

SS&P NEWSLETTER

For Clients, Legal Professionals and Friends of the Firm

Summer 2004

SALVI, SCHOSTOK
& PRITCHARD P.C.

LAW OFFICES

www.salvilaw.com

181 West Madison Street, Suite 3800 - Chicago, Illinois 60602
312.372.1227 (Office) 312.372.3720 (Fax)

218 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. - Waukegan, Illinois 60085
847.249.1227 (Office) 847.249.0138 (Fax)

Principal's Corner

Welcome to the *SS&P Newsletter*, issued quarterly by Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C.

When our Marketing Director, Beth Olzewski asked me to write about the Firm's recent successes across the State of Illinois, I knew immediately that I wanted to acknowledge the young lawyers at Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard. In point of fact, I do not recall a single settlement or verdict that the Firm has obtained, which was not due, at least in part, to the hard work and dedication of one of our young lawyers. So it is my pleasure to share with you some of their recent accomplishments on behalf of our clients.

As the next column reveals, I am not the only one to recognize the young talent in our Firm. Jamie Muir has just been selected as one of the "40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty" to watch in 2004. Scott Clewis, who was named last year to the elite "40 Under Forty", recently co-tried *Walton v. Allen* with Michael Schostok in DuPage County. After five days of trial, the defendants agreed to pay a \$2,050,000 settlement. In 2002, Scott also helped Mike Schostok obtain a 4.1 million dollar verdict in a medical malpractice lawsuit involving the misdiagnosis of an aneurysm in an elderly man. This represented the largest reported verdict in Illinois for the wrongful death of a 75-year old. Matt Williams, a recent Law Review graduate from DePaul, joined the Firm in January, 2003. He already has personally settled close to a million dollars in cases on behalf of our clients. Kathleen McGinty and Tara Plewe recently took their first case to trial in *Lobello v. Seguin*, which settled during trial for 1.52 million dollars. Kathleen, who was a practicing neuro-surgical nurse before becoming a lawyer, has also assisted in obtaining over 30 million dollars in settlements during her first two years with the Firm.

The future of the Firm, and more importantly the future of our clients, are in good hands with these talented lawyers. I couldn't be more proud of each one of these young women and men.

Patrick A. Salvi

CONGRATULATIONS JAMIE S. MUIR

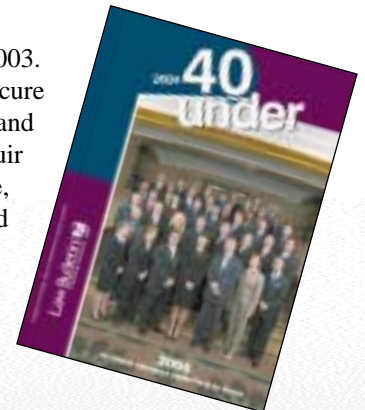
In June, 2004, the Law Bulletin Publishing Company (LBPC) selected Jamie S. Muir as one of the "40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty" to watch in 2004. Each year LBPC evaluates hundreds of nominations to select 40 of the most talented young attorneys in Illinois.

The criteria used for screening the nominations included an examination of career achievements and an evaluation of the contributions each nominee has made to their respective communities. Mr. Muir was selected from more than 1200 attorneys, which illustrates the prominence of this achievement.

Mr. Muir joined SS&P in March of 2003. In less than one year, he has helped to secure over 7 million dollars in personal injury and medical malpractice settlements. Mr. Muir has achieved early success in his practice, and has quickly become a highly regarded member of the Plaintiff's personal injury bar. The law firm of Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C. congratulates Jamie S. Muir for this outstanding professional award.



Jamie S. Muir



Inside:

Our staff continues to grow; meet our new associate.

Take a look at what's going on outside the Firm; David J. Pritchard travels to Cambodia.

SS&P builds a record of success across the state.

