

# A word from Jonathan Petro, Managing Partner Back to school

## As summer fades into fall and we at CLDDS try

to cling to the last warm, sunny days of "Locals Summer," we are also embracing exciting changes to our firm. CLDDS continues to grow, and the addition of two new attorneys, Jennifer Weiss

and Michael K. Nolan, has added significant litigation experience which will benefit our clients. We've also added support staff members to enhance communication through increased technology and accessibility. This has been especially beneficial as our courts remain largely virtual, but start to reopen their doors to "in person" appearances. Similarly, we have been able to extend our reach to all areas of our Garden State, serving towns and individual clients beyond Ocean and Monmouth counties. As our world continues to put the pandemic behind us, CLDDS is also happy to be back in the community and working with many of our nonprofit partners, from Ocean County College, to Caregiver Volunteers of

Central Jersey, to Ocean's Harbor House and the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). From the founding of this firm in 1997, our goal has always been to provide "value-added" service to our clients, but also to our community. This issue of the Legal Beacon highlights some of our firm's efforts to make the Jersey Shore a better place, while also having some fun along the way. "Here, we have rebranded our newsletter as the Legal Beacon,



issues – large or small.

The best lawyers in Toms River, hands down. Their experience is off the charts." - The Vinnys

to embrace and celebrate our

at the Jersey Shore."

community and environment here

## be fun and maybe a nice change. Hopefully, this year will be a more typical year than the past two. Focusing

Preparing for back to school

on communication between your child and the new teachers for this school year and between parents and the school is the key to a successful experience for everyone. Do you notice your child struggling with homework or social stresses from school encounters? Send an email, note, or call and speak to the teacher or the school guidance counselors. Ask for reports from the adults who

spend their days with your children. Communication helps address any

With the past few years having interrupted learning with online and hybrid

School is back in session and the buzz about new backpacks and school

supplies, shoes, and clothes is exciting. Meeting new classmates and

teachers and reuniting with old friends after a long summer vacation will

school days, you may have noticed some learning losses and social issues. These can be addressed if you reach out to and communicate with the school and state your concerns. You can request that your child be observed in the classroom. Children in need can be evaluated. Most importantly, having a strong support system at home will only improve your child's access to assisted learning.

There are legal requirements that educators must provide. Learn about

and know your rights. If you have legal concerns, consult an attorney at

CLDDDS to ensure your child's right to education is being provided that will

help your child learn and grow and contribute positively to our community. - Jennifer Weiss **ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT** Welcome aboard!

Nolan as Senior Litigation Attorney!

CLDDS is pleased to announce that we have

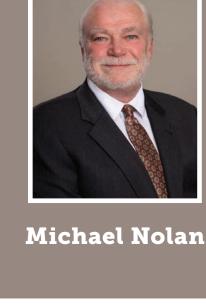
two excellent new employees on our team.

Please join us in welcoming Jennifer S. Weiss

as Civil Litigation Attorney and Michael K.

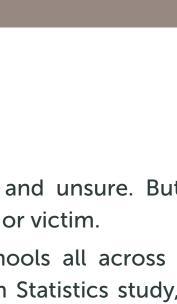
### Congratulations to you both! We are so proud to have you on #TeamCLDDS

Read all about Jennifer and Michael at **CLDDS.com/attorney-profiles** 



Jennifer S. Weiss

All about bullying Some are happy and excited, others nervous and unsure. But school children should never be afraid of being a target or victim. Bullying continues to be a major issue in schools all across the U.S. According to the National Center for Education Statistics study, around



22% of students in Grades 6 through 12, reported having been bullied at school, or on their way to or from school, in 2019. Every state has anti-

## 2011, when the state enacted its Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, the antibullying crusade continues. Mallory's Law was introduced to the New

to address the problem.

in schools.

quickly as possible.

needs and various others.

Food, family and FUN!

Jersey Legislature in February of 2019, strengthening an already strong policy in an effort to protect innocent children. New Jersey has been a leader in the establishment of a strong statutory,

regulatory policy and program framework to support the prevention,

remediation and reporting of HIB (Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying)

bullying legislation in place, and schools are expected to develop policies

Even though school bullying reportedly has declined in New Jersey since

Bullying can be any form of harassment or intimidation that at a minimum includes any gesture, written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents that are reasonably perceived as having the effect of physically or emotionally harming a student. It also includes any damage to a student's property or placing a student in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm to his/ her person causing physical or emotional harm to that student.

There is no substitute for good judgment when it comes to determining

how to address any potential for bullying. Parents or guardians should

immediately contact the school authorities to address these issues as

If there are concerns that are legal in nature, a consultation with a family

law or school law attorney, could be beneficial. Here at CLDDS, we have a

full team of professionals who are here to help and support you in those

"Strong people stand up from themselves. But the strongest people stand up for others." - Unknown



CLDDS recently hosted its annual outing at the BlueClaws Stadium for a

picnic! Employees and their families attended the event, which included



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**About Us** 

your behalf.

**Experience Matters** The attorneys of Carluccio, Leone, Dimon, Doyle & Sacks know what it takes to represent your interests. We follow a collaborative "team" approach that allows us to maximize all available resources and provide you with the complete package in an expeditious, cost efficient, value-added manner. Collectively, our attorneys have over 440 years of diverse legal and business experience, which enables us to offer a full suite of services. All the firm's knowledge and talent are always brought to bear on

"Truth never damages a cause that is just.

- Mahatma Gandhi

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