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### **A Message to our Clients and Friends from Mike Stein, Managing Partner, Pashman Stein Walder Hayden**



**Michael S. Stein**  
Managing Partner

July 1, 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of Pashman Stein, now known as Pashman Stein Walder Hayden. While earlier this year we were looking forward to celebrating this milestone with you in person, instead we are taking this opportunity to reflect...not only on how far we have come, but also on who we are today and what we still would like to accomplish.

When Pashman Stein was founded 25 years ago, we were a few lawyers who set out to prove it is not the size of a law firm that matters, but rather the quality of work and the integrity and responsiveness of its lawyers. Our goal from the start was to build a reputation for excellence and winning results and, consequently, to become the law firm of choice for those facing high stakes or bet-the-business problems, while never forgetting that the practice of law is more than simply a business. And I am proud to say -- we did it!

Pashman Stein Walder Hayden recently was named Appellate Litigation Department of the Year by the *New Jersey Law Journal* – for the third year in a row! More significantly, we have earned widespread recognition as one of the very few, go-to law firms in this region for high stakes and bet-the-business litigation. There is not a deeper or better bench around. We are now a leading full-service law firm, providing our clients access to a wide range of corporate and personal legal services.

We take great pride in the fact that other leading law firms, judges and lawyers have repeatedly turned to us over the years when faced with their own legal problems. Clients and other lawyers regularly refer us cases because of our proven record of success and the credibility that follows us into the courtroom. To be sure, judges know us well, for our insight, our thoughtful analysis, and our creativity.

And that's not all. Last fall, we established the **Justice Gary S. Stein Public Interest Center**, which underscores our commitment to advocating for the rights and liberties of all individuals and leaving an imprint on the important public interest matters of our time. We established the Center to create an organized platform for us to participate in many of the most significant and newsworthy matters in our State. The lawyers in our firm believe that

we have a responsibility as lawyers and as members of our community, to effect real and meaningful change so that no one loses their life, or is discriminated against, because of their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or otherwise. George Floyd's horrific and senseless death, and other similar tragedies, only reinforce the need for us to devote our resources to protecting civil liberties and promoting transparency in government. We are committed to putting our legal talents to use through the Center and otherwise to be part of the national movement to redress the systemic racial inequality that unfortunately still exists in this country.

When a few of us took the leap of faith 25 years ago to establish our own firm, I was optimistic and confident that we could create a unique and successful environment and culture, of which we could be very proud, comprised of outstanding passionate, enthusiastic lawyers. Today, I am equally optimistic and confident that Pashman Stein Walder Hayden will continue to grow, thrive and adapt. And we couldn't have attained our success without you! On behalf of the entire firm, we thank you for your support and friendship throughout the years and look forward to the years ahead.

Mike Stein

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