

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

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T.J. SAYE
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

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We are proud to welcome Sarah Ferrill
as a new associate to our firm.



Pat A. Salvi



Sarah A. Ferrill

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LAW OFFICES

MALPRACTICE ■ PERSONAL INJURY ■ WRONGFUL DEATH

Summer 2010

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LAW OFFICES

THE SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD

Newsletter

Dedicated to clients, legal professionals and friends of the Firm.

Principal's Corner

By: Michael P. Schostok

NEW CHICAGO OFFICE PLANNED FOR FALL

It's hard to believe that more than ten years have passed since Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard, P.C., opened our doors at 181 West Madison Street in Chicago. I remember our initial plans were to secure a satellite location where we could easily meet with our Chicago area clients and at the same time be conveniently located to the courthouse for court appearances and trials. Since 1999, our Chicago office has evolved into much more than a simple satellite location. The small office that opened a decade ago consisting of one lawyer and a secretary is now bustling with six lawyers and a dozen staff members (administrative, secretarial, research, medical and paralegal professionals) supporting each lawyer's efforts as they serve our ever-growing Chicago practice.

In order to meet the needs of our continued growth, I am thrilled to announce our Chicago office will be moving on October 1, 2010 to the penthouse suite (16th Floor) at 22 West Washington Street. This beautiful

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THE TOP STORY

\$29.1 Million Federal Tort Claim Verdict Could Have Prevented Brain Damage

David J. Pritchard and Patrick A. Salvi II secured a \$29.1 million verdict on behalf of a Lake County family.

Since the lawsuit alleged medical malpractice against physicians employed by the Federal Government, the suit had to be filed against The United States of America in Federal Court under the "Federal Tort Claims Acts". The Act also required that the trial be heard before a Federal Judge rather than a jury. The Government was represented by a team of attorneys from the U.S. Attorneys' Office.



Patrick Salvi II & David Pritchard

On May 16, 2003, the mother was admitted to the hospital for labor and delivery. Shortly after admission it became known that the mother had two risk factors for potential Group Beta Strep infection to the baby...prolonged rupture of membranes and gestational prematurity. The obstetrician, who had weekend coverage for his partner, failed to recognize these risk factors, and so failed to prescribe antibiotics during labor which would have prevented infection to the newborn.

During the next 12-14 hours after birth, the baby showed numerous signs and symptoms of infection including temperature instability, refusal to suck, changes in skin color and texture, and grunting and retracting during breathing. The pediatrician, also on weekend coverage for her partner, not only failed to recognize these red flags of infection when the nurses reported them multiple times by phone; but declined to come into the hospital to examine the baby, and so a second opportunity to give antibiotics was missed. After several more hours, the infection traveled into the newborn's blood stream and into the brain resulting in profound and permanent brain damage.

Check out our Web site at salvilaw.com!

STATEWIDE SETTLEMENTS

\$12 Million Winnebago County (IL) Malpractice Settlement Matches Winnebago Record

Michael P. Schostok and Patrick A. Salvi secured a \$12 million medical malpractice settlement on behalf of a 35 year-old man disabled as a result of a hospital's alleged negligence.

On April 12, 2003, the Plaintiff suffered a fractured right femur and a broken neck while skydiving in DeKalb County, Illinois.

The Plaintiff was taken to Rockford Memorial Hospital where he was stabilized. Hospital staff and treating physicians diagnosed his cervical fracture and correctly noted that the Plaintiff was neurologically intact. However, doctors failed to diagnose the instability of his cervical fracture.

Because of a "failure to communicate" on behalf of the treating neurosurgeon and the intensivist in charge of the Plaintiff's global care, the Plaintiff was extubated and was allowed to move four days after his admission. Later that day the Plaintiff needed to be re-intubated. During that re-intubation the Plaintiff became paralyzed when the Defendant doctor failed to use manual inline traction severely subluxing the Plaintiff's spine and rendering him an incomplete quadriplegic.

The Defendant, Rockford Memorial Hospital, paid \$12 million, matching the record high settlement in Winnebago County history. The case against the Defendant neurosurgeon is still pending and will be tried in early 2011.

"This case once again demonstrates that medical mistakes often occur because doctors and nurses fail to adequately communicate with one another. Too often the patient suffers the consequences," said lead Attorney Michael Schostok.



Michael Schostok & Patrick Salvi

\$1.5 Million Cook County (IL) Wrongful Death/Medical Malpractice Settlement

Michael P. Schostok obtained a \$1.5 million wrongful death/medical malpractice settlement on behalf of the family of a deceased husband/father, due to alleged negligent acts of the Defendant doctor.

On the evening of June 1, 2004, the Plaintiff came home from work and told his wife that he had pain in his right lower leg. The Plaintiff and his wife proceeded to Glenbrook Hospital where a diagnosis of a blood clot was made.

