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1. Frivolous Lawsuits

A court may prevent a self-represented "vexatious litigant" from filing a new lawsuit without first obtaining judicial permission which will be granted "only if the case has merit and is not for purposes of harassment or delay".

2. Collection

Attorney's fees incurred in enforcing a judgment are collectible if the judgment includes an award of fees.

2. Covid

In yet another lawsuit seeking insurance coverage for businesses interrupted by Covid-related government orders, policies specifically excluding coverage for "pathogen caused" losses were ruled liable for Covid losses, but "pollution exclusions" do not necessarily apply.

3. Taverns

After bouncers broke up a bar fight, the combatants departed in separate directions, but met and fought again later and one was killed. His family sued the bar for not calling police, but the bar's special relationship with patrons only protects them from imminent criminal conduct before they peaceably leave.

4. Ocean Front

A coastal property owner requested permission to relocate a public hiking easement from one part of its property to another. The County approved the project and granted permission, but the State Coastal Commission can, and did, overrule the County and denied a permit.

5. Employment Injuries

Workers compensation is the sole remedy of an injured worker against an employer even if the person was performing unpaid voluntary service for a public agency.

6. Probate

Executors represent not just themselves, but also others, and therefore cannot appear in court without a licensed attorney because such would constitute the unauthorized practice of law.

7. Current Cases

This month our office is retained to: prosecute one insurer for failure to cover an insured claim and another for damages for wrongful death; represent a commercial landowner in clearing its title; assist French interests in acquiring an American corporation; dissolve a local law firm; defend a lawsuit for contractual indemnification; and work for other commercial and private 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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