HARMON SIEFF

A LAW CORPORATION
15760 VENTURA BOULEVARD #700
ENCINO, CALIFORNIA 91436
Telephone: (818) 986-4563
Facsimile: (818) 986-4780
E-mail: SieffLaw@aol.com
Web: www.SieffLaw.com

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1. Prenups

A widow was not entitled to rescind a premarital agreement based on her failure to read the contract or consult an attorney before she signed it.

2. Real Estate

The owner of undeveloped mountain property conveyed it to a State-recognized conservation trust to be held as perpetual open space. After the trust mortgaged the property and could not repay, the land was foreclosed, but subsequent owners were bound to the "conservation easement" and required to retain the land as open.

Antitrust

Competitors in a given industry are not guilty of conspiracy where all were merely reacting to the same market pressures and taking similar actions to serve their interests.

4. Fertility Law

A cryogenic storage tank failed and endangered the embryos and eggs it contained. When the resulting lawsuit against all tank-related parties was settled by only some defendants for a sum ruled to be "in the ballpark" of the estimated prorated liability, the non-settling defendants could not seek reimbursement from the settlors.

5. E-bikes

Those containing throttles to propel the wheels when the rider is not peddling are considered "motor vehicles" not allowed in bicycle lanes.

6. Garbage

A City converted unpaid garbage collection charges to special assessments recorded as liens against the properties. When the

Sieff Newsletter November 2022 Page 2

rule was challenged in court, the case was dismissed because the citizens had not complied with a specific "payment under protest procedure" required by statute.

7. Disability Access

A single law firm, which has filed thousands of cases against small businesses for alleged violations of the Americans with Disability Act, is now being sued by two counties alleging that many of the claims were fraudulent.

8. Current Cases

This month our office is advising a condominium owner regarding its HOA, a building contractor with its Union agreement, a commercial landlord with a mold problem, and a corporation about complying with statutory regulations; defending Superior Court lawsuits; and representing other commercial and individual clients.

This practice serves as a "lawyer of first resort", or "primary care attorney," advocating for small businesses and individuals with transactions and disputes, including accident victims by referral only. We specialize in personalized client service. If we can be of any assistance with your legal issues, consider contacting us as soon as a question is identified. Your recent referrals have been greatly appreciated.

Remember: Preventative lawyering is the most effective kind.

Sincerely,

HARMON SIEFF

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