Macon County Resident Receives \$2.75 Million Settlement

On March 4, 2004, attorneys Patrick A. Salvi and Kathleen A. McGinty announced a \$2.75 million personal injury settlement. The award was approved by Judge Scott B. Diamond of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Macon County, Illinois. (Case No.: 00 L 167)

On July 12, 2000, Jeffrey Hall, 36, was sweeping debris outside of his employer's facility (Archer Daniels Midland Co.) in Decatur, Illinois when he was struck by a semi-tractor trailer. The defendant driver, Kevin Bowman, was operating the truck on behalf of the Curry Companies.

Attorneys for the plaintiff alleged that the driver failed to keep a proper lookout for pedestrians, failed to maintain control of his vehicle and failed to sound his horn. As a result of this negligence, Mr. Hall suffered multiple injuries. Some of those injuries included a contusion to the right chest, shoulder and flank; a severe crush injury to his right thigh; multiple abrasions; and a closed head injury with loss of consciousness.

"Mr. Hall was fortunate to have survived such a life-threatening tragedy. I hope this case sets an example of how important it is to pay attention to the road, especially while operating such a large motor vehicle," said Patrick A. Salvi.



Kathleen A. McGinty

\$2.05 Million Settlement in Dupage County

Attorneys Michael P. Schostok and Scott R. Clewis announced a \$1.65 million settlement on April 14, 2004 in the case of *John Walton v. James E. Allen, M.D. and Metro Infectious Disease Consultants, et al.* (Case No: 99 L 00560)

In April of 1998, John Walton suffered a cut on his right hand. He received treatment by the defendant, Dr. James Allen, an Infectious Disease Specialist in Hinsdale, Illinois. Dr. Allen prescribed a six-week course of IV antibiotic therapy with Gentamicin and Vancomycin to treat the infection. Mr. Walton soon developed severe dizziness,



Scott R. Clewis

which prompted him to see his primary physician. He was later diagnosed with severe ototoxicity, which rendered him almost completely devoid of any balance function. He is now permanently disabled.

The plaintiffs alleged that Dr. Allen's IV selection was inappropriate and outside of the standard of care. There were many other alternative antibiotics that could have successfully treated this infection without any harmful risks. It is also alleged that Dr. Allen failed to appropriately monitor the Gentamicin and Vancomycin levels in Mr. Walton's system. Evidence was presented at trial that if Mr. Walton's levels were monitored properly, ototoxicity could have been prevented.

At the time of the injury, Mr. Walton was employed as a dockworker by Roadway Express. Due to his balance disorder, he is on permanent disability and can no longer work. Mr. Walton resides in Bensenville, Illinois with his wife Alice.

The defendants Community Nursing Service (CNS) of DuPage County and Heartland Home Infusions had previously settled for \$400,000. The remaining settlement was reached after a five day trial for a total of \$2,050,000.

Widow Struck by Car - \$1.52 Million Settlement

Attorneys Kathleen A. McGinty and Tara R. Plewe obtained a 1.52 million dollar wrongful death settlement on behalf of the Estate of Margaret Lobello, deceased. The Honorable Robert Gordon approved the settlement order on April 26, 2004 in Cook County, Illinois. (Case No.: 02 L 2203).

On December 5, 2001, 78 year-old Margaret Lobello was a pedestrian near the intersection of 23rd Street and Home Avenue in Berwyn, Illinois. As she crossed the street, she was struck by a motor vehicle driven by the defendant, Tonita Henderson. Ms. Lobello died from the injuries sustained in the collision.

Defendant, Tonita Henderson was employed by Seguin Services, a not-for-profit Illinois Corporation in the business of providing services to disabled adults. At the time of the incident, she was driving clients to a play.

Kathleen McGinty alleged that the defendant failed to keep a proper and sufficient lookout for pedestrians while backing into a parking place on a one-way street.

"Both parties should be grateful for Judge Gordon's outstanding efforts to get this case settled rather than starting a lengthy trial," said Kathleen. *"Ms. Lobello was a kind, elderly widow. She is survived by her three adult sons."*

\$2.35 Million Settlement - Birth Injury in Cook County

On April 23, 2004, David J. Pritchard and Kathleen McGinty announced a 2.35 million dollar medical malpractice settlement in Cook County. The award was approved by Judge Jennifer Duncan-Brice. (Case No.: 00 L 7135)

On November 18, 1999, Linda Reingold gave birth to her son Jonathan at Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights, Illinois. During the delivery process the obstetrician improperly used a vacuum extractor in excess of the manufacturer's guidelines, resulting in a mild spasticity in the lower extremities as well as speech delay. The settlement proceeds have allowed Jonathan to receive proper treatment on his road to recovery.

