



Passion. Preparation. Persistence.

THE BASSETT REPORT

FALL 2008

The Bassett Report is a quarterly report providing information about recent developments at The Bassett Firm.

- ★ **Did You Know?** The Bassett Firm provides nine courses, at no charge, that have been accredited for continuing education hours by the Texas Department of Insurance. A complete list of the courses offered by the Firm can be found on our website.
- ★ **Legal Tip!** Recently, in *Reliance Steel & Aluminum Co. v. Scvick*, the Texas Supreme Court held evidence of wealth is inadmissible in a non punitive damages lawsuit. In a punitive damages suit evidence of wealth can be excluded from evidence during the liability portion of the trial by obtaining an order bifurcating the liability and punitive damages portions of the trial. Additionally, in *SSP Partners et al v. Gladstrong Investments* the Supreme Court held that a seller of a defective product is subject to strict liability for damages the product causes, even though the defect was not the seller's fault. Generally a seller is entitled to indemnity from the manufacturer. However, a seller is not entitled to indemnity from an upstream supplier other than the manufacturer without showing that the upstream supplier was at fault.
- ★ **Welcome!** The Bassett Firm welcomes Maria Petrovich who has joined the Firm as a Legal Secretary.
- ★ **TBF Speaks** - Attorneys for The Bassett Firm have recently presented educational seminars during the following events: Texas Motor Transport Association Annual Meeting; Lorman Education Services Texas Trucking Litigation Seminar, and the Texas Independent Insurance Adjuster's Association Fall 2008 Seminar.
- ★ **Newsletter** - The Bassett Firm publishes a bi-monthly newsletter providing analysis of recent legal developments in the State of Texas. You can subscribe to the complimentary newsletter using the newsletter tab on our website.
- ★ **TBF Tries Cases!** – Some firms talk about trying cases, our lawyers actually try cases in both State and Federal Court. The Bassett Firm provides aggressive defense of all types of civil litigation including: personal injury; transportation law; employer liability; contractual disputes and construction cases.
- ★ **Can We Help?** The attorneys at The Bassett Firm would welcome the opportunity to visit with you to discuss the legal services offered by our Firm. To schedule an appointment to discuss the services offered by The Bassett Firm please contact Angie Stevenson at (214) 219-9900.