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

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## That's a lot of candles.



Please join us in celebration of Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard's 30th anniversary! PRE-SORTED

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When Patrick Salvi founded the firm in 1982 in Waukegan, he believed that victims of negligence should have easy access to highly ethical, compassionate lawyers who will fight on their behalf for justice. The firm remains committed to that philosophy.

To learn more about developing a mutually beneficial referral relationship with our firm please contact Patrick Salvi today at psalvi@salvilaw.com or 312-372-1227.

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Malpractice Personal Injury Wrongful Death Summer 2012

SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD P.C. LAW OFFICES

THE SALVI, SCHOSTOK & PRITCHARD

# Newsletter

A quaterly review of verdicts, settlements and important Firm news.

#### Principal's Corner By: Patrick A. Salvi

#### THIRTY YEARS LATER

hen I think back on important moments in my life, breaking away from my father's law practice in 1982 to open The Law Office of Patrick A. Salvi is on the shortlist. It's hard to believe that was 30-years-ago.

Like most young lawyers venturing out on their own, I had humble beginnings. My first office was originally located at 325 Washington Street in Waukegan. With only a few hundred square feet, a phone, and a couple pieces of furniture, I faced a lot of uncertainties in those early days. I was, however, blessed with a handful of wonderful clients who saw my passion for the law, and allowed me the great honor to advocate on their behalf.

Thirty-years and thousands of clients later, that small downtown Waukegan law firm has risen to one of the most respected and recognizable Plaintiffs personal injury and medical malpractice law firms in Illinois.

## THE TOP STORY

## **\$8.25 Million Malpractice Settlement** Largest of its kind in Illinois History

**Patrick A. Salvi** and **Sarah A. Ferrill** secured a record-breaking \$8.25 million wrongful death settlement in Cook County on behalf of a Chicago couple who suffered the loss of their infant son at only 40-days of life due to a pharmacy error that resulted in an excessive sodium dose.



Patrick Salvi and Sarah Ferrill

On September 6, 2010, the baby boy Plaintiff was born at 24 3/7th weeks

gestation weighing only 1 lb, 8 oz at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge. Although born severely premature, the infant was doing well and gradually improving every day. His progress abruptly ended, however, when he was given an IV bag on October 15, 2010, that contained a fatal dose of sodium chloride – approximately 60 times the dose of sodium ordered by the physician. The infant went into cardiac arrest and died due to the miscalculated IV solution.

"This unfortunate loss to our clients, a wonderful couple, could have been avoided," said Patrick Salvi. "Thankfully, the infant did not suffer at all before he died, but the parents will always feel the pain for his very avoidable death. It should be noted the hospital promptly investigated the infant's death and learned of the error and advised the family. To the hospital's credit, they changed their policy to avoid future such occurrences and finally agreed to pay an amount of compensation to our clients that recognized in some small way the value of his life."

According to research of the Law Bulletin's Verdict Reporter, this settlement is a record for an infant death in all counties of Illinois. A search was conducted of all settlements obtained in all counties of Illinois involving the death of an infant (defined as less than 12 months of age) for the past 10 years. Of those 59 settlements, the average settlement amount obtained was \$1,284,745.76. The previous record settlement was \$4 million; less than half of the result obtained in this settlement.

## **NOTEWORTHY SETTLEMENTS**

#### \$2.3 Million Iowa Settlement One of Highest in State History

avid J. Pritchard and Aaron D. Boeder recovered \$2.3 million for a medical malpractice lawsuit filed in Iowa. The terms of the settlement are confidential.

#### \$2 Million in **Combined Settlements**

atthew L. Williams Lecently obtained two separate \$1 million

settlements. The first settlement was on behalf of a 52-year-

of the wrong adrenal gland during a surgical procedure at a Northshore University Hospital on September 24, 2010. The gland had a benign adrenal tumor, which caused the secretion of excessive amounts of aldosterone. The second \$1 million settlement involved the wrongful death of a 16-year-old boy.



Aaron Boeder and David Pritchard

old man, who suffered injuries due to the negligent removal



Matthew Williams

## **OTHER RECENT RESULTS**

\$750,000.00 Medical Malpractice; Lake County, IL. Pritchard/Boeder

\$625,000.00 Medical Malpractice; Kane County, IL. Williams

\$500,000.00 Nursing Home; Lake County, IL. Devine

#### \$450,000.00 Wrongful Death: Wisconsin

Devine/Ashley

\$265,000.00 Medical Malpractice; Cook County, IL. Williams

\$250,000.00 Auto Accident; Lake County, IL. Williams

\$250,000.00 Medical Malpractice; Cook County, IL. Pritchard/Boeder

\$250,000.00 Nursing Home; Cook County, IL. Boeder

\$195,000.00 Auto Accident; Wisconsin Devine

#### \$1 Million Lake County **Boating Collision Settlement**

**¬ara R. Devine** obtained a \$1 million settlement on behalf of a 55-year-old woman who was trapped under a capsized boat.

