

LAW OFFICE NEWS

You DID IT AGAIN!!!

ONCE AGAIN OUR CLIENTS VOTED FOR US TO RECEIVE THE TITLE OF BEST LAW FIRM IN ROCKY HILL.



The Rocky Hill Chamber of Commerce "Best of Rocky Hill" contest was held this spring ending with a dinner reception in April at the Rocky Hill Marriott. The entire staff of LeFoll & LeFoll attended the dinner and received the award. We thank you for voting for us and giving us this distinguished honor for the second year in a row.



Sandy St. Pierre's son David St. Pierre and his wife Michelle are expecting their second baby in January, 2010. Congratulations to Sandy on expecting yet another grandchild. This will be grandchild number 7 for her!

In April, Beth Ostrowski's son, Jake, was named student of the month at RHAM Middle School in Hebron. This award, however, was not good enough for Jake. He also tied for first place for the National Math Award on an eighth grade level. Jake is only in 7th grade. He also won a Consumer Science award and attained honor roll status for the whole year. Way to go, Jake! We're all proud of you but none more so than your dear old mom.



Elaina Noble, daughter of Attorney Tammy LeFoll and Edward Noble, Jr., celebrated her 4th birthday in Wizard of Oz style. The whole office came to this fun barbeque which was a good summer kick off. Some of the staff took the party pretty seriously dressing as their favorite Oz characters. Here is Beth Ostrowski, Jake Ostrowski, and Debby Clare as the Wicked Witch, Glenda, and the Tin Man. Of course, Elaina was Dorothy!



LAW REVIEW

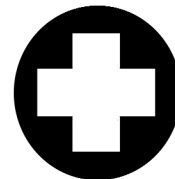
PERSONAL INJURY CASE SUMMARY

Plaintiff, a 29 year old female, was a passenger in a vehicle traveling on a secondary highway. Another driver traveling in the opposite direction made an illegal left hand turn colliding with the front of our client's vehicle. The airbags deployed and both vehicles sustained heavy front end damage. Plaintiff sustained a right knee injury and a broken rib. She also had soft tissue injuries to her neck and back which ultimately resolved. Her primary complaint was her right knee which was treated with a cortisone injection resulting in pain relief. Ultimately she was given a 5% disability of her right knee. Although the injury occasionally interfered with her occupation of patient care assistant as it requires kneeling and lifting, after about 18 months she was basically pain free. Her medical bills totaled approximately \$8,000 all but \$2000 of which were paid by medical insurance; and her lost wages were approximately \$5,600.00. The case settled for \$40,000.



LeFoll & LeFoll also represented the driver of the same vehicle. Here the Plaintiff was a 26 year old female, who also sustained an injury to her right knee and lower back. She too had to be treated with a cortisone injection in her right knee. She was also given a 5% disability to her right knee. Her medical bills totaled approximately \$4,490 and her lost wages were approximately \$1,730. However, due to being a young mother and full-time worker, she could not attend all of her prescribed physical therapy sessions. The case settled for \$30,000.

As you will note, following through with the prescribed medical treatment plays a significant role in determining case values. In the first case, the Plaintiff had \$8,000 in medical bills. That case had a value of \$40,000 whereas the second case arising out of the same car accident with coincidentally very similar injuries settled for \$30,000 because the medical bills were only \$4,490.



FORMING A BUSINESS?

If you are interested in starting a new business, you may want to consider forming a Limited Liability Company (LLC). Since the adoption of Connecticut's Limited Liability Company Act in 1993, the LLC has quickly become the preferred entity for small businesses in Connecticut. The reasons for this are quite simple: the LLC provides the tax advantages of a partnership while still affording the liability protections of a corporation.



For tax purposes, the LLC is treated like a partnership whereby the income is passed through the LLC and through a K-1 is taxed at the individual members' personal tax rates. The LLC itself is not subject to federal or state taxes. This differs from a S-Corporation which may be subject to both taxes twice - once at the corporate and again at the shareholder level. Use of the LLC eliminates the tax at the business entity level.

The second advantage to the LLC is the limited liability feature. The entity separates your personal assets from your business assets. LLC members are not personally liable for the debts or obligations of the LLC. Accordingly, a member's liability with respect to the conduct of the business is protected in a way similar to that of a corporation shareholder. By contrast, partners in a general partnership may be held personally liable for the debts of the partnership. Please note, however, that if the LLC is applying for credit, the bank often requires a personal guaranty since the new LLC will not have an established credit history. Obviously the signing of the personal guaranty creates personal liability for this credit debt but only for this credit debt. The LLC member will not assume personal liability for any of the actions of the LLC. For example, if you are a member of an LLC which owns property and someone is injured on that property, you personally will not be held liable for the injuries, although the LLC could certainly be found liable. The injured party would be limited to seek compensation from the assets of the LLC.

Finally, another advantage to the LLC format is the flexibility with which it can be administered. LeFoll & LeFoll, LLC researches your chosen business name to verify that it is not already in use, obtains the Federal Tax Identification for the new LLC, prepares the Operating Agreement and the Articles of Organization, and files the necessary forms with the Secretary of State's office. The filing fee is only \$60 which is far less than the fee for corporations. In addition, the member of an LLC is not required to maintain the annual corporate records. However, you should be aware that the LLC will be subject to a State of Connecticut business entity tax in the current amount of \$250.00 per year which is due each tax day, April 15th.