

# PEOPLE • PROPERTY • PROGRESS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LAW FIRM OF DAVISON EASTMAN MUNOZ PAONE, P.A.

## FIRM LISTED AMONG BEST LAW FIRMS IN AMERICA (2024) FOR FOURTEENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

- Partner Doug Widman, Esq. Appointed to NJ State Bar Dispute Resolution Section
- Attorneys Matt Blaine and Michael Connolly Secure Over \$1M In Assets for Client
- Dennis Galvin, Esq. Speaks at annual NJ State League of Municipalities Conference
- Christopher Olszak, Esq. talks “Elder Law” in Beachwood
- Managing Principal Jim Paone Provides “How to Scale a Law Firm” Seminar at DEMP-HQ
- Christina Hardman-O’Neal, Esq. Visits Members of Freehold Senior Center, Talks “Estates & Planning”
- Introducing John B. Stephenson, Esq.
- Firm Helps Veterans with Cases of Coffee



The law firm of Davison Eastman Muñoz Paone, P.A., has been listed among the *Best Law Firms* (2024) for the fourteenth (14th) consecutive year, every year since the recognition was established in 2010.

As with previous years, *Best Law Firms* recognized the firm for its legal practices of:

- [Commercial Litigation](#)
- [Real Estate Law](#)
- [Litigation – Real Estate](#)

Now officially in its 36<sup>th</sup> year of operation, the firm’s primary legal practices include Business and Litigation, Elder Law, Employment Law, Municipal Law, Land Use and Zoning, Commercial Real Estate and Litigation, and Tax and Estate Planning.

Advised managing principal James A. Paone, II: “We pride ourselves on legal excellence. When a 3<sup>rd</sup> party such as this recognizes the caliber of our firm, it is an honor and sincerely appreciated. We have exceptional attorneys and staff here and it’s because of them that we, as a firm, receive these acknowledgements of superior legal services. Thank you, *Best Lawyers*.”

## PARTNER DENNIS GALVIN, ESQ. JOINED 2023 LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES’ COX SYMPOSIUM EXPERT PANEL



[Dennis M. Galvin, Esq.](#)  
 Partner

An annual event held in Atlantic City, NJ every Fall, the League of Municipalities conference brings together thousands of government officials and service providers from throughout New Jersey’s 564 municipalities.

For another consecutive year, firm partner Dennis Galvin, Esq. joined the event’s Cox Symposium, an expert panel designed to provide insight to the complexities of municipal land use law and local ordinances for attorneys, municipal officials and other decision makers.



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**PARTNER CHRISTINA HARDMAN-O'NEAL, ESQ. VISITS FREEHOLD SENIOR CENTER, LUNCH & LEARN EVENT**

A member of the firm's Wills, Trusts & Estates Group, partner Christina Hardman-O'Neal, Esq. speaks frequently throughout the community, sharing information and answering an array of legal questions.

"There's nothing better than getting out in the community, meeting people, sharing information and helping families." advised Christina Hardman-O'Neal, Esq.



Partner [Christina Hardman-O'Neal, Esq.](#) (stage left) and paralegal Beverly Todor (tableside right) visit Freehold (NJ) Senior Center for a free information sharing, Lunch & Learn event.

**FIRM MANAGING PARTNER, JIM PAONE, II ESQ., DELIVERS, "HOW TO SCALE A LAW FIRM" PRESENTATION TO MEMBERS OF NJ STATE BAR ASSOCIATION**



Standing, center: Firm managing partner [James A. Paone, II, Esq.](#) delivers presentation to an audience of NJ State Bar Association members from Davison Eastman Muñoz Paone, P.A.'s Freehold, NJ office Executive Conference Room.

From strategic planning to evaluating attorneys for hire to technologies and practice growth, firm managing partner Jim Paone, Esq. delivered a two (2)-hour "How to Scale a Law Firm" presentation to New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA) members from throughout the state of New Jersey.

Mr. Paone led the NJSBA audience through an open format presentation that included discussions on:

- Hard vs. soft costs
- Setting goals and objectives
- Business modeling
- Firm culture

Mr. Paone is an actively-practicing, award-winning business law and litigation attorney.

**PARTNER CHRISTOPHER OLSZAK, ESQ. SPEAKS WITH AREA RESIDENTS AT BEACHWOOD SENIOR CENTER**

Certified Elder Law attorney and firm partner Christopher Olszak visited with Beachwood, NJ residents at their community Senior Center in late 2023, sharing information and answering questions about his legal practice area including:

- Wills, Estate Planning & Litigation
- Trusts and Gift Giving
- Power of Attorney, Guardianship

"The more knowledge we have and share, the better I can create individual plans to ensure my clients' goals are achieved." mentioned Chris Olszak, Esq.



Standing, center: Partner [Christopher D. Olszak, Esq.](#) addresses audience at Beachwood (NJ) Senior Center



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**FIRM SPONSORS NJBIA'S ANNUAL 2023  
PUBLIC POLICY FORUM**

The New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBIA) hosts its Public Policy Forum annually.

