



December 2, 2008

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

NOTICE TO: All Active Members and Students-at-Law,
All Executive Directors of other Law Societies in Canada,
All Justices of the Court of Appeal and Court of Queen's Bench,
All Judges of the Provincial Court of Alberta,
All Masters in Chambers,
All Clerks of the Court

Notice of Disbarment

On November 28, 2008, a Resignation Committee appointed by the Benchers of the Law Society of Alberta granted the application of **Joseph P. Wachowich** to resign, pursuant to Section 61 of the *Legal Profession Act*, effective immediately. Mr. Wachowich is therefore disbarred. Mr. Wachowich resides in Edmonton and practised there until he went inactive on February 18, 2005. On March 31, 2006, he was suspended for non-payment of fees.

At the time of his resignation application, Mr. Wachowich faced a discipline hearing on thirty-six citations. The outstanding citations included the following allegations: failure to serve several clients; deceiving clients, another lawyer, the Law Society of Alberta and the courts; and failing to maintain adequate communications on files.

In his application, Mr. Wachowich admitted his failure to advance his clients' files, failure to candidly advise his clients of his inability to attend to their matters, and failure to respond to others on the files. He also admitted that he deliberately deceived his clients and the court, as alleged.

The Resignation Committee ordered that the member is required to pay the actual costs of the hearing, estimated to be \$3,423.00, within 90 days of notice of the actual amount.

R. Gregory Busch
Director, Lawyer Conduct
Law Society of Alberta