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Spring 2012 Newsletter from Pusateri & Pusateri, P.C.



Attorney Updates

Attorney Vincent Pusateri, II was recently appointed to the Board of License Commissioners by the Mayor for the City of Fitchburg, Lisa Wong.

In the News...

Bulger Trial Set for November 5

The trial for James "Whitey" Bulger has been set for November 5, over objections by Bulger's defense counsel. Bulger's attorney, J.W. Carney Junior, told the Court he could not possibly be ready by that date. However, the judge scheduled the date after prosecutors accused Bulger of intentionally delaying the proceedings.

Protection for Military Men and Women Under the Servicemember's Relief Act

The Servicemember's Civil Relief Act ("the Act") provides a wide range of protection for individuals entering, called to active duty in the military, or deployed servicemembers. It is intended to temporarily postpone judicial and administrative proceedings and transactions that may adversely affect the civil rights of servicemembers during their military service. Servicemembers are protected so they can devote their entire energy to the defense needs of the Nation. A few examples of such obligations servicemembers may be protected against are:

- Outstanding credit card debt
- Mortgage payments
- Pending trials
- Taxes
- Terminations of lease.

The Act covers all active duty servicemembers, Reservists and the members of the National Guard while on active duty. The protection begins on the date of entering active duty and generally terminates within 30 to 90 days after the date of discharge from active duty.

If you are a servicemember and have any questions about the Act, please contact our office.

Alimony Reform and Probate Law Changes in Effect

The new Massachusetts alimony statute went into effect March 1, 2012. The new Act provides more certainty in terms of calculating alimony payments. It also provides alimony term limits based on the number of years of the marriage. If you have any questions about the new Massachusetts alimony statute, please contact our office.

The new Uniform Probate Code (MUPC) went into effect March 31, 2012. The MUPC has an impact on the probate process and is designed to simplify the process of settling a decedent's affairs in a manner consistent with the decedent's intent. If you are interested in developing or revising your estate plan to take advantage of the new MUPC, please contact our office.

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