

April 4, 2008

Dear Client:

We are writing to bring you up to date on some recent events at the law firm of Bennett & Bair since our last letter dated October 1, 2007. Once again in 2008, Gary Bair was selected as a Maryland Super Lawyer **and** Washington, D.C. Area Super Lawyer in the field of criminal defense. As you may recall, Mr. Bair was selected for these two awards in 2007 as well. This selection is based on an extensive process of balloting by fellow lawyers, a blue ribbon panel review, and independent research. These awards place him in the top five percent of criminal defense lawyers both in the State of Maryland and in the D.C. metropolitan area.

In the past six months, the firm has obtained significant sentence reductions for many clients in post-conviction cases. In December 2007, an Allegany County judge lowered Eric Hicks's sentence from 25 years to 10 years, which led to his immediate release from incarceration. Also in December, a judge in Prince George's County reduced the sentence of Curley Bennett from 60 years to 30 years. In January 2008, a Baltimore City judge reduced the sentence of Raul Varela from 40 years to 25 years. That same month, a Dorchester County judge reduced the sentence of Clarence Allen from 18 years to 14 years of executed time. In March 2008, Judge Robert C. Nalley of the Charles County Circuit Court lowered the sentence of Francis Ford from life imprisonment to life suspend all but 25 years.

Other significant sentence reductions were obtained through litigating motions for reconsideration of sentence. A judge in Charles County reduced David Proctor's sentence from 20 years to 10 years, which led to his immediate release. A Baltimore County judge reduced the sentence of Charles Woodland from life imprisonment to life suspend all but 30 years. A Prince George's County judge reduced Charles Brownell's sentence of double life imprisonment to life suspend all but 40 years. In March 2008, Samuel Davis—who was serving a life sentence with all but 40 years suspended for murder—had his sentence suspended by a Prince George's County judge in favor of residential drug treatment under the Health-General Article.

In addition to these post-conviction and post-sentence motions successes, Daniel Ginsburg obtained a highly favorable result in a recent manslaughter by boat case in Anne Arundel County. In that case, our client was permitted to plead guilty to operating a vessel in a reckless manner, a minor misdemeanor offense, and was given an executed sentence of five weekends, despite his several prior convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol. Currently, Mr. Ginsburg is representing defendants in upcoming trials in Baltimore County, Prince George's County, Montgomery County, and Wicomico County, while expanding his federal practice as well.

The firm has obtained direct appeal reversals in four cases in the past six months. Rachel Kamins successfully argued before the Court of Special Appeals on behalf of Devin Hoerauf, obtaining a new trial. Ms. Kamins also prevailed on behalf of Lorenzo Cole in the Court of Special Appeals, obtaining a sentence reduction from 18 to 13 years. Mr. Bair and Mr. Ginsburg obtained reversal of a murder and use of handgun conviction in the case of Arthur White in the Court of Special Appeals. Finally, the firm obtained a new sentencing hearing in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit—an appellate court that rarely rules in favor of criminal defendants—for Vernon Powell earlier this year.

In closing, the law firm of Bennett & Bair, LLC continues the tradition of its founding partner, Fred Warren Bennett, in its creative and tenacious representation of its clients. Mr. Bair, Ms. Kamins, and Mr. Ginsburg look forward to serving you this year and many years into the future.

Sincerely,

THE LAW FIRM OF BENNETT & BAIR, LLC