

WHO'S WHO

in Commercial & Residential Real Estate Law

DAVID J. BIEHL

Garfunkel, Wild & Travis PC



David J. Biehl is a partner at Garfunkel, Wild & Travis PC in Great Neck. Biehl is also chair of the firm's real estate group and a member of the firm's finance, business and health care practice groups.

Biehl joined the firm in 1987. He specializes in real estate and corporate transactions, representing a broad range of proprietary and not-for-profit businesses, as well as individual clients.

He has extensive experience in complex real estate transactions, including commercial leasing projects, public and private financings, acquisitions, sales, construction projects and equipment acquisitions. He has acted as lead counsel in the development of numerous medical, commer-

cial and industrial buildings, continuing care retirement communities, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, diagnostic and therapeutic radiology facilities, ambulatory surgery centers, cancer centers and mixed-use facilities.

When it comes to purchasing, owning and developing commercial real property on LI, it's essential to thoroughly investigate and understand all of the applicable building requirements and limitations before going to contract, Biehl advised.

"This is not limited to simply reviewing the existing certificate of occupancy or understanding the permitted usage of a piece of property, but also extends to issues such as sewage capacity and parking requirements," he said. "While these issues may not sound especially interesting, they are vital for if you do not have sufficient capacity of either, then your ability to develop, expand and/or change the use of a piece of property can be severely restricted. This is particularly important in some of the more rural areas of Suffolk County where many properties are not serviced by a municipal sewage system."

Biehl has been involved in many situations where a landowner was required to spend considerable sums of money to either install or acquire additional parking, connect to a municipal sewer system, enlarge an existing septic system or purchase the right to connect to a private sewage treatment plant in order to develop a piece of property.

"While most real estate development firms are very familiar with

these issues, most end users (i.e., those businesses that acquire property for their own use) are not and it is necessary to retain outside consultants (lawyers, architects and engineers) to perform these functions," he said.

Biehl also has extensive experience in complex corporate transactions as well as handling routine business and personal matters. His practice also includes regulatory and tax analysis for health care providers, hospitals, nursing homes, tax-exempt organizations, physicians, and physician groups.

Biehl is a member of the American Bar Association (Health Law Section) and the NYS Bar Association (Real Property and Health Law Sections).

Biehl earned a bachelor's degree, cum laude, from SUNY Albany and a juris doctor from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, where he was a member of the Cardozo Law Review. While in law school, Biehl was a law clerk for the Hon. William C. Connor, US District Court, Southern District of NY.

Founded in 1980, Garfunkel, Wild & Travis is one of the most active health care practices in NYS. The firm also provides a host of services related to real estate, strategic planning, complex transactions, exempt and taxable financing, white collar defense, EPA/environmental issues, estate planning, elder law, litigation, tax issues, fraud and abuse, licensing, capital formation and bankruptcy. The firm employs about 140 staff members, including 70 attorneys.