

DECISION AWAITING. Deborah K. Besche of Goldberg, Pike & Besche P.C. Charges: Negligence, agency Award: \$1,063,000

After speaking to the jurors after the verdict, Bratt said, he concluded that they sided with Brown based on her credibility and that of another witness — a boy, 11 years old at the time

outside law firm and an outside accounting firm to look into the alleged problem. Weeks later, and at a cost of \$600,000, they concluded that the allegations were “without substance.” But the investigation led the company to push back its earnings report, a move that, by itself, caused a stock-price drop of 5.8 percent.

The June 8, 2006, announcement that the company’s net income in the first quarter of 2006 was down 13 percent, even as sales revenues were up 18 percent, amounted to a “bombshell,” according to the class action complaint, filed July 24, 2006.

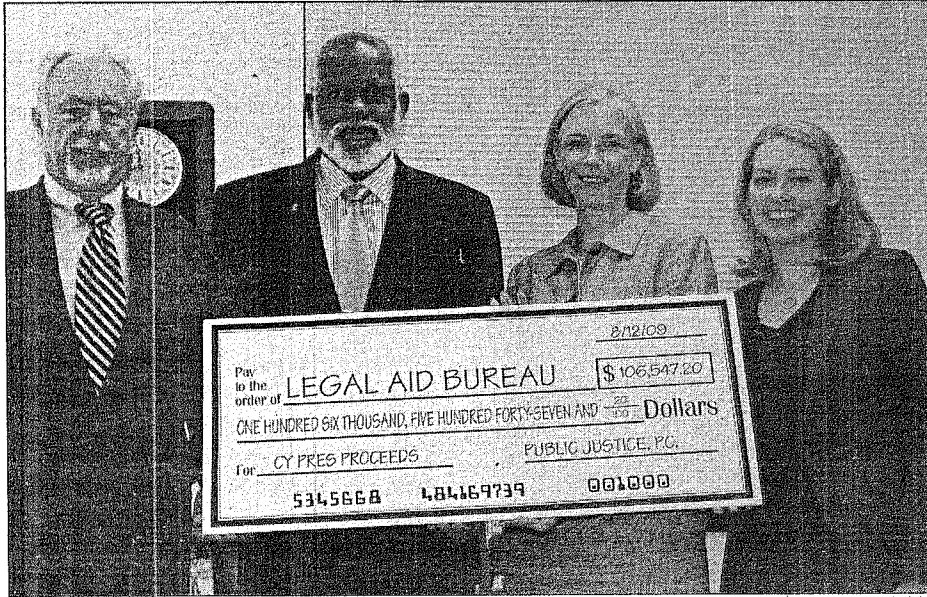
Staring down such a suit, Jos. A. Bank wanted to know more about Foley Lardner’s client and subpoenaed the firm in federal court in Massachusetts. The Milwaukee-based law firm fought the subpoena, but a federal judge there decided the client’s identity should be revealed to Jos. A. Bank’s litigation counsel so they could conduct discovery, which they did.

Armed with publicly available information on the investor’s potentially nefarious interest in seeing Jos. A. Bank falter, the clothier’s lawyers sought to unseal their deposition of the Doe Client, conduct more discov-

On appeal, the 4th Circuit turned back arguments that the Maryland court had overstepped its authority in expanding on the disclosure ordered by the Massachusetts court. The First Amendment does protect the right to anonymous speech, it noted; that right, “however, is not unlimited.”

“Once it is recognized that the deposition of the Doe Client and information that it could present could be relevant and useful to Jos. A. Bank’s defense of the litigation, the substantial government interest in providing Jos. A. Bank a fair opportunity to defend itself in court is served by requiring the Doe Client to reveal its identity and provide the relevant information,” the opinion reads.

As of last week, more than 20 investors had “several hundred thousand” shares of Jos. A. Bank, which closed Friday down 2.67 percent to \$37.97 per share.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left, Thomas J. Minton, Wilhelm H. Joseph Jr., Kathryn Miller Goldman and Public Justice’s Claire Prestel celebrate the cy pres award to Maryland Legal Aid.

Legal Aid windfall

A national class action filed in 1999 paid dividends to Maryland Legal Aid, which received a *cy pres* award totaling \$106,000. The money represents unclaimed funds from the \$16 million settlement between Chevy Chase Bank and the plaintiffs, who accused the bank of overcharging on fees. Goldman & Minton of Baltimore, Public Justice and Baltimore lawyer John T. Ward represented the plaintiffs in the case; on Wednesday, Kathryn Miller Goldman, Thomas J. Minton and Claire Prestel of Public Justice presented the check to Legal Aid Executive Director Wilhelm H. Joseph Jr.

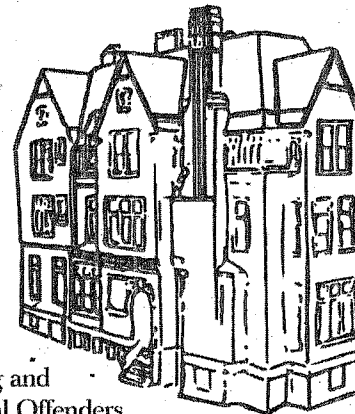
Barbara Grzincic

Fred S. Berlin, M.D., Ph.D.

Director, National Institute for the Study, Prevention and Treatment of Sexual Disorders

104 E. Biddle Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
410.539.1661
fredsberlinmd@comcast.net

Forensic psychiatrist who specializes in evaluating and treating persons with Sexual Disorders and Sexual Offenders



Being Denied **DISABILITY**
is *Hard Enough*.
Not Getting **PAID** is Even *Worse!*

Social Security Disability
Short/Long Term Disability (*Private and ERISA*)
State and Federal Disability
Long-Term Care
Life Insurance Claims

Elkind & Shea
The Disability Benefits Law Firm

801 Roeder Road, Suite 550
Silver Spring, MD 20910

To learn more about us and our work, call

301-495-6665

www.disabilitybenefitslawfirm.com