



Farrell Fritz Attorneys Recognized as Leading Lawyers

Farrell Fritz congratulates 16 attorneys on being selected for the 2013 New York Metro Super Lawyers list. James M. Wicks, a commercial litigation partner, was named to the Top 100 New York Metro Lawyers List.

The attorneys and the areas of law for which they have been recognized are: John J. Barnosky, Ilene Sherwyn Cooper and John R. Morken (Estate & Trust Litigation); Eric M. Kramer and Patricia C. Marcin (Estate & Probate); Ted A. Berkowitz, Patrick T. Collins and Louis A. Scarcella (Bankruptcy); Peter L. Curry (Real Estate); John P. McEntee, Peter A. Mahler and James M. Wicks (Business Litigation); Charlotte A. Biblow (Environmental); Domenique Camacho Moran (Employment & Labor); Louis Vlahos

(Tax); and Joel R. Weiss (Criminal Defense: White Collar).

The firm also congratulates 10 attorneys on being selected for the 2013 New York Metro Rising Stars list. The attorneys and the areas of law for which they have been recognized are: Kathryn Carney Cole, Franklin C. McRoberts, Michael A.H. Schoenberg and Aaron E. Zerykier (Business Litigation); David M. Curry (Real Estate); Jaclene D'Agostino and Robert M. Harper (Estate & Trust Litigation); Joseph T. La Ferlita and Jordan S. Linn (Estate & Probate); and Jason S. Samuels (Construction Litigation).

Super Lawyers is a listing of outstanding lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Attorneys are selected

using a rigorous, multi-phase process. Peer nominations and evaluations are combined with third-party research. Each candidate is evaluated on twelve indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Selections are made on an annual, state-by-state basis.

For Rising Stars, lawyers nominate the best attorneys who are 40 years old or younger, or who have been practicing for ten years or less. The attorney-led research team reviews the general survey and credentials of potential candidates, assigning points based on a set of evaluation criteria. Those with the highest point totals are named to the list.

For more information on Super Lawyers, visit their website at: <http://www.superlawyers.com/>.

Something to BID on

BY SETH BORNSTEIN

The New York City government is currently studying an excellent proposal to create the Jackson Heights-Corona Business Improvement District, which would unite the stores on Roosevelt Avenue from 82nd Street to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. One of the most important commercial corridors in the borough, Roosevelt Avenue under the world famous 7 train is certainly worthy of a Business Improvement District (BID). There are more than 1,000 small businesses in this area, a veritable hot bed of jobs, services, products and general human activity.

Over the last few years, the 82nd Street Partnership has increased its services on its strip with additional cleaning, marketing and promotional programs, and it has become a Mecca for businesses and shoppers alike. Over the same time, the Queens Economic Development Corporation has helped transform Corona Plaza at 103rd Street into a pedestrian paradise that has been

heralded as one of the best public spaces in the city. Things are good in these two areas, but a BID would make them even better.

Put generally, a BID is a defined geographic area within which businesses pay a fee to fund projects that benefit the entire area. Common projects include trash removal, graffiti cleanups, lighting and safety initiatives and promotion of special events. There are BIDs in Astoria, Bayside, Flushing, Jamaica, Long Island City, Ridgewood, Sunnyside and Woodhaven, and all have enlivened their communities. Without exception these corridors are better places to do business now than they were prior to the BID designations, as evidenced by fewer retail vacancies and increased property values.

BIDs are also bargains. Fees are based on property size, and

the average cost per store owner is \$37.50 per month. Considering what shopkeepers pay for sanitation tickets and holiday lights, this is a real savings.

So far, a few community leaders and shopkeepers have expressed opposition to the Jackson Heights-Corona BID project. Change is sometimes daunting. But BIDs throughout Queens have created stable and exciting commercial districts. I invite any skeptic to walk with me down any local BID and witness the vibrancy, cleanliness and diversity.

The Jackson Heights-Corona area is ready for a BID.



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