

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. Oscars

The contractual right of the Academy to purchase Oscar statuettes for \$10 supersedes the rights of the creditors of award recipients.

2. Covid

Business losses resulting from government prohibitions of restaurant operations were properly excluded from a business interruption policy.

3. Settlements

If a litigant rejects a pre-trial offer for a specific sum and eventually agrees to accept a lesser amount, it can be held responsible for the legal expenses of the other party following the rejection.

4. Contracts

A new worker required to sign a promise to arbitrate future disputes as a condition of being hired is bound to the agreement even though it was presented as a "take it or leave it" proposition.

5. Non-Profits

After a local charity disaffiliated from a national organization, decedents bequeathed funds to the local which was not required to share the proceeds with the national.

6. Elections

California's closed presidential primary is constitutional even though it prevents non-party members from participating.

7. E-Scooters

A company rents battery-operated scooters which customers retrieve from public locations and abandon at their destinations. Because the company agrees with local jurisdictions to ensure vehicles do not become trip hazards, a pedestrian injured after falling over an abandoned scooter can recover damages for personal injury.

8. Facebook

What happens when an account holder dies? Facebook allows members to designate a "legacy contact" to update status, manage tributes, restrict access, close accounts, and respond to post mortem communications, but not to impersonate the member.

9. Current Cases

This month our office is defending a state court suit for fraud and a federal suit for construction defects; advising a land owner about trespass; a building owner about tenant obligations; modifying a shareholder agreement; and representing other commercial 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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