



HGSUW News & Views

Hasselberg Grebe Snodgrass
Urban & Wentworth
Attorneys and Counselors

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MEET OUR NEW PARTNER



David B. Wiest

We are pleased to announce that David B. Wiest has been named a partner of the law firm of Hasselberg Grebe Snodgrass Urban & Wentworth. David started with our firm after graduating with honors from the University of Iowa College of Law. David oversees a growing practice that includes estate planning and administration, real estate, business law, and employment and labor matters. He is a problem solver who loves helping people and businesses work through any issue they may face. A skilled listener, he enjoys counseling clients and building relationships.

Since returning to Peoria, David has become a leader in the community and was named one of Peoria's 40 Leaders under Forty by Inter Business Issues magazine.

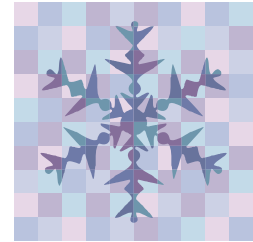
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MEET OUR NEW ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY



J. Logan Block

We are pleased to welcome Logan Block as a new associate attorney with our firm. Logan grew up in Gilson, Illinois, and attended Knoxville High School. He graduated from Southern Illinois University in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Logan received his juris doctor from Northern Illinois University College of Law in 2015. During law school, Logan was a member of Moot Court Society and the Philanthropy Chair of the Delta Theta Phi Legal Fraternity. Logan also externed with the Illinois Innocence Project and worked with the Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic, where he assisted individuals with estate planning and family law matters. On November 5, 2015, Logan was sworn in as a licensed attorney by Illinois Supreme Court Justice Thomas L. Kilbride. (Continued on Page 4)



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Special Points of Interest:

- Email reminders for vehicle registrations
- Illinois Department of Revenue cites identity theft and fraud as reasons for delay in 2016 tax refunds

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ILLINOIS ANNOUNCES DELAY IN TAX REFUNDS FOR EARLY FILERS

For lottery winners, agencies, school districts and businesses, news of delays in payments from the State of Illinois have become a familiar refrain. Illinois has recently announced that early income tax return filers who are entitled to refunds will be added to the list of those who can expect to wait for a check from the state. However, this delay does not appear to be related to the state's budget impasse or a lack of funds to make the payments. Rather, the state has announced that it will not begin making refund payments until March 1, 2016 in an attempt to combat fraud. The Illinois Department of Revenue stated that the delay will allow it to better detect attempts at identity theft, and to limit refunds made on fraudulently filed income tax returns.

If you would like to discuss allowing us to assist you with your tax preparation, or if you have any other tax related questions, please contact James R. Grebe, John G. Dundas, or David B. Wiest at (309) 637-1400.

NEW LAW ALLOWS PASSPORTS TO BE DENIED OR REVOKED FOR SERIOUSLY DELINQUENT TAXPAYERS

Facing collection proceedings is always a difficult situation, especially when the creditor is the Internal Revenue Service. A recently passed law has given the IRS yet another weapon in its arsenal for the collection of delinquent taxes, one which may surprise and greatly inconvenience the unwary.

Included in a new transportation bill is a provision that requires the Secretary of State to deny or revoke the passports of seriously delinquent taxpayers. This applies to taxpayers who have an outstanding debt for Federal taxes greater than \$50,000. There are exceptions to this new law, including those who have entered into installment agreements or are seeking a hearing on the tax debt.

If you have any questions regarding any delinquent taxes, or if you would like to discuss allowing us to assist you with your tax returns, please contact James R. Grebe, John G. Dundas, or David B. Wiest at (309) 637-1400.

KEVIN DAY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF SUN FOUNDATION

On January 1st, associate attorney Kevin Day began a three-year term as President of the Sun Foundation. The Sun Foundation is an educational organization dedicated to the arts and sciences. Founded by educator/artists Joan Root and Robert Ericksen in 1973, the Sun Foundation strives to strengthen and advance the arts and environmental sciences in rural and urban communities by providing quality and innovative programs, services, publications, research, financial support, and cooperative efforts for the general public, underserved groups, schools, Illinois artists, and local arts organizations. For more information on the Sun Foundation and ways to get involved, please visit their website at www.sunfoundation.org. Kevin practices in the areas of workers' compensation, personal injury, commercial litigation, estate planning, and family law. If you have any questions regarding workers' compensation or personal injury, please contact Kevin D. Day at (309) 637-1400.

