

## **Additional Successes and News Briefs**

- The Phillips Firm recently settled a case on behalf of CalTrans, in which two plaintiffs were claiming catastrophic injuries from a four-car pile-up in a construction zone on the 15 freeway in San Diego County. The case resolved for an amount that was substantially less than the expected settlement amount.

- The Phillips Firm settled a high profile case wherein we represented Sean "Diddy" Combs in relation to an incident that occurred at an pre-Oscar party at the Roosevelt Hotel.

- In Sanderson v. Leiblein, The Phillips Firm successfully tried a contentious lawsuit in the South Bay involving two wealthy landowners in a dispute over water damage that was allegedly caused by the failure to maintain a property. By winning this case, we were able to recover attorney's fees in the excess of \$150,000 for our client.

- In another significant matter, Francis v. Westland Construction, we represented as a defendant a general contractor in a lawsuit brought by the notorious Joe Francis of "Girls Gone Wild" fame. In that lawsuit, Mr. Francis claimed that our client was negligent in the construction of a significant remodel of Mr. Francis' Pacific Palisades mansion.

Our aggressive defense resulted in Mr. Francis receiving nothing from our client in the initial suit. Also, in a counterclaim brought by our client against Mr. Francis based on his failure to pay monies owed under the construction agreement (Westland Construction v. Francis), we obtained a judgement of roughly \$230,000 against Mr. Francis.

The results of this case were subsequently appealed by Mr. Francis, and opposed by our firm. The Court of Appeals ruled in favor of our client, affirming the original judgment. Subsequent to the appeal, the monies owed by Mr. Francis to our client were successfully collected.

- In the case of Hasen v. Derham, we represented a defendant in a major tort injury case and were successful in arguing that our client was working for NBC at the time of the accident, thereby substantially reducing his personal liability. We were then able to make NBC contribute to the settlement in an amount that was more than forty times the amount paid by our client.

- In 2008, we represented ARB, Inc., an international contracting company in a complex, multi-party litigation in the State of Oklahoma. In that case, the corporate headquarters of a large communication company was damaged in a tornado, and various lawsuits were filed between the owner and various contractors who took part in constructing the building.

- Mr. Phillips won a highly publicized case in the California Court of Appeals, which fundamentally impacted the rights of defendants to allocate fault to non-party medical tortfeasors. This case is anticipated to have far reaching consequences. For the opinion, see Henry et al v. Superior Court (Reinink) 160 Cal. App. 4th 440; 72 Cal.Rptr.3d 808, 2008 Cal. App. LEXIS 277

For more information, see the following articles:

[Metropolitan Daily-News](#)  
[Insurance Journal](#)