

Bird Marella Achieves Dismissal of Murder Charge Against Founder of Publicly Traded Substance Abuse Detox Facilities

Bird Marella attorneys <u>Benjamin Gluck</u>, Doug Fretty, and <u>Ashley Bowman</u> successfully obtained a pre-trial dismissal of murder charges against the founder of a publicly traded company that runs substance abuse facilities.

The case, which was prominently featured in local and national media, stemmed from a resident's death at one of the company's facilities in the state. Articles of the case sent shock waves through California's ever-growing drug and alcohol rehabilitation industry, as it marked the first time in California history that murder charges were brought on such a theory of corporate liability.

On Friday, March 18, a Riverside County Judge granted Bird Marella's motion to dismiss the murder charge against their client, finding insufficient evidence to proceed to trial.