

LAW NEWS

News You Can Use from the Lommen Abdo Law Firm

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USING A TRANSFER ON DEATH DEED

By John Giblin and Jennifer O'Neill

PROBATE vs. NON-PROBATE. "I need a will" is a phrase attorneys and financial advisors hear frequently from clients. It is common belief that a will somehow puts everything in order upon a death. For many clients, a will can and does facilitate an orderly distribution of assets after death. But, as the nature of assets and ownership interests have changed, the legal methods of distributing assets has changed too. More and more, clients who think they "need a will" may achieve a better result with more modern non-probate transfers.

There are several methods to convey assets without probate, including joint ownership with rights of survivorship, beneficiary designations, and administration through a trust. As the probate process becomes more complex and expensive, many individuals desire more efficient, affordable and private non-probate transfers. The Transfer on Death Deed is one tool that can be used to accomplish non-probate transfers.

Read more on [Transfer on Death Deeds](#).



BOB DONNELLY NAMED TO IRISH LEGAL 100

Bob Donnelly has been named to the first annual Irish Legal 100 by the Irish Voice Newspaper and the Irish American Magazine, a list of the 100 most prominent lawyers in the United States of Irish-American descent. Two U.S. Supreme Court Justices are included in the list. The list was published in a [special supplement](#) of the September 15 issue of Irish America Magazine. The "Irish Legal 100" reception and award ceremony took place on September 18th in New York City at the Irish Consulate offices. Click on these links to read the [Irish Voice article](#) or read the [press release](#) about the award.



LOMMEN ABDO'S 2008 SUPER LAWYERS

Phil Cole (business litigation), president of Lommen Abdo, Bob King (personal injury), chair of our PI practice group, and Kay Hunt (appellate), chair of our Appellate Section, are listed in Minnesota's Top 100 *Super Lawyers*[®], as determined in conjunction with the Super Lawyer selection process conducted by Minnesota Law & Politics, Twin Cities Business Monthly and MPLS-St. PAUL Magazine. Others on the *Super Lawyers*[®] list include Bob Abdo (closely held business), Roger Stageberg (mergers and acquisitions), Keith Broady (business litigation), Ken Abdo (entertainment and sports), and Dan Satorius (entertainment and sports), Stephen Rathke, (personal injury) and Barry O'Neil (professional liability). View our [Super Lawyers profile](#).



FALL 2008

LOMMEN ABDO IN THE NEWS

Lommen Abdo Represents Kristen Hall in Business Suit Against Sugarland

Lommen Abdo Attorneys Barry O'Neil and Ken Abdo represent Kristen Hall, a founder of the band Sugarland, in litigation against her former band members for a share of profits relating to assets she created for the band. The case was filed in July in the U.S. District Court in Atlanta. Both Barry and Ken were quoted in many articles, and you can read some of them at the following links: [Law.com/Fulton County Daily Report](#), [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#) and [CourthouseNews.com](#).

Lommen Abdo Obtains Favorable Minnesota Supreme Court Decision

The Minnesota State Supreme Court ruled that, in a failure to diagnose cancer case, the statute of limitations begins at the point when, looking at the unique circumstances of the particular case, "some compensable damage occurred as a result of the alleged negligent diagnosis." After reviewing the particular facts of the case at hand, the court ruled in the case of [Margaret MacRae v. Group Health Plan, et al.](#), that the statute of limitations had not run before Mrs. MacRae brought the lawsuit alleging that her husband had died because of the failure to diagnose the cancer. MacRae died on August 26, 2005 and a medical malpractice lawsuit was brought in 2006. View the [press release](#) at this link or [view the decision](#) at this link.

Dan Satorius's Profiled in Minnesota Law & Politics

Dan Satorius was profiled in a two page spread in the August/September 2008 Minnesota Law & Politics. The article describes Dan's practice and how he got his start in entertainment law. You can [read the article](#) at this link.

