Torts; Ira A. Rosenberg – Mergers & Acquisitions; Andrew H. Sherman – Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights; Paul H. Shur – Banking; Gerald Span – Real Estate; Peter G. Verniero – Appellate; Philip R. White – Construction/Surety; Morris Yamner – Real Estate; Jack M. Zackin – Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights; Ted Zangari – Real Estate.

The following Sills Cummis & Gross lawyers have been selected for inclusion

in the 2009 *New Jersey Super Lawyers – Rising Stars Edition*. Rising Star candidates are 40 years old or younger or in practice for 10 years or less: Anthony Argiropoulos – General Litigation; Jonathan S. Jemison – Business Litigation; Vincent R. Lodato – Personal Injury Defense; Products; Boris I. Mankovetskiy – Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights; Anjana D. Patel – Health Care; Christopher Viceconte – Civil Litigation Defense.

Sills Cummis announced that Morris Yamner, a member of the firm, has been appointed to the Supreme Court of New Jersey's Disciplinary Review Board for a three-year term, effective May 4, 2009.

Mr. Yamner is a transactional lawyer concentrating on lending, real estate and related corporate matters. He is regularly involved in matters relating to real estate financing, land assembly, conveyancing, leasing, mortgaging, zoning and land use. Mr. Yamner was selected for inclusion in the 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2009 editions of *New Jersey Super Lawyers*.

Loryn P. Riggiola, Sills Cummis member, was honored at the 13th Annual "Russ Berrie Award for Making a Difference" Ceremony on Wednesday, May 20, 2009, for her "Give Back" program, which she created in 2003 to provide lunch to those in need outside of Newark's Penn Station. Ms. Riggiola is a member of the firm's Construction Law Practice Group.

Andrew Kaplan has joined Sills Cummis as of counsel to the Corporate Practice Group.

Jeffrey L. Wasserman has joined the firm as of counsel in the Corporate, Banking and Finance, and Life Sciences Practice Groups.

Health Services, Formica Corporation, New World Pasta, Loral Space & Communications, and Armstrong World Industries.

With its handling of the GM bankruptcy filing, Weil Gotshal has now served as debtor counsel in the five largest bankruptcies in U.S. business history as measured by company assets at the time of filing.

Consistent with previous years' rankings, Weil, Gotshal & Manges is again included among *Corporate Board Member* magazine's top ten corporate law firms in America. Now in its ninth year, *Corporate Board Member's* annual list of the top 20 national law firms is centered on a survey conducted by the magazine and FTI Consulting, Inc., a global business advisory firm. The law firms are selected based on the number of votes received from over 6,300 directors and general counsel serving on boards of publicly traded companies listed with the NASDAQ and NYSE Amex.

### Gary Naftalis Awarded By New York Lawyers For Public Interest

Gary P. Naftalis, head of the litigation department and co-chair of Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP, was honored by the New York Lawyers for Public Interest (NYLPI) at the 16th annual Law and Society Award Luncheon, held at New York City's Waldorf Astoria. Mr. Naftalis was also recently honored by the American Friends of the Hebrew University (AFHU) of Jerusalem with the Torch of Learning Award, which recognizes leadership, scholarship and dedication to the betterment of humanity.

For more than 30 years, Mr. Naftalis has remained one of the nation's leading trial lawyers, representing individuals

and corporations in all phases of complex civil, criminal, and regulatory matters including those involving allegations of insider trading, market manipulation, accounting irregularities and other financial fraud. His distinguished career in public service includes serving as deputy chief of the Criminal Division in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of NY, and special counsel to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee investigating abuses in the nursing home industry. Mr. Naftalis is consistently ranked as a preeminent litigator in *Chambers USA, Best Lawyers, Super Lawyers* and *Lawdragon*, among other prestigious rankings.

