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

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SEVENT (7) FIRM ATTORNEYS RECOGNIZED BY MARTINDALE-HUBBELL® FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

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Davison Eastman Munoz Paone, P.A. celebrates its attorneys recognized by Martindale-Hubbell and their peers and clients.



[James A. Paone, II, Esq.](#)



[James M. McGovern, Jr., Esq.](#)



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



[Douglas J. Widman, Esq.](#)



[Christina D. Hardman-O'Neal, Esq.](#)



[Alan L. Poliner, Esq.](#)



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PARTNER BRIAN W. KEATTS, ESQ. LEADS FIRM TO SUMMARY JUDGMENT DISMISSAL IN DEFAMATION SUIT



[Brian W. Keatts, Esq.](#)

Partner

Partner Brian Keatts, Esq. and the firm recently secured judgment in favor of its client when its motion for summary judgment to dismiss, with prejudice, a complaint alleging defamation and tortious interference with economic advantage was granted by the Superior Court of Monmouth County.

Plaintiff filed a Complaint alleging that certain individuals, including the firm's client, were responsible for posting false and damaging statements about the plaintiff on a website – damaging his reputation and business. In order to sustain a claim for defamation, a party must demonstrate that a false statement was communicated to a third-party that resulted in damage to the aggrieved party. Similarly, in order to sustain a cause of action for tortious interference with economic advantage, a plaintiff must provide that it had a reasonable expectation of economic advantage that was lost as a result of the offending party's malicious interference, damaging the plaintiff.

Brian and the firm defended its client throughout all litigation, ultimately prevailing on a summary judgement motion upon demonstrating the complete absence of liability on the part of its client.

WILLS, ESTATES GROUP CONTINUES ITS "LUNCH & LEARN" SERIES IN MONMOUTH AND OCEAN COUNTIES



Partner [Blake Laurence, Esq.](#) speaks with a Retirement Community during a Spring 2025 Lunch & Learn

The firm's Tax, Trusts & Estate Planning law group speaks regularly throughout Monmouth and Ocean Counties... and beyond. It is comprised of experienced estate planning attorneys offering the full spectrum of financial services for individuals, businesses, and professionals.

Topics discussed often include:

- Wills
- Estate Planning and Probate
- Power of Attorney
- Special Needs and Guardianships
- Trusts and Types of Trusts
- Gifts, Tax Laws, and More.



Partner [Christopher Olszak, Esq.](#) shares "Power of Attorney" insights with residents of a 55+ Community in late Spring 2025

If you know someone or a community with interest in learning more about Wills, Estate Planning, and more, please contact us so we can coordinate one of our Tax, Trusts & Estate Planning group to visit.



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DEMP TEAMS UP WITH EANJ FOR A “WORKPLACE AGREEMENTS: NON-COMPETES” WEBINAR

Attorneys [Brian Chabarek](#) and [Elizabeth Trottier](#) presented “Workplace Agreements: Navigating the Future of Non-Competes” to an audience of Employers Association of New Jersey ([EANJ](#)) members this past Spring 2025.

As discussed, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is scheduled to determine the future of ‘non-compete agreements’ in the United States this July 2025. It is estimated that the decision could affect as many as 1 in 5 American workers (roughly 30 million people).



Attorneys [Brian Chabarek](#) and [Elizabeth Trottier](#) deliver “Workplace Agreements” webinar to EANJ audience



Employers Association of New Jersey

WATCH DEMP’s 60-minute “Workplace Agreements” webinar with EANJ: [CLICK HERE](#)

FIRM HELPS DRIVE SUCCESS OF MODC’S 2ND ANNUAL STATE OF THE SHORE EVENT



MODC’s 2025 State of the Shore event (L to R): Ian Singer, Davison Eastman Munoz Paone, P.A.; Sylvia Hernandez, Ocean County Career Center; Jason Timian NJ-Department of Labor; Yolanda Taylor, Monmouth County Workforce Development; Dana Lancellotti, MODC Executive Director; Lori Pepenella, Southern Ocean Chamber Association; Commissioner Director Thomas Arnone, Monmouth County; Eileen Chapman, Bruce Springsteen Archives & Center for American Music at Monmouth University; Brian Waldron, HFA-CPAs; Commissioner Jennifer Bacchione, Ocean County; Tom Gilmore, President, MODC.

Late May 2025, Monmouth Ocean Development Council ([MODC](#)) held its 2nd annual *State of the Shore* event at Jumping Brook Country Club, Neptune, NJ. The now annual breakfast event was inspired and co-created by Davison Eastman Munoz Paone, P.A.’s Director of Marketing, Ian Singer.

2025 was once again a sold-out event with well over 100 distinguished guests in attendance – government and elected officials, business and organization leaders from an array of industries, media outlets and more. Panel and presented topics included:

- Monmouth and Ocean County industry growth and workforce
- Commercial development and health status of NJ business
- \$78-Billion annual Jersey Shore tourism economy

MODC Executive Director Dana Lancellotti stated: “MODC celebrates its 60th anniversary this year and it continues to contribute to the growth of our Jersey Shore region. Informational networking events like *State of the Shore* are vivid reminders of all the incredible leaders, people and mass opportunity we have around us in Monmouth and Ocean Counties.”



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PARTNER DOUG WIDMAN, ESQ., MEDIATES SETTLEMENT IN ONE DAY



[Douglas J. Widman, Esq.](#)
Partner

United States Federal District Court certified mediation attorney and partner of Davison Eastman Munoz Paone, P.A. [Douglas Widman, Esq.](#), recently mediated a case assigned by the New Jersey State Superior Court involving an adverse employment action based upon retaliation for the filing of a worker's compensation petition. Termination of employment came soon after a serious on-the-job injury.

The employee was willing and able to continue working. The employer chose to terminate the employee, thus, legal action, employee versus employer, was taken.

The employee's demand was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars and Mr. Widman was able to settle the matter between the parties in a one-day mediation session.



FIRM CELEBRATES LEGAL EXCELLENCE WITH CLIENTS, PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

Davison Eastman Munoz Paone, P.A. invited clients, friends and colleagues to join them in celebrating its 37th year of legal excellence. Libations and hors d'oeuvres were enjoyed by all at Bell Works' Bar Bella Rooftop, Holmdel, NJ.



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FIRM RECOGNIZES ITS PARALEGALS AND STAFF ~ ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY 2025



The firm is comprised of 40+ attorneys, paralegals, and staff, all of which collaborate and support its clients across the firm's law practices.

The firm is proud to celebrate the excellence of all of its employees.



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