Kay Hunt in Minnesota Lawyer

Kay Hunt was interviewed on the 25th Anniversary of the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Kay was one of five panelists who gave their opinions on the impact of the Court of Appeals and life without the Court of Appeals. You can read the October 20th [Minnesota Lawyer article](#) at this link.

WINNER OF MINNESOTA CUP ANNOUNCED

The winner of the 2008 Minnesota Cup is CoreSpine Technologies. Brad Lehrman, a Lommen Abdo shareholder, was a judge of the competition. The winner was announced at an awards ceremony on the evening of September 11th. You can get more information on the [five finalists](#) at the Minnesota Cup's web site. Read the September 12th [Minneapolis St. Paul Business Journal article](#) or the September 14th [Star Tribune article](#) about the award.

SCOTT NELSON WORKS WITH WILLS FOR HEROES

The Wills for Heroes Program took place this July in two small towns in northwestern Minnesota. This is the fourth year Scott Nelson has participated in the event, and the first year the event was held outside the metro area. The program was launched by the Minnesota State Bar Association to draft wills and health care directives for firefighters, police, paramedics, emergency medical technicians and corrections officers.

SEMINARS

[The 68th Annual Tax Institute](#) on December 2 and 3, 2008 presented by Minnesota CLE. Scott Nelson is speaking on the "2008 Estate Planning Update."

[Limited Liability Companies: Basics and Hot Topics](#) on November 18, 2008 presented by Minnesota CLE. Scott Nelson will speak on "Using LLCs as an Estate Planning Tool."

[The Probate Process from Start to Finish](#) on November 14, 2008 presented by National Business Institute. Scott Nelson will speak on "Maintaining an Ethical Balance in Probate Practice," "Determining if Spouse's Elective Share is a Reasonable Option" and "Uncovering the Laws of Intestacy and How They May Apply."

[Entertainment & Sports Law Symposium](#) on November 13th and presented by Lommen Abdo's entertainment and sports attorneys in cooperation with the GRAMMY Foundation® Entertainment Law Initiative and Minnesota Law & Politics®. The full day seminar is designed for attorneys, industry professionals and law students who want to know more about substantive legal and business issues addressed in the practice of entertainment and sports law. The Symposium was covered in an October 27th [Star Tribune article](#).

[Symposium Marking the 25th Anniversary of the Minnesota Court of Appeals](#) on November 6, 2008 at William Mitchell College of Law. Kay Hunt is participating in a mock Court of Appeals argument and has also served on the Court of Appeals' 25th Anniversary Committee, which is presenting both the continuing legal education seminar and an anniversary dinner that evening.

[The Music Business Law Seminar](#) on October 24, 2008 presented by the Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. Bob Donnelly spoke on "Deals by Genres Here and Abroad."

[Long Term Care Planning - It's Not Too Late](#): Jennifer O'Neill presented on October 21, 2008 at St. Bridget's in River Falls, Wisconsin.

[Dfest Music Conference & Festival](#) on July 25 and 26, 2008 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Ken Abdo spoke on a six person panel on "Taking Care of Business, Budgets, Marketing, Basics) and moderated a panel of three entitled "21st Century Deals: The 360 Record Deal."

RECENT ADS

[UpSize Business Builder listings](#) for Tim Matson, Scott Nelson and Sherri Ulland appeared in the September 2008 UpSize.

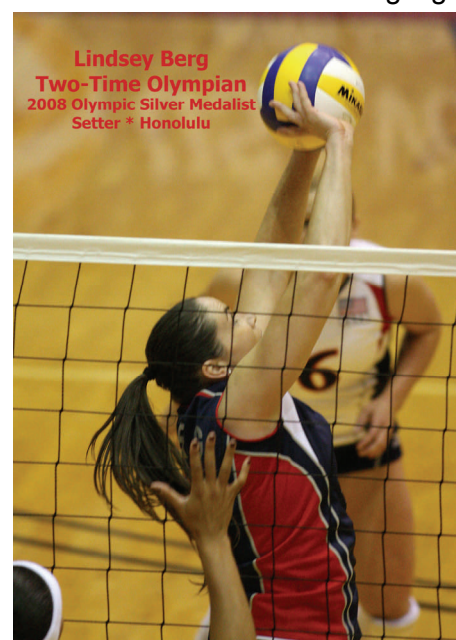
[Rising Stars](#) - Kate Westad, Valerie Sims and Lee Hutton are listed as *Minnesota Rising Stars* by Law & Politics magazine. Valerie and Lee have been listed Previously - this is Kate's first year. Congratulations to all three. The ad will appear in the December 2008/January 2009 edition of Minnesota Law & Politics.

