

~ ~ 2016 Holiday Edition ~ ~

SPEIDEL BENTSEN LLP
WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON

News of Interest



Tiffany Russ Jean David Tawnya Danielle

This time of year once again gives us the opportunity to reflect and say “Thank You” to those who are important to us. We truly appreciate working with you, our clients, friends and colleagues, and wish all of you a Holiday Season that is filled with love, family and friendship.

The big news of 2016 was that on January 1, **David Bentsen** became a partner of the firm and our name changed from Speidel Law Firm to **Speidel Bentsen LLP**. This year has been a real pleasure as we continued our focus on providing excellent legal services in the areas of estate planning, tax planning, trust and estate administration, elder law, nursing home planning, real estate, family businesses, nonprofit entities, and immigration.

Attorney **Russell Speidel** remains active with the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, the premier national professional association for attorneys who practice in this area of law. For the 10th consecutive year he was named a Super Lawyer, one of the top five percent in the state, by the magazine, *Washington Law & Politics*. In addition, Mr. Speidel serves on the statewide board of directors of Northwest Justice Project and on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army, Wenatchee Corps.

Attorney **David Bentsen** attended a four-day immigration law conference to further his knowledge of family and business petitions for immigration. He has also taken the lead in serving many of our real estate and homeowners association clients. In November, Mr. Bentsen gave a presentation on the new Washington Uniform Power of Attorney Act at the Chelan-Douglas CLE Blitz. He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of the Wenatchee Row & Paddle Club, as Secretary/Treasurer of the Chelan Douglas County Volunteer Attorney Services and President Elect of the Wenatchee North Rotary Foundation.

In 2002, Russ Speidel was the driving force behind the creation of the **Chelan Douglas County Volunteer Attorney Services (VAS)**, an organization through which attorneys in our area donate their time to help families and individuals in poverty who face challenging civil legal problems. The **Community Foundation of North Central Washington (CFNCW)** recently selected VAS as a GiveNCW community grant recipient to expand its staffing expertise with a part-time staff attorney. CFNCW funded \$9,000 of the \$18,000 grant request, and now the community has the opportunity to help VAS reach its goal by visiting www.GiveNCW.org to make an online donation to VAS. Our firm has contributed to this effort, and if you are planning charitable contributions this year, we hope you will consider joining us to help bridge the justice gap by donating to VAS through GiveNCW.

In other news, Speidel Bentsen welcomed **Tiffany Reyes** as our new part-time legal assistant. Tiffany will most likely answer the phone when you call, and greet you at the door when you visit our office.

On a personal note, we all celebrated with our legal assistant **Tawnya Petry** at her August wedding in Sultan, Washington. **Jean** and **Russ Speidel** welcomed their first grandchild, Henry, in May. And legal assistant **Danielle Thueringer** ran her first trail half-marathon in October. It's been a very good year.

Warmest Thoughts and Best Wishes for Wonderful Holidays and a very Happy New Year!