

## HARMON SIEFF

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### 1. Rooster Law

County law requires a permit to keep more than four on a property, with some exceptions. Poultry owners claimed it was unconstitutional and discriminated against their class. The county won because the law is a valid exercise in its police power to promote health and safety and prevent animal cruelty.

### 2. Debt Collection

Lawyers hired for a limited purpose, such as enforcing collateral agreements, are not subject to federal fair debt collection laws.

### 3. Police Immunity

Casino operators sued individual police who searched their gambling machines, contending that the cops stole most of the contents and delivered only a fraction to the prosecutor. The conduct was not unconstitutional because the officers had "qualified immunity" because they had obtained a valid warrant.

### 4. Conflict of Interest

One general partner of a limited partnership objected to a lawyer representing the partnership who had been selected by the other general partner. The interests of the partners were not the same as the entity, so the lawyer was disqualified.

### 5. Notifying an Insurer

Policyholders must notify insurers of covered occurrences so insurers can investigate, but notice was excused where the claim could be evaluated from photographs.

6. Wrongful Death

While a deceased parent's heirs can sue those who wrongfully caused the death, an unacknowledged child could not sue because her parents never married.

7. Native American Law

A California cigarette tax could be enforced to the extent a reservation store sold tobacco to non-tribe members and shipped products off reservation.

8. Current Cases

Last month our office relocated to larger quarters on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor of our same building without interfering with the representation of our clients. All other contact information remains unchanged. Please note our new address.

This practice serves as a "lawyer of first resort", or "primary care attorney," 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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