LINDSEY BERG - SILVER MEDALIST

Lindsey Berg made her second Olympic appearance in Beijing a memorable one. Lindsey was a three-time All-Big Ten selection at the University of Minnesota from 1999-2001. Though Minnesota never won a NCAA volleyball title while she played there, Berg was proud of her contributions and even remained in the state after graduating in 2001. The next year, she joined the Minnesota Chill of the fledgling USPV, a pro indoor league. Berg was named Outstanding Server, Outstanding Setter, and All-USPV. But when the league suspended operations, Berg took time off before heading to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs in January 2003. Since 2005, Berg has played professionally in the Italian Series A League.

Lindsey grew up in Hawaii attending the Honolulu's Punahou High School. Punahou has many notable alumni, including golfer Michelle Wie and presidential candidate Barack Obama. In May 2008, it was named the No. 1 high school athletics program in the country by Sports Illustrated.

The Entertainment, IP & Sports Section is happy to add Lindsey to our list of clients.



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REEVE CARNEY CAST IN "THE TEMPEST"

Julie Taymor, producer, is gathering a cast ranging from blue-blooded Oscar winners to up-and-comers for her big-screen adaptation of Shakespeare's "The Tempest" that, in a gender-defying twist, will see Helen Mirren reigning over the magical island. Although the play centers on Prospero, an exiled duke-turned-sorcerer, Taymor - who likes to take an experimental approach to her stage and film projects - has rechristened the lead character Prospera so that Mirren can take on the role. Lommen Abdo client, Reeve Carney has been cast as the King of Naples' son, Ferdinand. Carney will be seen on board ship and is the first to jump overboard and swim to the island during the Tempest. He will also be seen in other parts of the movie...hopefully! Mirren and Carney will be surrounded by Jeremy Irons, Djimon Hounsou, Russell Brand, Alfred Molina and Ben Wishaw. Shakespeare's play mixes romance with fraternal politics and the supernatural. As revised for the screen, it will center around Prospera, her daughter Miranda (Felicity Jones) and a shipwrecked crew full of Prospera's enemies. Filming is set to start in November.



Lommen Abdo participated in the 2008 Corporate Team Challenge Twin Cities Marathon 5K on October 4th. The course ran from the Capital and through St. Paul. Lommen Abdo finished 17th and was the only law firm participating in the Corporate Team Challenge.

LOMMEN ABDO SPONSORS

BOBBLECTION AT ST. PAUL SAINTS

Lommen Abdo hosted a unique summer event with its client, the Saint Paul Saints, on Saturday, August 9th – Bobblection 2008.

Bobblection first occurred during the 2004 presidential election. The idea is to combine the popularity of one of sports most-recognized giveaway items - the bobblehead doll - and match it with another American obsession - politics. The Goldklang Group is a nationally-recognized sports ownership and management firm, with teams operating in six states, including the St. Paul Saints here in Minnesota. In 2004, the Group correctly picked the winners in each state and the national election. In 2008, Obama dominated the Goldklang Groups "Bobblection Week 2008," winning all six states (New York, South Carolina, South Dakota, Massachusetts, Florida and Minnesota) against John McCain. The Goldklang Group, owners of the St. Paul Saints, sent out this press release with the [results](#).

Lommen Abdo has trademarked St. Paul Saints marks, including their brand mark - "Fun Is Good" and the term, "Bobblection." It is fitting for the firm to be a part of the sponsorship for this event.



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