1.25 Million Dollar Settlement Wrongful Death in Cook County

On March 29, 2004, David J. Pritchard and Kathleen McGinty announced a 1.25 million dollar wrongful death settlement on behalf of a 61 year-old man who tragically died after a slip and fall. The award was approved by Judge Locallo in Cook County, Illinois. (Case No.: 01 L 2083)

On November 5, 1999, Juan Ramirez was rushed to a community hospital in Des Plaines, Illinois, after suffering a fall from his roof. It was alleged that the defendant neurosurgeon improperly diagnosed spinal core damage rather than a brain injury, and therefore failed to timely transfer Mr. Ramirez to a trauma center. Expert witnesses for the defendant neurosurgeon took the curious position that it was not malpractice to not diagnose the brain damage; but that if it was malpractice, the brain damage was so severe that Mr. Ramirez would have died anyway. Fortunately for the Ramirez family, the treating physician at the trauma center testified otherwise. Mr. Ramirez is survived by his wife and two adult children.

\$1.2 Cook County Settlement - Brachial Plexus Injury

On March 12, 2004, David J. Pritchard and Jamie Muir announced a 1.2 million dollar medical malpractice settlement against a medical center in Chicago, Illinois. The award was approved by Judge Locallo in Cook County, Illinois. (Case No.: 01 L 4531)

On August 3, 1995, Brenda Garcia gave birth to her daughter Jocelyn at Alexian Brothers Medical Center in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. During the labor and delivery, the obstetrician used excessive force resulting in a brachial plexus injury to the newborn child. Despite this injury to her arm, Jocelyn wants everyone to know that she has been selected to the cheerleading team of her grade school. Congratulations Jocelyn!

NEW ASSOCIATE

TARA R. PLEWE

Tara R. Plewe joined **Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C.** in March, 2003. She concentrates her practice in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice and product liability.

Tara was born and raised in Libertyville, Illinois. After High School, she received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Illinois in 2000, and then pursued a law degree from Marquette University in Milwaukee. She obtained her JD in May, 2003. At Marquette, Tara was a Corporate Moot Court Member and was awarded *First Place* at the Ruby R. Vale Interscholar National Competition. During her undergraduate educational career, she consistently remained on the Dean's List with a 3.8 grade point average. During her last semester of law school, Tara participated in the Mediation Clinic and served as a student mediator for Milwaukee County's Small Claims Court. She handled a variety of cases involving landlord/tenant, contract and family disputes.

Tara R. Plewe also had the opportunity to serve as a congressional intern for the House of Representatives in Washington D.C. There she assisted the Labor, Health, Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, chaired by former Congressman John E. Porter.

Tara is currently licensed to practice in Illinois as well as Wisconsin. She is also a member of the Chicago, Illinois, Wisconsin and American Bar Associations. She currently resides in Chicago.



Tara R. Plewe

Visit Our Web Site!



Log on to www.salvilaw.com Today!

SS&P Newsletter is intended only to provide information of general interest to our clients, friends, and fellow practitioners. Under the rules of the Supreme Court of Illinois, this publication may be regarded as advertising. Information contained herein should not be considered as individual legal advice or legal opinion.

©SS&P 2004

SS&P REACHES OUT TO FRIENDS ACROSS THE WORLD

Dear Clients, Colleagues and Friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about the wonderful and important work being performed for the sick and injured children of Cambodia by **Friends Without A Border**. Many of us are familiar with the horrors of the Cambodian “killing fields”, which resulted in the deaths of almost three-million Cambodians; but few of us are familiar with the equally catastrophic aftermath of this murderous rampage. As a result of these atrocities, Cambodia was essentially left without hospitals, without doctors, without nurses, and with hundreds of thousands of orphaned children.

