



# The Addendum

## DYSART TAYLOR IN THE COMMUNITY

Every year the attorneys and staff at Dysart Taylor choose a charity to support during the Holiday Season. This year, Dysart Taylor has chosen to assist the Don Bosco Centers. Don Bosco has been serving the Northeast corridor of Kansas City since 1940. Don Bosco provides a nurturing environment through recreational and educational programming delivered through its six community centers. Dysart Taylor's "In-Kind Donations" will be distributed to Don Bosco's Youth Development Center, Family Support Center, Senior Center, Charter High School and area families in need.

Dysart Taylor has again participated in the Lawyers Association of Kansas City, Young Lawyers' Section Skippy and Skivvies Drive to benefit Operation Breakthrough at the St. Vincent's Family Services Center. Operation

Breakthrough helps children living in poverty to develop to their fullest potential by providing a safe, loving and educational environment. Operation Breakthrough also strives to support and empower the children's families through advocacy, referral services and emergency aid.

From November 5 through November 16, Dysart Taylor attorneys and staff assisted the Young Lawyers' Section by collecting jars of peanut butter, children's underwear, socks and diapers. The Young Lawyers' Section collected over 650 jars of peanut butter, over 6000 diapers and more than 1500 pairs of children's socks and underwear and over \$5,500.00 in cash donations, from law firms in the Kansas City area. Dysart Taylor's effort was spearheaded by **Matt Geary**, the Co-Chair of the LAKC-YLS Skippy and Skivvies Drive.

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In 1934 a small law firm was founded in downtown Kansas City. The original partners specialized in labor and motor carrier law. The firm grew and expanded its expertise in the transportation area and added expertise in commercial and insurance litigation, business transactions, banking and probate law.

Howard D. Lay  
Robert W. Cotter  
Patrick K. McMonigle  
Martin M. Montemore  
Kent M. Bevan  
Lee Burcham Brumitt  
Stephen J. Bahr  
Thomas E. Roszak  
Patrick J. Kaine  
George P. Coughlin  
John F. Wilcox, Jr.  
Don R. Lolli  
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## NASA REFUSES TO RELEASE AIRLINE SAFETY DATA



NASA conducted a comprehensive national survey of pilots through telephone interviews with approximately twenty-four thousand commercial and

general aviation pilots over four years. According to CNN, the results of the survey were that safety problems such as near collisions and runway interference

incidents actually occur far more frequently than previously thought. The results of the survey were apparently disclosed by a person familiar with the survey, but who spoke on conditions of anonymity.

So far, NASA has refused to release the information, stating that the information might upset air travelers and hurt airline profits. NASA has since

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## COMMUNITY...continued from cover

Once again, **John Wilcox** is acting as the Community Sponsor Co-Chairman for Notre Dame de Sion's annual Gala Auction. Notre Dame de Sion is an independent Catholic school providing college preparatory education from preschool through grade 12. The Gala Auction is Sion's largest fund raiser and the goal for the Community Sponsor Committee is to

raise \$100,000 in underwriting support prior to the Auction, scheduled for March 1, 2008.

Finally, **Jan Long**, a legal assistant with the firm is organizing a campaign to send items to the troops in the Middle East to let them know we are thinking of them during this holiday season.

## DON LOLLI ATTENDS PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE DIRECTOR'S/TRUSTEE'S MEETINGS IN BERLIN

In September, Don attended the international People-to-People Directors' and Trustees' meeting in Berlin, Germany. At the Berlin meeting, former President of Poland, Lech Walesa, received People-to-People's highest award, the Eisenhower

Medallion. Lech Walesa fought for worker's rights against the Communists in the 1970's and 1980's, became Chairman of the Solidarity labor union in early 1990, and was elected President of Poland in late 1990. President Walesa also received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1983.

Don also was part of the People-to-People delegation traveling to Prague, Czech Republic, and met with representatives of the Czech Republic government at the official Presidential Seat, Prague Castle. Don also attended a reception hosted by United States Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Richard Graber, in his Prague residence.

The trip was a rewarding cultural and educational experience.



