

NEWS Press Release

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PRACTICE ADVISORY EXPANDED

LawFinance Group Announces the Expansion of its Practice Advisory Board to Help Contingency Fee Firms Improve Management and Profitability

SAN FRANCISCO, September 1, 2005 -- LawFinance Group, Inc, a financial services company created by and for attorneys, announces the expansion of its Contingency Practice Advisory Board with the addition of three prominent attorneys.

Gary Paul, former President of the Consumer Attorneys Association of California and the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, will join the Lawyer Board made up of prominent trial lawyers who help identify management problems and critical financial issues facing contingency fee law firms.

Nationally renowned tax attorney and author, **Robert W. Wood**, and **Susan Sneider**, recognized law office management expert, will join the Consulting Board, which provides insight into the effective management of a contingency fee law practice in articles on related topics and as panel members in conferences, roundtable discussions and seminars.

The Contingency Practice Advisory is dedicated to improving the management of a contingency law practice and the ability of firms to maximize profits through the application of better management skills and financial understanding of their firms

“The Contingency Practice Advisory Board has received tremendous support,” said Michael Blum, CEO of LawFinance Group. “Trial attorneys seemed to recognize that a lack of business skills frequently creates significant managerial problems for them and often results in an inefficient business operation, lost opportunities and ultimately lost profits.”

With the recent additions, the LawFinance Group Lawyer Board is comprised of: **Mary Alexander**, former President, Association of Trial Lawyers of America; **Wil Colom**, former Chair, Minority Caucus, Association of Trial Lawyers of America; **Lee Goldsmith**, former President, Association of Trial Lawyers of America- New Jersey; **Russ Herman**, former President of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America; **James Sturdevant**, former President, Consumer Attorneys Association of California; and **Gary Paul**, former President, Consumer Attorneys Association of California.

At the disposal of the Lawyer Board is a Consulting Board consisting of law office consultants, law office administrators, accountants, educators, business people and business-savvy attorneys. Current members are: **Stephen M. (Pete) Peterson**, CPA, founder and Managing Director of the Law Firm Business Institute; **John G. Iezzi**, CPA, founder of the Iezzi Management Group; **Jeffrey Shachat**, Chief Credit Officer of LawFinance Group, Inc., and adjunct professor at the Haas Business School; and **Doug Levinson**, JD, MBA, founder of Business For Lawyers, and adjunct professor at USC Law School; and **Susan Sneider**, JD, founder of New Vistas Consulting; and **Robert W. Wood**, JD, tax attorney and author.

In 1994, Michael Blum and Alan Zimmerman, both attorneys, recognized the increasing financial demands being placed on trial attorneys and their clients due to the growing complexity and cost of the civil litigation process. As a result of this insight, they founded LawFinance Group, Inc. LawFinance programs provide a level of financing most banks simply cannot offer. [FirmFinance™](#) is a program providing contingency-fee law firms with large-scale financing secured by the firm's fees, costs receivables and reimbursable expenses. [CustomFinance™](#) is a special situation program designed to finance complex litigation, such as mass torts, class actions or any other unique situation. [AppealFinance®](#) offers a non-recourse investment in a portion of a money judgment on appeal. Unlike a loan, it doesn't to be repaid if the case is ultimately lost. [SettlementFinance™](#) offers short term financing of settled cases of a contingency fee law firm, where a settlement has been reached, but payment is delayed.