### Day Pitney Presented With 2009 Edwin Archer Randolph Diversity Award

Day Pitney was presented with the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity 2009 Edwin Archer Randolph Diversity Award at a ceremony in Hartford on May 6. Prior award recipients have been individuals; Day Pitney is the first organization to be singled out for the honor. In recognition of the award, Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell issued a proclamation officially declaring May 6, 2009, to be "Day Pitney Day in the State of Connecticut."

Among the community-wide accomplishments for which Day Pitney was honored was a \$150,000 pledge to the Minority Corporate Counsel Association's 10th Anniversary Campaign, the establishment of a Day Pitney Foundation Diversity Scholarship at Fordham University School of Law (awarded annually to two students from groups historically underrepresented in the legal profession) and for being the first legal employer in Connecticut to sign the Pledge for Best Practices, sponsored by the Connecticut Women in the Law Futures Task Force.

The Lawyer's Collaborative for Diversity also recognized Day Pitney's commitment to diversity with the establishment of a Diversity Committee and

the hiring of a Director of Diversity and Legal Recruiting.

Day Pitney has announced that it was awarded a pro bono award from the Connecticut Fair Housing Center in Hartford in June.

The award to Day Pitney arises from the good work of associates in the Hartford office on behalf of a client with a housing discrimination claim. Day Pitney represented its client alleging that an apartment complex discriminated against the client by informing the client that it would not rent to someone who had a Section 8 voucher.

The Hartford office worked on the case and filed suit, but before the first depositions, the apartment complex offered to settle.

Day Pitney LLP announced that Brad Gallant, a partner in the Individual Clients Department of the firm's New Haven office, will become vice president of the Connecticut Bar Association on July 1, 2009. The CBA is the preeminent organization for lawyers and the legal profession in Connecticut. Mr. Gallant's election became official at the CBA's Annual Meeting in Hartford in June.

### Weil Gotshal Represents GM In Bankruptcy Filing

International law firm Weil, Gotshal & Manges announced on June 2 its role as lead debtor counsel to General Motors Corporation in the company's Chapter 11 filing. The Weil Gotshal team is led by partners Harvey Miller and Stephen Karotkin.

Mr. Miller, a senior partner in Weil Gotshal's Business Finance & Restructuring Department, was noted recently by the *New York Times* as "the dean of the bankruptcy bar." In March he was recognized by *The American Lawyer* as a "Dealmaker of the Year" for his role in the \$613 billion Lehman Brothers bankruptcy, the largest bankruptcy filing in history.

Mr. Karotkin is a Weil Gotshal veteran of 37 years. His practice focuses on business reorganizations, debt restructurings, debtor and creditors' rights, and financing transactions. His representations of debtors in Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings include, among others, Texaco Inc., Revere Copper and Brass, Fine Host Corporation, Magellan

### Lowenstein Sandler Investment Management And Bankruptcy Groups Named To *The Legal 500*

Lowenstein Sandler's Investment Management and Bankruptcy, Financial Organization & Creditors' Rights groups have been named to the 2009 U.S. edition of *The Legal 500*.

Recommended by *The Legal 500* for the third consecutive year, the Investment Management practice is recognized as a national leader in investment fund formation and management; alternative/hedge funds. *The Legal 500* notes clients' praise for the practice's "responsiveness, attention to detail and the ability to explain complex legal terminology in layman's terms," calling it "excellent on both liquid and illiquid investments," and noting that "few other firms have the same level of experience on PIPE

transactions."

Practice group chair and member of the firm Robert G. Minion is lauded for his "experience and accessibility" and "ability to think strategically."

Lowenstein's Bankruptcy, Financial Reorganization & Creditors' Rights department is among *The Legal 500's* recommended practices in the Northeast. It is noted for its "impressive record of representing creditors' interests through numerous complex, high-value bankruptcies," which in 2008 included representation of Summit Global Logistics in its Chapter 11 filing. Practice group chair and member of the firm Kenneth Rosen and member of the firm Bruce Buechler were individually recognized.