To close 2023, Davison Eastman Muñoz Paone, P.A. was a proud sponsor thereof, the event being held at the Woodbridge (NJ) Marriott with keynote speaker NJ Governor Phil Murphy. Expert panel topics included:

- NJ Economic Outlook
- The Looming Fiscal Cliff
- Fall 2023 Election Perspectives
- Annual Awards Presentation



Woodbridge Marriott, NJ: NJBIA president / CEO Michele Siekerka, Esq. and NJ Governor Phil Murphy address audience, December 2023

**PARTNER DOUG WIDMAN, ESQ. APPOINTED TO  
NJ STATE BAR DISPUTE RESOLUTION SECTION**

Firm partner Doug Widman, Esq., has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the New Jersey State Bar Association's Dispute Resolutions Section.

Noted Mr. Widman, "NJSBA is a great organization and bringing together mediation specialists from across the state is a wonderful thing. We learn from each other, we exchange best practice ideas and more. I am honored to serve on the committee's board of directors."



Douglas J. Widman, Esq.  
Partner



**FIRM HONORS U.S. VETERANS WITH CASES OF COFFEE FOR ALL ATTORNEYS AND STAFF**

In recognition of Veteran's Day and those that make the ultimate sacrifice for our country, the firm partnered with Bridging the Gap for Veterans, a 501(c)(3) non-profit led by military veterans who fully understand the career transition experience.

In support thereof, Davison Eastman Muñoz Paone, P.A. purchased dozens of cases of coffee from The Coffee Platoon® - sales of which support the organization and its mission. DEMP's specific 2023 purchase helped fund a veteran who graduated from the Monmouth County (NJ) Police Academy.

Visit [BridgingTheGap.vet](https://BridgingTheGap.vet) for more information and to get involved.



**Bridging the Gap – Coffee With A Cause arrives at DEMP for Veteran's Day 2023.** PHOTO (L to R): Firm shareholder Blake Laurence, Esq.; Bridging the Gap Cmd Chief Master Sergeant (ret) Mike Ferraro; firm managing principal James A. Paone, II, Esq.; firm partner Christina Hardman-O'Neal, Esq.; firm COO/CFO Karen Sargent, CPA; firm co-founder and principal Edward C. Eastman, Esq.; firm director of marketing Ian Singer



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**FIRM CONTRIBUTES TO UNITED WAY OF MONMOUTH & OCEAN COUNTIES 2023 CHILDRENS COAT DRIVE**

A substantial, annual undertaking, the United Way of Monmouth and Ocean Counties collects thousands of childrens' winter coats and distributes them to local preschool, elementary and middle school-aged students in need.

The firm's attorneys and staff are proud to have contributed again this year.

To get involved with this coat drive and more, please visit [UWMOC.org](http://UWMOC.org).



United Way  
of Monmouth  
and Ocean Counties



*2023 Warmest Wishes Coat Drive*



Front Row, L to R: Edward C. Eastman, Esq.; Karen Sargent, CPA; Louise Haas, James A. Paone, II, Esq. Back Row, L to R: Ian Singer, Dennis M. Galvin, Esq.

**BUSINESS LITIGATION GROUP OBTAINS PRE-JUDGMENT ATTACHMENTS IN EXCESS OF \$1,000,000**

Via a creative remedy, the firm's Business Litigation Group recently secured an important and impressive result for its client who alleges it was defrauded in connection with a business acquisition.

The firm's Matthew Blaine, Esq. obtained numerous admissions from the seller/defendants' business principal during a deposition and joined forces with fellow firm member Michael Connolly, Esq. Collectively, Matt and Michael successfully convinced the Court to impose pre-judgment attachments on the defendants' personal assets, their financial accounts, and several pieces of real estate the defendants inappropriately acquired with business sale proceeds paid to them by this firm's client.



[Matthew K. Blaine, Esq.](#)  
Partner



[Michael J. Connolly, Esq.](#)  
Of Counsel

The properties in issue are believed to be valued in excess of one million dollars. By Matt and Michael obtaining such issue relief, their client's adversaries are legally prevented from selling or mortgaging the properties before trial.

While such relief is not granted in the typical case, Michael has obtained such remedies numerous times in both state and federal courts. Such a remedy is an important tool as the relief provides assurances that Matt's client should have the ability to recover otherwise lost monies once the court renders judgment in its favor.

**FIRM WELCOMES JOHN B. STEPHENSON, ESQ. TO ITS WILLS, TRUSTS & ESTATES GROUP**



[John B. Stephenson, Esq.](#)  
Associate

Attorney John B. Stephenson has joined the law firm of Davison Eastman Muñoz Paone, P.A.'s Wills, Trusts & Estates Group.

John focuses his practice on counseling individuals and businesses on estate planning and administration, asset protection, business succession, transfers of wealth and advising clients on the ever-changing tax law environment.

John earned a Bachelor of Arts in Politics from Ursinus College and his Juris Doctorate (cum laude) from Pace University School of Law.



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