

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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**Harold L. Kestenbaum Named One of the Top 100
Franchise Attorneys in North America**

For his second consecutive year, Harold L. Kestenbaum, counsel and Co-Chair of the Franchise and Distribution Practice Group, has been named one of the top 100 franchise attorneys in North America, based on a survey conducted by *Franchise Times*, a monthly publication for the franchising industry. The publication asked attorneys and clients to choose the "franchise lawyers at the top of their game; the rainmakers; the go-to lawyers; the ethical problem-solvers who are respected by their peers, adversaries and clients alike".

**Miriam E. Villani Appointed as Chair of the Environmental Law Section
Of the New York State Bar Association**

Miriam E. Villani, counsel in the Environmental Practice Group, has been appointed as Chair of the Environmental Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. The Environmental Law Section brings together members of the New York State Bar Association who are interested in environmental law for furtherance of an effective and fair legal framework for protection of the human and natural environment. The Section also educates the bar and public in environmental law, policy and administration, promotes or initiates desirable environmental law reform, and opposes changes in environmental laws and administration that would not be in the public interest.

Ms. Villani's appointment will be effective as of June 1, 2005.

**Eric W. Penzer Elected to Board of Directors of
The Coalition Against Child Abuse & Neglect (CCAN)**

Eric W. Penzer, an associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group, has been elected to the Board of Directors of The Coalition Against Child Abuse & Neglect ("CCAN"). CCAN was founded in 1979 as a center to prevent child abuse and to advocate for the child maltreatment victims and their families. In addition to training, educating, legislative advocacy and intervention services, CCAN

provides direct services to child abuse victims and their families through the Child Victim Advocacy Program, Project Kidz Talk©, Project Families Together, Project LAUNCH (Learning and Understanding the Needs of Children) and coordinates the operations of the Child Advocacy Center of Nassau County.

Mr. Penzer's appointment was effective as of February 9, 2005.

About Farrell Fritz

Farrell Fritz is a full service law firm and has earned a strong reputation in the New York business community by providing expertise in numerous areas of practice. Highly respected for its experience in many areas of law, Farrell Fritz handles legal matters in the areas of corporate and banking, environmental, franchise and distribution, labor and employment, land use and municipal litigation, real estate, tax, and trusts and estates matters for a variety of corporations, institutions and individuals. The firm's managing partner is Charles M. Strain. For further information, please visit our website, www.farrellfritz.com.