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# May 2023

### 1. Bike Lanes

Although government entities are generally immune from liability for the design of roadways, they remain responsible for providing reasonable warnings of concealed dangers to the public.

#### 2. Dead Cat

A veterinarian was sued because he caused horrific pain and suffering to a cat he was hired to euthanize, causing great emotional distress to the pet owner who sued. Although initially dismissed, the case was reinstated because compensatory and punitive damages can be awarded for wrongful injuries to an animal committed with gross negligence in "disregard of humanity".

# Golf

A player tripped over an exposed tree root and sued the course for negligent maintenance, but lost, because golf includes the inherent risk of injury caused by such roots, and the course had not increased that risk by its actions.

# 4. Sports Fans

At an NFL game, a spectator became agitated and slugged another causing serious injury. The victim sued the team and security companies for failing to protect him, but he lost because there was no warning that there would be an assault and nothing security could have done to prevent the sudden act.

### 5. Cannabis

A grower rented a warehouse in which it cultivated cannabis. There was no written lease, and the landlord eventually sued for eviction based on a month-to-month tenancy. The grower claimed that as a farmer, it was entitled to a statutory presumption that "agricultural land" is rented from "year-to-year", but the

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landlord won because the indoor cannabis was not growing from the ground.

# 6. Probate Surcharge

A nephew was his uncle's trustee and held his power of attorney, but eventually transferred assets to himself. When other family members sued the nephew, he was ordered to reimburse everything he took plus interest.

# 7. Premises Liability

When a condominium tenant hosted an club event, a member fell near the entryway stairs to the residence and sued the host. The tenant won because she had no control over the stairs and walkway.

### 8. Current Cases

This month our office successfully defended a claim for disability access and is defending a state court suit for fraud; prosecuting an insurer for failure to cover; advising an owner about its HOA; 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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