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1. Tuna Law

The three dominant tuna fish companies are being prosecuted for conspiring to fix prices, and one of the CEO's has been personally indicted. "American consumers deserve free enterprise, not fixed prices," says the DOJ.

2. Sports Betting

An old federal law made it unlawful for states to authorize wagering on competitive sports, but the rule is unconstitutional because although the federal government may outlaw the conduct of individuals, it cannot "command" a state.

3. Gas Stations

A major oil company which leased locations to an operator was sued by the operator's worker for unpaid wages, overtime, and meal breaks, but won, because the worker was not employed by the oil company.

4. Commuters

A car accident victim sued the other driver's employer claiming the vehicle was used for work and the employer responsible. The victim lost because the commute to a workplace is outside the course and scope of employment.

5. Car Rentals

That a driver was not listed on a car rental contract did not preclude his Fourth Amendment expectation of privacy. When stopped and searched by police, he could suppress the discovered heroin as unlawful evidence.

6. Real Estate

A property owner sued his co-owners for the value of his share, and the court ordered the property partitioned and sold

and the proceeds divided. Since the trial court did not specify the precise interests of each party, a new trial was ordered.

7. Billboards

A County banned billboards in certain locations, but allowed existing displays to remain. When one was blown down and rebuilt, the County ordered removal. The owner sued, claiming "customary maintenance" was permitted by state law. The County won because it can forbid entirely new structures.

8. Current Cases

This month we continue to defend civil lawsuits; represent a subpoenaed witness; and prosecute injury claims. We are also helping clear the title of real estate to facilitate refinancing and advising a company to qualify for government contracts.

This office serves as a "lawyer of first resort" counseling and 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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