

As Seen In Forbes Magazine

Businesses Rely on Stone Pigman When Venturing South

The New Orleans law firm of Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann L.L.C. is an important resource for national corporations doing business in the Gulf South. Seventy-four years of practicing law gives Stone Pigman the experience on which corporate counsel can rely when they need representation in a region famed for its hospitality to visitors, but stigmatized in recent years by a legal climate hostile to business.

Stone Pigman's senior litigator and name partner, Phil Wittmann, played a leading role in thwarting the largest class action ever attempted in federal court when he represented R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in the Castano nicotine addiction case before the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals (encompassing Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi). Stone Pigman won for R.J. Reynolds a reversal of the trial court's order certifying a nationwide class of alleged nicotine-addicted plaintiffs. Similarly, when nationwide pizza restaurant chain Papa John's was enjoined by a Texas trial court



We Earned Our Reputation

Under the leadership of lawyers such as Joe Caverly, Jay Gulotta and Scott Whittaker, the firm continues to earn its reputation as trusted legal advisors delivering superior client service.

from continuing a national television advertising campaign based on alleged deceptive advertising complaints from a rival pizza competitor, Papa John's turned to Stone Pigman to handle the appeal and won reversal in the appellate court. "We have been able to help our clients in industries such as chemical refining, transportation, pharmaceuticals, banking, insurance and technology respond to litigation challenges with precedent-setting court decisions involving class actions and federal removal jurisdiction," says Jay Gulotta, Stone Pigman's Litigation Section Chair.

Stone Pigman lawyers have compiled an equally impressive record of success in handling business transactions for their clients. All of the high-tech startups formed in what locals refer to as the "Silicon Bayou" seeking counsel from Scott Whittaker's Corporate and Securities Practice Group are still open for business despite the dot-com crash. Stone Pigman also closed the first major hotel financing in the region after September 11, 2001, despite the devastation to the travel business nationwide. "Our experience in serving as counsel for developers, lenders and large tenants in the field of commercial real estate developments is unrivaled in our region," says Joe

Caverly, Business Section Chair. The firm's business representation also includes mergers, acquisitions, reorganizations, corporate finance, tax, trusts and estates.

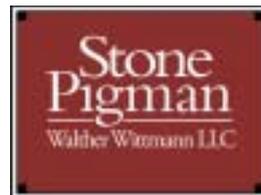
"Whether it's business or litigation, we offer our clients large-firm, large-market expertise with a personal approach to service. We like being known for this," says partner Judy Barrasso. The Stone Pigman reputation starts with recruiting top graduates from leading law schools and progresses through focused training and professional development. The results are leaders of the legal profession who never lose sight of why they became lawyers – to serve their clients.

Businesses venturing south, particularly into the exotic jurisdiction of Louisiana with its foreign legal tradition, can rely on Stone Pigman's 74 years of experience to enhance their success.



Leading the Way Professionally

In June 2003, Wayne Lee will be installed as President of the Louisiana State Bar Association. Judy Barrasso was recently awarded the LSBA President's Award for Outstanding Service to the Louisiana bar. Phil Wittmann will assume the role of President of the New Orleans Bar Association in November 2003.



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