

REID AND RIEGE: OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR CLIENTS

September 2016

We are writing to our clients and referral sources with a simple message: we are committed to the foundation on which John Reid and Jack Riege established our firm 66 years ago – providing counsel and legal solutions to the estate planning, business and succession planning needs of our clients.

Some companies and law firms have reacted to the stress in Connecticut's economy and state budget woes by directing their investment of effort and resources to other states. Certainly Connecticut faces challenges, but at Reid and Riege we are committed to the support of the Connecticut businesses and the Connecticut families that form the core of our clientele.

Our firm was founded in 1950 to provide corporate, pension and estate planning advice to closely held businesses and the families who owned them. Our work for some of these original families continues to this day. We count among our oldest client relationships tobacco and dairy farmers, industrial manufacturers in the aerospace, plastics and other industries, and auto dealers. We are proud to serve business owners who provide thousands of jobs across the state. And we are proud that multiple generations of our attorneys have supported generations of these families and their corporate, pension and estate planning needs. We have represented them as they invested in and grew their businesses, as they acquired and merged businesses, as they developed business succession plans, as they sold businesses, and beyond.

As the needs of our client base expanded, we have grown in a deliberate and thoughtful way to meet them. From two to now 43 attorneys, our practice areas have national reach and include a commercial real estate practice with a Fortune 500 leasing practice, a health care practice, a nonprofit organizations practice, a creditors' rights and insolvency practice, a litigation practice, and an environmental law practice. Meanwhile, estate planning for wealthy families, executives, physicians and others with complex planning needs has remained at the core of what we do.

We help business owners and non-business clients with wealth planning and transfer, gifting plans, business succession planning, difficult family situations such as substance abuse and spendthrift issues, prenuptial planning, asset protection, and charitable gift plans that include the creation and administration of family foundations. We also play a critical role for our clients in navigating the often emotional and complex process of estate settlement. For some clients we also assist with the management and administration of trusts for themselves and their families.

At the same time we advise our clients on the management of their businesses, we are diligent about the management of our business. We continue to make investments to support our clients' needs. Often these investments lead to new, dedicated practice areas. We leveraged our extensive experience advising corporations, together with the charitable work we have done for family clients, to develop a robust practice providing corporate, governance, tax and other legal advice to Connecticut's nonprofit community. Connecticut's nonprofit organizations cannot pack up and leave the state in the face of a challenging state budget environment: the community safety net they provide is most important during these difficult times. As the Connecticut nonprofit community faces crosswinds,

our nonprofit organizations practice provides steady guidance based on familiarity with the culture of and unique challenges faced by nonprofits. Other practice strengths that we have developed to help our clients include fiduciary litigation and trust management. We have added attorneys and professional staff in support of these practices, and we have prioritized training successive generations of our lawyers so that we can continue to provide our clients and their families, businesses and charitable endeavors the consistent, diligent and thoughtful representation they deserve.

If you have questions, plans or challenges with which we can help, please call your Reid and Riege attorney. We are here for you.

This is a publication of Reid and Riege, P.C. It is designed to provide clients and others with information which may be of interest or helpful to them.

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Founded in 1950, Reid and Riege, P.C. is a full service law firm providing legal counsel and representation to many of the region's leading business and nonprofit organizations, financial institutions, corporations and individuals. The firm's focus includes the following practice areas: alternative dispute resolution; business formation and ownership; business succession planning; closely held and family held businesses; commercial finance; commercial real estate; corporations, limited liability companies and other business organizations; employment and personnel matters; environmental; estate planning and estate settlement; executive agreements and compensation; executive and physician planning; fiduciary and probate litigation; fiduciary services; general litigation; health care; insolvency and bankruptcy; mergers and acquisitions; nonprofit organizations; pension and other employee benefits; multiemployer benefit plans; and tax. For other information regarding Reid and Riege, P.C., please visit our website at www.rrlawpc.com or contact us at Reid and Riege, P.C., One Financial Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103, or 234 Church Street, 6th Floor, New Haven, CT 06510.

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