

PRESS RELEASE

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Farrell Fritz, P. C. Mourns Loss of John M. Armentano, Founding Partner

John M. Armentano, a founding partner at the law firm of Farrell Fritz, P. C., died Wednesday, April 18 after a long illness. He was 67.

The son of a lawyer in Queens, Mr. Armentano aspired to be an attorney from a very young age. He went on to establish himself as one of the most prominent land use, zoning and municipal litigation attorneys in New York State.

During his career, Mr. Armentano represented numerous towns, villages and real estate developers throughout Nassau and Suffolk. He had broad litigation experience in state and federal trial and appellate courts, ranging from commercial matters to cases involving exclusionary zoning, condemnation procedures, and other aspects of zoning, including constitutional and civil rights issues arising from land use activities.

Believing it was vitally important for Long Island to have a voice on the New York Court of Appeals, Mr. Armentano was a candidate for a vacant seat in 2003. In the wake of the U. S. Supreme Court's 2005 contentious decision on eminent domain (*Kelo v. City of New London*), he was appointed by the president of the New York State Bar Association to a Special Task Force to provide legal analysis and make recommendations concerning that issue.

“John’s love for family, life and the law has left us all with a lasting legacy that will not be forgotten. He will be remembered most by his partners for his ability to ‘see the big picture’ and his insightful ability to develop strategy in the most complex of cases. He was a true mentor to all, with high standards of excellence, a personal approach, a vitality and a rich sense of humor that will be missed by everyone who knew him”, said Charles Strain, managing partner of Farrell Fritz.

Mr. Armentano was a frequent lecturer and author on topics related to land use, litigation, and environmental laws and regulations. For fourteen years, Mr. Armentano was a zoning law columnist for *The New York Law Journal*. He was elected a Fellow of the New York Bar Foundation in 2000.

Mr. Armentano earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Georgetown University in 1961 and received his Juris Doctorate from New York University School of Law in 1964. He began his legal career

as Law Assistant to the Honorable John F. Scileppi, Associate Judge, New York State Court of Appeals. In 1967 he was named a staff member of the New York State Constitutional Convention. Mr. Armentano was a Senior Deputy County Attorney for Nassau County from 1968 – 1969, prior to joining Farrell Fritz in 1970.

Mr. Armentano was born in New York, NY on May 4, 1939. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Joan; his daughters, Annemarie Savage (Thomas), of Westbury; Catherine, of New York, NY; and John C. (Keri) of Huntington Station. He is also survived by a brother, Anthony (Patricia), of Albany, NY.