## **LEAGUE COUNSEL REPORT**

## SINGER V. ACBL

FACTS. On February 5, 2010 Irma Singer filed a lawsuit in Bergen County, New Jersey claiming that she was injured in a fall at a bridge tournament "sponsored" by the North New Jersey Bridge Association on August 15, 2008. Insurance appointed counsel has filed an Answer on the behalf of the League. The deposition of the Association representative, Gale Mirro, has been taken; the depositions of other witnesses are scheduled for July 2011, including plaintiffs and ACBL representatives. Further discovery on the League's behalf follows. The Guardian Angel Church has been added as an addition al defendant and has requested indemnification under the terms of the rental contract. The League's insurer is currently considering that request.

STATUS. The discovery phase is completed. The case has been scheduled for mandatory, non-binding arbitration on November 30, 2011. A neutral attorney informally reviews the case and makes a determination of liability and damage value. This proceeding usually develops a plaintiff's monetary demand and offer by defendants. It also frequently focuses on a potential resolution of the case and may lead to settlement discussions. Either side can reject the award (within 30 days of the award) and the case would then be listed for trial, typically in another 3 months.

Signed:

Peter Rank, Esq.

Dated: November 9, 2011