In 1996, Kenro Izu, a world renowned photographer, proved yet again that one person can make a tremendous difference by founding **Friends Without A Border**. **Friends** is a not-for-profit organization based in New York and Tokyo, and dedicated to the mission of providing essential and effective medical treatment to the children of Cambodia. This work has included the building of Angkor Children’s Hospital in Siem Reap, Cambodia; as well as establishing a world-class training center for Cambodian doctors, nurses, and healthcare providers. Fortunately for the children of Cambodia, no one ever told Kenro that such an impossible dream could not be accomplished. This March marked the five-year anniversary of Angkor Children’s Hospital, an institution that to date has brought medical care to more than 175,000 children.

As a member of the board of directors of **Friends**, it was my privilege to attend the recent festivities celebrating the five-year anniversary of Angkor Children’s Hospital. Over to the right are five photographs taken during this visit. The first is a set of premature twins abandoned shortly after birth on the hospital doorstep. These twins were successfully treated. The second is a group of recovering patients sitting with a funny looking foreigner. The third is a young girl surgically treated for injuries to her legs. The fourth, and my favorite, is a picture of a young Cambodian girl from a nearby village shyly showing us her home. The fifth is a picture of the dedicated and talented ACH medical staff at the five-year celebration with the Prime Minister of Cambodia.

The work of **Friends** and many other wonderful not-for-profit organizations is only beginning in Cambodia. Eight-million landmines remain scattered throughout the country. 64,000 children under the age of five die unnecessarily each year. You are invited to join **Friends** in working to secure a healthy future for Cambodia and her children. Please help us prove that **among Friends there truly are no borders**. You can learn more about **Friends Without A Border** at their website www.fwab.org.

Sincerely,

David J. Pritchard
Vice Chair, FWAB Board



Building a Record of Success Across the State

Managing Partners

Patrick A. Salvi
Michael P. Schostok
David J. Pritchard

Partners

David G. Prybyl
Donald R. McGarrath
Mark N. Senak



David J. Pritchard, Patrick A. Salvi and Michael P. Schostok

Associates

Scott R. Clewis
Kathleen A. McGinty
Matthew L. Williams
John Stewart W. Muir
Tara R. Plewe

Of Counsel

James H. Canel
Thomas F. Loizzo

*Salvi Schostok & Pritchard has obtained significant settlements
and verdicts in the following Illinois counties:*

- Adams County • Champaign County • Cook County • DeKalb County • Grundy County • DuPage County • Jefferson County
- Kane County • Lake County • Lee County • Macon County • McHenry County • McLean County
- Peoria County • Sangamon County • Stephenson County • Will County • Winnebago County

Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C.

Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C. limits its practice to representing Plaintiffs in
Personal Injury, Wrongful Death, Medical Malpractice, Motor Vehicle, and other
Transportation Liability, Aviation, Product Liability and Commercial Litigation.

181 W. Madison, Suite 3800
Chicago, IL 60602
Tel: 312.372.1227
Toll Free: 877.372.1227
Fax: 312.372.3720

SALVI, SCHOSTOK
& PRITCHARD P.C.
LAW OFFICES

218 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60085
Tel: 847.249.1227
Toll Free: 877.249.1227
Fax: 847.249.0138

www.salvilaw.com

**SALVI, SCHOSTOK
& PRITCHARD P.C.**

LAW OFFICES

218 N. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AVE.
WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS 60085

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Gurnee, IL
Permit No. 362

PARTNERS

PATRICK A. SALVI
MICHAEL P. SCHOSTOK
DAVID J. PRITCHARD
DAVID G. PRIBYL
DONALD R. MCGARRAH
MARK N. SENAK

ASSOCIATES

SCOTT R. CLEWIS
KATHLEEN A. MCGINTY
MATTHEW L. WILLIAMS
JOHN STEWART W. MUIR
TARA R. PLEWE

OF COUNSEL

JAMES H. CANEL
THOMAS F. LOIZZO

Produced and edited by Beth M. Olzewski, Director of Marketing.



Celebrating 5 years in Chicago