The Plaintiff was taken to the operating room by the Defendant surgeon to have the blood clot removed. The surgeon performed an embolectomy and perforated the iliac artery in the right groin of the Plaintiff causing him to bleed internally. The Plaintiffs alleged that the Defendant surgeon failed to appropriately diagnose and stop the internal bleeding in the Plaintiff. Consequently, the Plaintiff continued to bleed for several hours and subsequently died two days later from refractory hypovolemic shock.

The case was tried in the Circuit Court of Cook County in December 2009. A mistrial was declared because of inappropriate conduct by the Defendant doctor who attempted to recreate the intraoperative injection of dye material into the Plaintiff before the jury. The case was later settled at a mediation in February 2010.

OTHER RECENT RESULTS

\$1,500,000.00
Wrongful Death;
Cook County, IL.
(Schostok)

\$1,000,000.00
Wrongful Death;
Effingham County, IL.
(Pritchard)

\$1,280,000.00
Auto Accident;
Lake County, IL.
(Salvi/Salvi II)

\$725,000.00
Auto Accident;
Lake County, IL.
(Schostok)

\$1,150,000.00
Medical Malpractice;
McHenry County, IL.
(Schostok)

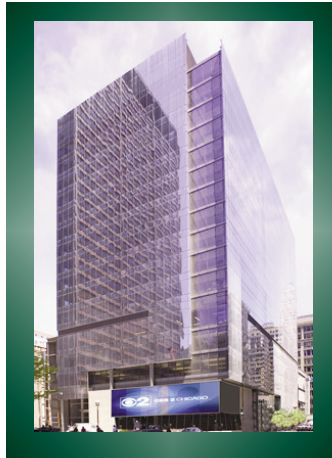
\$525,000.00
Auto Accident;
Lake County, IL.
(Salvi II)

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER *(continued from cover)*

new building was finished in 2008, and as a point of reference, is also the new home of CBS News Chicago.

Twenty-two West Washington is also conveniently located and easily accessible for our clients. The building is directly across the street from the Daley Center, has a small private/secure entrance, and is near public transportation and parking (all without leaving the building). The new office will have improved meeting spaces and will be equipped with state-of-the-art audio, video and other electronic resources to increase our ability to efficiently manage all of our clients' legal needs.

This move, even in tough economic times, shows our long-term commitment to our clients and the Chicago legal community. Working in tandem with our beautiful Waukegan office, we will continue to meet and exceed the high standard of legal excellence **Patrick Salvi** started in Lake County almost 30 years ago.



22 West Washington Street,
Chicago, Illinois

With our new Chicago office and our team of exceptional lawyers and staff, we will continue to provide victims of negligent conduct access to prompt answers and expert legal help ...all in the friendly, professional, and comfortable environment you have come to expect from us.

Please be on the lookout for more information on our move in the months ahead.

HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE - Matthew Williams, Tara Devine and Sarah Ferrill attended the ITLA Installation Dinner-Dance.

APRIL - Patrick Salvi and Michael Schostok recognized as members of the AAJ Leaders Forum.

JANUARY - Michael Schostok taught an ITLA webinar, *Evaluating Medical Malpractice Cases*.

DECEMBER - Patrick Salvi was appointed Chairman on the Character and Fitness, Second District Committee of the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar.

OCTOBER - Patrick Salvi was a moderator at the National Business Institute Judicial Forum.

SEPTEMBER - David Pritchard was a guest lecturer at DePaul Law School on *Practical Tips for Producing of Deposing Medical Experts for Depositions*.

SEPTEMBER - Patrick Salvi spoke at the Federal Tort Claims Act Seminar in South Carolina.

OFFICE TIDBITS

The Firm's official Chicago office move from 181 W. Madison to the beautiful 22 West Washington Street building is slated for October 1, 2010... a special welcome to **Zable Siddiqi** hired to replace our beloved **Janet Deutsch** who will be retiring as **Patrick Salvi's** long-time legal secretary later this summer... welcome also to **Amy Kobel** hired as the legal secretary to **Patrick Salvi II**, **Sandra Nevoraski** as **David Pritchard's** legal secretary, and **Georgia Bright** as our Chicago paralegal... the Firm's newest contract lawyers include **Kevin Mocogni** and **Colin Jones** ... a well deserved mention to **Christina Solomon** for her work in winning a 2010 Legal Marketing Association (LMA) Your Honor Award for "Excellence in Promotional and Collateral Materials"... welcome back to the team, **Genevieve Pritchard** in Waukegan, and **Veronica Dominguez** who will once again be manning our Chicago reception desk, this time filling in while our current receptionist (and her sister) **Gracie Dominguez**, is off having her baby... congratulations Gracie.



Christina Solomon & T.J. Saye
at the LMA Awards Ceremony