

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM NINETY-FIFTH

INTRODUCING



hello
SUMMER

Kicking off the summer fun at OMFM, Ltd., the firm headed to Wrigley Field to cheer on the Cubs as they took on the Tampa Bay Rays!



Dear Clients, Colleagues & Friends:

We are very excited to announce the launch of our firm's new logo, website & Instagram as part of the ongoing evolution of our company's brand! The firm name has changed to Odelson, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath, Ltd. (OMFM, Ltd.). Our email domain has changed to @omfmlaw.com. Our existing emails will continue to forward to ensure a smooth transition.

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH

Janice Hill - 3/1 - 3 years
John Murphey - 3/1 - 3 years
Sharon Ladewski - 3/1 - 3 years
Joyce Romanowski - 3/19 - 11 years
Jessica Rice - 3/22 - 4 years

APRIL

Lauren DaValle - 4/1 - 4 years
Ross Secler - 4/12 - 6 years

MAY

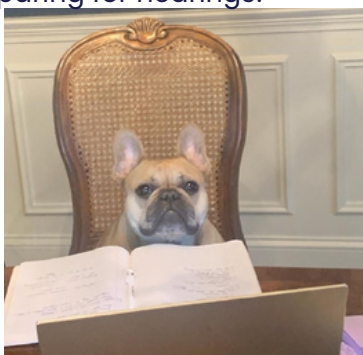
Molly O'Connell - 5/3 - 11 years
Liz Shine - 5/30 - 16 years

COMMUNITY CORNER

Burt Odelson & his daughter, Courtney Odelson Dynes, presented two Richards High School students with the Odelson, Murphey Frazier & McGrath Scholarship. This award goes to a deserving band member and soccer player in honor of Courtney's high school band and soccer careers at Richards.



Say hello to Gus DaValle! Gus-Gus keeps attorney, Lauren DaValle, company during her busy evenings researching and preparing for hearings!



June 1, 2023

PRESTIGIOUS OLYMPIA FIELDS COUNTRY CLUB COMPLETES ANNEXATION TO THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS

Golfers from all over the world are familiar with the Olympia Fields Country Club. Over the years, OFCC has hosted many important golf tournaments, including the U.S. Open, the U.S. Amateur, and the LPGA. More recently, OFCC hosted the BMW in 2020 and will be hosting the BMW in 2023. The championship North Course is recognized as one of the finest in the country.

Most people automatically assume that OFCC is located within the corporate limits of the Village of Olympia Fields. Not so. Until very recently, OFCC has been an unincorporated enclave surrounded by the Village, but not part of the Village. Following years of discussions, the Village and OFCC have completed negotiations on a comprehensive annexation agreement. The agreement was approved by the Olympia Fields President and Board of Trustees on April 17, 2023. From the perspective of OFCC, annexation gives OFCC the opportunity to partner with a fiscally-sound, efficient, and responsive local government as OFCC moves forward with its ambitious plans to continue as a top-flight golfing venue.

For the Village, the economic advantage of annexation in the form of sales tax and related revenues is an important driver. Of even greater importance is the recognition which comes with the choice made by a prestigious, nationally-recognized venue to partner with one of the most prestigious communities in the Chicago metropolitan area. That is a matter the Village can be justly proud of.

John Murphey negotiated the annexation agreement on behalf of the Village. For any further information, please contact John at jmurphey@omfmlaw.com.

SCHOOL NEWS - NEW CLIENT!



At the May 24, 2023 Willow Springs School District 108 Board Meeting, OMFM, Ltd. attorneys, **Burt Odelson**, **Leslie Kennedy**, **Sean McGrath** & **Priscilla Centeno** were appointed as counsel for the District. We are thrilled about this opportunity to represent School District 108!

DR. MICHAEL J. RIORDAN
Auditorium



OMFM, Ltd. congratulates long-time client and friend of the firm, **Dr. Michael Riordan**, on his retirement as Superintendent of School District 229 after an impressive 31 year career! Dr. Riordan was recently surprised by the Board of Education who dedicated the auditorium in his name – a gesture so fitting and deserving! All of us here at OMFM, Ltd. wish Dr. Riordan the best in his next chapter!

Congratulations!

Odelson, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath, Ltd. is pleased to announce that **Ross Secler** and **Lauren DaValle** have been made Partners in the firm. Ross Secler Chairs the Election and Township Committees, concentrating in those areas as well as in all aspects of local government law. He is currently Vice Chair of the Election Law Committee of the Chicago Bar Association and Past President. Lauren DaValle concentrates in litigation and local government practice. She serves as general counsel to several municipalities. Ms. DaValle is a former Assistant State's Attorney in Cook County.



A Message from our Founding Partner

We had a very successful 2nd Quarter here at OMFM, Ltd.

Congrats to **Mike McGrath** and **Rob Wilder** and the great support they had in a week-long trial before an administrative law judge on behalf of Lucky Lincoln. On to the Brief!

My pleadings were filed (thank you **Joyce** for Memorial Day at work) and arguments were held this week for our Rule 137 Petition for Sanctions & Fees in the election case we just won!

We were appointed as Adjudicators in the City of Countryside with **Denise Filan** taking lead.

We welcomed attorney, **Safaa Zarzour**, back to the firm this week. Safaa started his law career with us in 2004 until 2008. We are thrilled to have Safaa back, along with his legal assistant, **Jumana Rahman**. We have a lot more to tell you about Safaa in an upcoming special announcement!

WELCOME BACK, SAFAA!

MEET OUR TEAM!

Q: What motivates you to come to work each day?

Smitty: The people I get to work with.

Ann: The people I work with. I couldn't ask for a better group.

Q: What is your favorite quote?

Smitty: "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." - Wayne Gretzky

Ann: "We all put our pants on one leg at a time."

Q: If you could change anything about your life, what would it be?

Smitty: I would be taller.

Ann: I would have travelled more while I was young.

Q: Where is the one place you traveled to, that you would recommend to others?

Smitty: Yellowstone National Park

Ann: Ireland!

Q: Tell us a fun fact about yourself.

Smitty: I love the outdoors.

Ann: I spent the summer of 86 in the Gaeltacht of County Kerry, in Ireland with my sister. I tried to learn Gaelic while I was there.

Q: Who inspires you and why?

Smitty: Military Personnel - because of their selfless sacrifice for this country.

Ann: My Mom. No matter how busy she is in her life, she always makes time for others and never complains.

Q: If you could have a career doing something other than what you are doing, what would it be?

Smitty: In the military.

Ann: A Nurse.

Q: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Smitty: hopefully still walking the Earth!

Ann: Hopefully retired and spending my winters in Florida.



ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT

Michael "Smitty" Smith, Attorney



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Ann Lang, Assistant Office Manager



We would like to extend a massive thank you to our summer clerks, **Shane Crean & Kevin Frazier**, for all of their hard work getting the office in tip-top shape!

Shane will be returning to U of I for his sophomore year this fall. He hopes to be a lawyer one day and is soaking up every bit of his clerk experience traveling to various agencies throughout the city & suburbs as well as assisting with projects around the office.

Kevin will be starting his sophomore year at University of Central Arkansas this fall where he plays linebacker for the football team! He has been a huge asset to our front office team who have been busy closing files and reorganizing our office storage space.