



Mark Levison Breaks Down the Latest in Lawyer Advertising for Missouri Bar

September 3, 2008

As Chair of the Special Committee on Lawyer Advertising for the state of Missouri, Mark "Sox" Levison (Government Relations/Real Estate - St. Louis) was the featured guest in this week's edition of *Esq.*, the weekly newsletter from the Missouri Bar. The newsletter's regular schedule of interviews with leading practitioners from the state this week featured Mr. Levison on the latest laws and regulations related to the advertising of legal services, including an analysis of legal precedent starting with the precedential case of *Bates v. State Bar of Arizona*, 433 U.S. 350 (1977).

In addition to his leadership of the profession in this area, Mr. Levison has spoken at conferences and has been interviewed on the subject for a variety of publications. Mr. Levison oversees the firm's St. Louis practice in governmental relations and administrative affairs, with a concentration in economic development incentives, real estate and zoning.

In addition to his leadership of the Special Committee on Lawyer Advertising, he was a member of the Missouri Legislature's subcommittee on the privatization of government services. He is one of only two lawyers in the history of The Missouri Bar to serve as President of both the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and the Trial Lawyers Association of St. Louis and to serve as a member of The Missouri Board of Governors. Mr. Levison is currently the General Counsel of the Urban League of St. Louis.

"After 25 years having passed since the decision in *Bates*, I had suggested to the state bar leadership that there might be updates that were needed on the subject of lawyer advertising that the state should be aware of," Mr. Levison said during the feature-length audio interview. "I was appointed as head of the Special Committee, and after we re-assessed the state's law, one of the things that's commonly expressed in this area is that the existing rules aren't enforced -- there needs to be better monitoring."

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