Federal Cases

SEC v. Champion-Cain, et al. Represented a regional bank as one of the creditors in the receivership of a $400 million Ponzi scheme involving the sale of fake liquor licenses, and the bank's loan, which was largely recovered.

Amtel Communications, Inc. v. AT&T Communications. Obtained a $2.85 million settlement following a four-week trial as counsel for the creditors' committee in an adversary action for unfair trade practices against AT&T as part of a Ponzi case.

Medifast v. Minkow, et al. Succeeded in striking most of a lawsuit filed by national nutritional supplement provider Medifast, Inc., against publishers of statements critical of Medifast's multi-level marketing program, which settled following an appeal.

SEC v. Copeland; Receiver (Hebrank) v. Tri Tool, Inc. Represented the receiver in a Ponzi case involving the sale of over $60 million in partnership interests in commercial real estate located throughout the country, and handled the transfer, sale or liquidation of the assets.

Haro Bicycle Corporation v. Genesis Cycle, Inc. Counsel for a California manufacturer of BMX bicycles in establishing jurisdiction over one of its foreign distributors in a contract dispute that settled once jurisdiction had been established.

Shalov v. Lane. Obtained a judgment as trial counsel for the producer of a feature film, starring Peter Falk of *Columbo* fame, in his last movie, against an accredited investor's claims.

Musrif Enterprises & Trading LLC v. Ultraneon Sign Corporation. Represented a California manufacturer of large electronic advertising boards in defeating jurisdiction of a case brought by a middle eastern joint venture partner.

In re Tourism Assessment Fee Litigation; Comisky v. Avis Budget Group, Inc., et al. Counsel for a defendant rental car company in anti-trust class action that challenged an assessment program under the Commerce Clause and free-speech clauses, which settled following an appeal.

Zands v. Nelson, et al. Represented the original owner/developer of a shopping center with a gas station in a suit against him and subsequent owners for soil contamination that settled with him contributing nothing because additives found in the gas were not used during his ownership.

Sager Electrical Supply Company, Inc. v. HCAP Partners III, LP, et al. Represented a private equity firm and its subsidiary that acquired at foreclosure a lighting-technology company, in which it had an interest, against claims by a supplier that settled for an equity participation.

American Tool & Engineering Corp. v. San Diego Gas & Electric. Counsel for fabricator of co-generation power systems in action against SDG&E for anti-trust violations resulting from its rate fluctuations for natural gas vs. electricity that made co-generation systems unfeasible.

Anderson v. Alcoholics Anonymous Worldwide Services, Inc. (NY). Verdict for client AA in one of a series of cases filed after a failed unionizing campaign at AA's publishing facility by employees who changed their employment status to vote leading to settlement of the other cases.

Stephens v. City of Vista. Co-trial counsel in action against city for inverse condemnation, civil rights violations and breach of settlement resulting in a judgment for diminution in value of the 10-acre multi-family residential property, and an award of fees and costs.

Fisher v. PPG Industries, Inc. Represented the owner of commercial property in an action against a tenant for soil contamination resulting from a leaking underground storage tank that tenant had installed and recovered restitution for clean-up costs.

Lantner v. U.S.T.A National Tennis Center, Inc. (NY). Counsel for the manager of court attendants at the US Open and League Coordinator in action for age discrimination, ERISA violations and New York Human Rights Law violations, which settled for a confidential amount.

Per Annum, Inc. v. Letts of London, Ltd. (NY). Represented mid-18th century British manufacturer of stationery and diaries against a lawsuit by New York competitor for copyright violations relating to proprietary information in competing editions of Manhattan diaries.