Former President Lech Walesa of Poland addresses the audience after receiving the Eisenhower Medallion



Don greets Ambassador Graber and his wife

## PUBLICATION RECOGNIZES EIGHT DYSART TAYLOR ATTORNEYS

Six Dysart Taylor attorneys were selected as “Missouri/Kansas Super Lawyers” for 2007. This achievement was awarded to:

Robert W. Cotter



**Areas of Practice**

Aviation law, insurance defense, product liability, personal injury, employment disputes, commercial transactions and arbitration/mediation.

Patrick K. McMonigle



Transportation law, insurance defense, casualty litigation, construction law, commercial law and litigation.

Lee B. Brumitt



Construction, business and commercial disputes, contracts, insurance, and creditor’s rights in bankruptcy.

George P. Coughlin



Business and commercial disputes, commercial arbitration, litigation prevention, product liability, complex contractual disputes and shareholder disputes.

Don R. Lolli



Commercial and business disputes, civil litigation, complex dissolution of marriage involving business issues, real estate disputes, employment law, condemnation actions and contract disputes.

William J. Shapiro



Estate and succession planning, business transactions and tax matters.

Five percent of all attorneys in Missouri and Kansas were chosen for this recognition. The selection procedure included peer group nominations (more than 24,000 ballots were mailed to Missouri and Kansas attorneys), a blue ribbon panel review process and independent research.

Congratulations to all for this recognition.

## PORTER ELECTED TO LEADERSHIP POST

Amy A. Porter has been elected First Vice President of the Kansas City Paralegal Association (KCPA). KCPA is a non-profit corporation that has served as the professional association for paralegals in the Kansas City area since 1975. KCPA provides continuing education for paralegals as well as

networking opportunities on the local, state and national level. Amy will serve a two year term as KCPA’s First Vice President.

Amy has been a paralegal at Dysart Taylor for seven years, focusing on insurance litigation and transportation casualty defense.

## NASA...continued from cover

stated that it will reconsider how much of the survey data can be disclosed to the public.

Originally, the survey data was requested by the Associated Press under the U.S. Freedom of Information Act. NASA replied that "release of the requested data, which are sensitive and safety-related, could materially affect the public confidence in, and the commercial welfare of, the air carriers and general aviation companies whose pilots participated in the survey." NASA also cited pilot confidentiality as a reason for refusing to disclose the survey data, but no airlines were identified in the survey, nor were the identities of any pilots.

Apparently, the pilots reported at least twice as many safety hazards such as runway incursions, near mid-air collisions and bird strikes as were previously reported. Pilots also reported problems with air traffic control communications and with last-minute instructions to alter the original approach or landing clearance.

Several members of Congress have stated that it would investigate whether NASA has justification for not releasing the data. Evidently, NASA had instructed the contractor that conducted the survey to purge all related data from its computers. NASA has since rescinded that instruction and ordered that all survey data be preserved. One official for the Air Travelers Association said that release of the information could result in an increase of flying safety. "We still believe this is an extremely safe air travel system, but it could be made even safer."

*Mr. Montemore specializes in insurance defense and aviation litigation. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam as a USAF pilot, logging over 1,000 combat hours and earning the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters, the Gallantry Cross and other awards and decorations. He has a commercial pilot's license with single, multi-engine and instrument ratings. Mr. Montemore has lectured and taught seminars on various litigation subjects.*

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The Editor of the Addendum is **John Wilcox**. Mr. Wilcox received his B.S. from Missouri State University in 1990 and his J.D. from the University of Kansas in 1994.

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*The Dysart Taylor Addendum is intended as a report to our clients and friends on legal developments of general interest. In no case does the published material constitute an exhaustive legal study and applicability to a particular situation depends upon investigation of the specific facts and professional advice. COMMERCIAL SOLICITATIONS ARE PERMITTED BY THE MISSOURI RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT BUT ARE NEITHER SUBMITTED TO NOR APPROVED BY THE MISSOURI BAR OR THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSOURI. © 2006 Dysart Taylor, P.C., 4420 Madison Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64111*

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