



March 23, 2007

NEW TRIAL DATE SET FOR SANTA MONICA FARMERS' MARKET CIVIL SUITS AGAINST CITY OF SANTA MONICA AND BAYSIDE DISTRICT CORPORATION

LOS ANGELES--(BUSINESS WIRE)--At a pre-trial conference held late yesterday in Department 89 of Los Angeles Superior Court in the Santa Monica Farmers' Market civil suits, the Hon. William A. MacLaughlin vacated the May 17, 2007 trial date and rescheduled a new trial date which will begin on October 9, 2007. All of the civil suits arising out of the Santa Monica Farmers' Market tragedy of July 16, 2003 were consolidated by the Court; and the lead case is entitled Supino vs. City of Santa Monica, et. al., Case No. SC 080283.

The Judge has also set a status conference for June 20, 2007 to determine, among other things, whether or not the case will proceed to trial without testimony from George Russell Weller as Mr. Weller is presently appealing his conviction in People vs. George Russell Weller. The Plaintiffs had previously asked the prosecutor in the criminal matter to grant Mr. Weller "use immunity" so that he could be deposed in the civil litigation, and that request was denied.

Among the first group of civil suits to be argued will be for the wrongful death of Movsha Hoffman and for serious injuries sustained by his wife, Esther Hoffman. The Estate of Movsha Hoffman and Mrs. Hoffman are represented by Geoffrey S. Wells and Timothy J. Wheeler with the Santa Monica, CA. law firm of Greene Broillet & Wheeler. The Firm represents 18 of the plaintiffs who have filed civil lawsuits against The City of Santa Monica, Bayside District Corporation and George Russell Weller.

Editor's Note:

Plaintiffs: Geoffrey S. Wells and Timothy J. Wheeler with the Santa Monica, CA. law firm of Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP represent 18 of the Santa Monica Farmers' Market plaintiffs; Tel: 310-576-1200 (www.greene-broillet.com).

Civil Defendants: The City of Santa Monica is represented by Jeanette Schachtner, Chief Deputy/Civil Liability Division, City of Santa Monica, CA; Tel: 310-458-8328. The City of Santa Monica and Bayside District Corporation are represented by Dana Alden Fox and Phillip M. Hayes with the Los Angeles, CA. law firm of Lynberg & Watkins; Tel: 213-624-8700. George Russell Weller is represented by Timothy L. Walker and Charles J. Schmitt with the Long Beach, CA. law firm of Ford Walker; Tel: 562-983-2500.

* * *

Kathy Pinckert,
Director of Marketing & Media Relations
Direct Dial: 310 566 6048
Cellular: 310 562 0691
Email: Kpinckert@greene-broillet.com

Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP
100 Wilshire Boulevard, 21st Floor
P.O. Box 2131
Santa Monica, CA 90407-2131
Tel: (310) 576-1200
Fax: (310) 576-1220