NEW DUI LAW ELIMINATES MANDATORY 30 DAY SUSPENSION

Beginning January 1st, individuals arrested for DUI in Illinois will no longer face a mandatory 30-day driving suspension. Illinois lawmakers overwhelmingly chose to eliminate the mandatory suspension in favor of a program that allows drivers to continue driving so long as they receive a special permit and install a breath-measuring device in their vehicle to ensure they haven't been drinking. The new law received support from experts across the country and the popular anti-DUI group, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, who believe the law is a more effective way to limit drunk-driving, while still allowing individuals to continue living productive lives in a safe manner. According to supporters, the new law helps people safely and legally commute to work and take care of their family, while, hopefully, maintaining their sobriety.

If you have any questions regarding traffic and/or DUI matters, please contact Boyd O. Roberts III at (309) 637-1400.



THE ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE SUSPENDS MAILING OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWAL REMINDER NOTICES

Due to funding issues relating to the state's budget impasse, the Illinois Secretary of State has announced that it is suspending the mailing of Vehicle Registration Renewal Reminder Notices as a cost savings measure. Motorists can sign up to receive email Reminder Notices by visiting the Secretary of State's website at cyberdriveillinois.com.

If you have any questions regarding traffic or criminal law, please contact Boyd O. Roberts III at (309) 637-1400.

HAPPY HOURS ARE HERE AGAIN

Although it may come as a surprise to those who meet friends and co-workers for drinks after work, Illinois banned "happy hours" in 1989. Of course bars were still allowed to serve alcohol during the after work hours, and could offer entertainment or food specials. However, they were prohibited from discounting alcohol prices during a "happy hour" period. Illinois law required that the same price be charged for alcoholic drinks during the entirety of an operating day.

In July of 2015 Illinois' "happy hour" ban was repealed. Bars may now discount drink prices during "happy hour" periods not to exceed four hours a day or fifteen hours a week. These "happy hours" cannot take place after 10:00 p.m., and must be advertised at least seven days in advance. The law also places limits on the types of specials that can take place. For instance, although discounted prices are allowed, bars cannot offer "buy one get one free" or similar specials.

If you have any questions regarding any regulatory or liquor licensing issues, please contact William P. Streeter or John G. Dundas at (309) 637-1400.

STUDENT CONCUSSION LAW

On August 3, 2015, Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner approved a new Illinois law changing the way schools analyze and handle head injuries and concussions. In enacting the law, the Illinois General Assembly recognized that concussions are one of the most commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and recreational activities. The law, which took effect last August, applies to public and private schools alike.

Under the new law, students who suffer a concussion are required to get permission from a doctor or trainer before they may fully return to class or sports. The law further requires the governing body of each Illinois school with students who participate in interscholastic athletics to establish a concussion oversight team. Each concussion oversight team must establish a "return-to-play protocol," based on peer-reviewed scientific evidence consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, for a student's return to practice, competition, or the classroom following a force or impact believed to have caused a concussion. Additionally, schools, park districts, and other organizations providing youth sports leagues are encouraged to distribute educational materials on the nature and risk of concussions and head injuries to coaches, game officials, players, and parents or guardians of players.

If you would like to discuss a head injury caused by a work accident, or if you have any other workers' compensation or personal injury questions, please contact Kenneth M. Snodgrass, Jr., Boyd O. Roberts III, or Kevin D. Day at (309) 637-1400.





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Hasselberg Grebe Snodgrass Urban & Wentworth is a 12-attorney full service law firm with individual lawyers concentrating in particular areas of the law. The firm serves clients throughout the State with a focus on Central and Southern Illinois. Practice areas include: Adoption Law, Administrative Law, Agricultural Law, Bankruptcy, Commercial Law, Corporate Law, Criminal Law, DUI/DWI, Elder Law, Estate Planning, Family Law, Federal Taxation, Governmental Law, Insurance Law, Labor and Employment, Land Use, Litigation, Personal Injury, Planning, Probate, Real Estate. Real Estate Title Insurance, Traffic Violations, Trusts and Estates, Wills, Worker's Compensation, and Zoning.

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DAVID B. WIEST

David served as the Chairman of the Young Professionals of Greater Peoria, an organization composed of 500 young professionals affiliated with the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Peoria County Bar Association, the Associate Board of the Peoria Riverfront Museum, and the Advisory Council of Emerging Philanthropists. An active networker, David enjoys marketing and telling everyone he meets about the good work his law firm can do for them.

In his spare time, David is an avid golfer and enjoys running 5ks. He is a proud resident of Peoria and recently bought a one-hundred year old Craftsmen style house in a historic neighborhood.

J. LOGAN BLOCK

Logan is a member of the Young Professionals Organization of Greater Peoria, Illinois State Bar Association and the Peoria County Bar Association, where he serves on the Young Lawyers Committee. Logan practices in the areas of workers' compensation and insurance defense, general litigation, family law and estate planning.

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