

GRANT MYERS LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ENTERTAINMENT AND INTERNET LAW
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LICENSING
GENERAL PRACTICE

1528 WALNUT ST STE 702
PHILADELPHIA PA 19102
TEL. +1 215 804-9085
E-MAIL: INFO@GRANTMYERSLLC.COM

MICHELE GRANT, ESQ.
K.O. MYERS III, ESQ.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Drexel Law Graduates Win Victory for Clients on "The People's Court"

Philadelphia, PA -- 04/13/2011: Attorneys Michele Grant (Drexel Law '09) and Leo Mulvihill, Jr. ('10) counseled a small Philadelphia theatre company to a favorable verdict on the venerable *The People's Court* television show today. Their client, B. Someday Productions, Inc., of the Kensington section of Philadelphia, prevailed in a dispute over an unreturned deposit for the rental of commercial real estate.

Grant and Mulvihill serve on the Board of Directors of B. Someday, where they provide *pro bono* legal and entrepreneurial advice. "I've been on the board since early 2010," said Grant, co-principal of Grant Myers LLC, an entertainment law firm in Center City Philadelphia. "I revised the board handbook, created some corporate governance documents, and advised on legal matters at board meetings. I never expected to get involved in litigation, but I was very happy to be there when my help was needed."

"Everyone learns in kindergarten that you're not supposed to keep things that don't belong to you. That was this case in a nutshell," said Mulvihill, a solo practitioner in Fishtown. "The landlord was absolutely wrong to keep the theatre's money, and Judge Milian saw it that way, too."

B. Someday is currently seeking to expand into a larger space and identified a commercial property nearby as a potential candidate. "We've been wanting to open a larger space so that we can present our programs to a greater number of people," explained Stan Heleva, Producing Artistic Director of B. Someday. "At first glance, this property looked just right. But after a few walkthroughs and discussions with the board of directors, the board decided that it wasn't going to work for us."

"Unfortunately, we had already given the landlord a deposit. And he didn't want to return it," added Michelle Pauls, B. Someday's Managing Artistic Director.

When the building's landlord wrongfully refused to return the deposit to the theatre, Grant and Mulvihill explained the theatre's legal options to the board, which directed them to try to resolve the dispute without litigation if possible. "I sent several letters to the landlord because I wanted to resolve our dispute without resorting to the courts,"

said Mulvihill. “After months of hearing nothing and getting nowhere, the board authorized me to file suit in Philadelphia Municipal Court. After we filed, *The People’s Court* invited us to their New York City studio to have Judge Milian decide the case for us. We seized the opportunity because the show would pay us a small amount even if we lost, or the full judgment if we won. We wouldn’t have to put the theater through the hassle and expense of collecting our judgment from the landlord.”

“It was both a legal decision and an entrepreneurial decision to accept the invitation,” added Grant. “Our case was strong, so I advised that a TV appearance would be good publicity for the theatre. In fact, Michelle and Stan will be holding a fundraising viewing party in a few months, when the show airs.”

The board approved the invitation, and soon Heleva, Pauls, Mulvihill, and Grant were in court before Judge Marilyn Milian. Judge Milian peppered Heleva, Pauls, and the landlord with questions, then turned to Mulvihill. First, she praised him for his “excellent lawyer letter” -- the initial correspondence he had exchanged with the landlord -- but then she challenged him for his request for treble damages and attorney’s fees under Pennsylvania law. Although Judge Milian turned down those requests, she applauded Mulvihill for his zealous advocacy and promptly ruled for his client.

“She’s tough, but she made the right ruling,” Mulvihill said. “The facts and evidence were on our side. We’re thrilled Judge Milian saw the case our way and vindicated the theatre’s claim.”

B. Someday, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, operates the Walking Fish Theatre on the Frankford Avenue Arts Corridor in Philadelphia. The theatre’s programs include original productions, hosting for Philly Fringe shows, acting classes, and the Barrymore Award-winning “Of Mythic Proportions” program, which provides opportunities for high school students in Kensington to create theater pieces and share them with the community.

Michele Grant, Esq., is co-principal of Grant Myers LLC, the Artist’s Law Firm, a full-service law firm in Philadelphia specializing in representing creative people and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations in all legal matters.

Leo Mulvihill, Esq., “The Fishtown Lawyer,” provides high-quality, affordable legal services to members of the Philadelphia community through his neighborhood practice.

Please contact Michele Grant, Esq., at 215-804-9085 or info@GrantMyersLLC.com to be informed of the show’s airtime in Philadelphia or B. Someday’s fundraising viewing party.