On August 15, 2009, the Plaintiff passenger was on a boat driven by an acquaintance traveling on Nippersink Lake near Fox Lake, when it was struck by



Tara Devine

another boat driven by the Defendant. It is believed that at the time of the collision, both boats were navigating at intersecting angles on Nippersink Lake, and the boat driven by the Defendant did not take reasonable measures to avoid impact.

The boat capsized, throwing the Plaintiff, the driver of the boat, and the owner of the boat into the water. According to the Lake County Sheriff's Department, the Plaintiff did not immediately surface. After several minutes, bystanders pulled the Plaintiff to safety after she was found trapped in the mud underwater near the stern of the boat. The Plaintiff was taken to Northern Illinois Medical Center, where she was treated for facial fractures and eventually underwent neck surgery.

> \$175,000.00 Nursing Home; Cook County, IL. Salvi II

\$175,000.00 Medical Malpractice; Peoria County, IL. Boeder

\$135,000.00 Nursing Home; Cook County, IL. Salvi II

## **PRINCIPAL'S CORNER** (continued from cover)

Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard is one of a very select group of Plaintiff firms in Illinois with close to \$650 million in verdicts and settlements obtained on behalf of injured clients. We've had more than 180 multi-million dollar verdicts or settlements.

While I'm obviously very proud of our track record of successful litigation, and the tremendous impact it has made on our clients' lives, I'm equally proud that the work of this law firm (along with our colleagues on the Plaintiffs Bar) has promoted a higher level of quality medical care, and, created safer roadways, products and businesses for Illinois families.

In addition, we've worked hard to improve public safety through thousands of hours of volunteerism (in and out of the legal community) and millions of dollars in support of people and organizations that help promote victims rights advocacy – bringing much needed light to these important issues.

Without question, I've had many great people around me over the years,

but none better than the current 25 support staff members and 12 lawyers found in our beautiful Chicago and Waukegan office locations. And, what a privilege to practice law with my son, Patrick, a partner at the firm. This team is amongst the smartest, kindest, hardest working people I've ever worked with. In my humble opinion, the best in the business!

The fact is, thirty-years later, I still love coming to work each day, meeting with clients, strategizing cases, negotiating with defense counsel, and winning trials! My zest for the law has never been stronger. I thank you for the trust you placed in The Law Office of Patrick A. Salvi; then Salvi & Schostok P.C.; and the trust you continue to place in Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C.

I'm equally excited about our bright future and the important work still to do.

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### **OFFICE TIDBITS**

**MAY** - The firm was a sponsor of the Walk To End Brain Cancer in Libertyville, Illinois, to raise awareness and funding for brain tumor research.

**APRIL** - A special welcome to new Chicago legal secretary, **Kerry Long**.

**APRIL - Patrick Salvi** and **Tara Devine** were judges at the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition.

**APRIL - Patrick Salvi** was a guest speaker at the Notre Dame Club of Naples, Florida.

MARCH - Matthew Williams was a speaker on "Underinsured/Uninsured Motorists Claims" at an ITLA seminar, where **Patrick Salvi II** was the moderator.

MARCH - a well deserved mention to Christina Solomon and T. J. Saye for winning a 2012 Legal Marketing Association (LMA) Your Honor Award for "Excellence in Websites". This is the firm's second LMA Award.

## New Lawyer Adds To FIRM'S DIVERSITY

S alvi, Schostok & Prichard added another skilled lawyer to our team in the first quarter of 2012 with the addition of **Jennifer Ashley**. When comparing other leading Plaintiff law firms, we are proud to have one of the highest female to male ratios in Illinois.

Jennifer received her Law Degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law. Prior to joining us, she spent twelve years at an insurance defense firm where she successfully tried over seventy-five cases to verdict (before a jury) and was published in the Cook County Jury Verdict Reporter over seventy times for successful verdicts in personal injury cases.

"Jennifer is a talented lawyer with an exceptional reputation," said **Tara Devine**. "Her in-depth knowledge of insurance defense will be a major benefit to our clients. We're thrilled to have her here."



Sarah Ferrill, Tara Devine, Jennifer Ashley and Beth Heffernan