

LETTER OF INTENT FROM GIL ABRAMSON

I am a survivor. I had a major vascular stroke in December 2015, spent 19 days in the ICU at Johns Hopkins Hospital, three weeks or so at in-patient therapy at Hopkins and Sinai Hospital, and many months at outpatient therapies (PT, Speech, OT at Sinai; the low vision clinic at GBMC, and the driving rehab program at Good Samaritan Hospital). I have a 30% left side field cut due to a homonymous hemianopia which has lingered since my stroke. Despite that and because of the highly competent training I received, my driver's license was reinstated, and I have been driving since May. My neuropsychologist at Sinai has fostered my return to work, and 19 months after my stroke, I am thrilled to have returned to the practice of law.

I am an attorney specializing exclusively in management side labor and employment law for almost 50 years. Until my stroke, I worked as a partner at the Baltimore office of Jackson Lewis, where I now am a Senior Counsel. Prior to joining Jackson Lewis in 2010, I was a partner at Hogan & Hartson (now Hogan Lovells), working on employment and labor issues worldwide. I came to Baltimore in 1977 to the law firm of Semmes, Bowen and Semmes, after completing a four year tenure as Senior Counsel to the Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C.

I am an expert on the Americans with Disabilities Act in both the employment context and the public accommodation context, areas that are important for brain injured people, who need or want to get back to working, and to their families and caregivers.

My wife, Ann, and I have been involved in numerous charitable organizations, both financially and actively. For over twenty years, I have served on the Board of Trustees of Chizuk Amuno Congregation in Baltimore. I have provided pro bono support in employment matters to the Congregation and its staff, the Baltimore Jewish Community Centers (which includes the Gordon Theater), and to other charitable organizations in the Baltimore area. My wife, Ann, is a retired social worker and a current adjunct professor at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. Together, Ann and I wrote a Kinship Care Manual for the Baltimore County Department of Social Services which was circulated state-wide. The Manual was intended as a guide for kinship caregivers of children, helping them to locate and access assistance for support, health care and education for the children.

We have been active contributors to many charitable and health care organizations, including the Associated Jewish Federation of Baltimore, Johns Hopkins, and Massachusetts General Hospital. We know how to get involved.

I look forward to joining the Board and working with you.

Gil

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