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1. Advertising Alcohol.

The law forbids manufacturers and wholesalers of alcoholic beverages from paying any value to a retailer in exchange for product advertisements.

2. Patient Privacy.

The Medical Board investigated a doctor accused of overprescribing dangerous drugs based on accessing the doctor's computerized prescription activity. The doctor claimed the access invaded his patients' privacy, but the Board won because protecting the public from dangerous drugs and incompetent physicians outweighs privacy rights.

3. Course of Employment.

An in-home caretaker, hired to work at two different locations, biked from one to the other, was hit by a car, and denied compensation because her employer claimed she was commuting. She won because providing her own transportation benefited her boss, so the injury occurred "during employment".

4. Private Roads

Landowners successfully denied that their noncoastal roads had become public streets because a statute prevents a public "use" from becoming public "property".

5. Jurisdiction.

Plaintiffs injured out-of-state by an out-of-state defendant cannot sue in California even though the defendant conducts unrelated activities in the state.

6. Insurance.

An insurer with an obligation to investigate claims which cannot be denied absent good faith reasons was wrong to require

arbitration where its only objection to coverage was a preliminary expert opinion.

7. Aviation.

After a municipal airport requested bids to operate a second service facility, it selected a new vendor. The operator of the first facility sued the City claiming it had changed bid specifications to benefit the newcomer, but lost, because the City was within its rights.

8. Disability Discrimination.

A car dealership refused to install temporary hand controls so a paraplegic could test drive. The customer sued and won the right to a trial to prove that the installation was a reasonable accommodation the dealership is required to provide.

9. Inconvenient Court.

After a Mexican corporation sued a Florida corporation in Mexico for breach of contract, the Florida company sued in California, but lost. The court analyzed the relationships of the parties to the locations and ruled that California was an "inconvenient forum".

This office serves as a "lawyer of first resort" advocating for small businesses and individuals with disputes and transactions, 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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