

MEMBER NEWS

57-year NYCLA member wins age discrimination case

by Allison Slotnick

For nearly six decades, Murray Schwartz, Managing Partner in Schwartz & Perry, LLP, has practiced law, the last 20 years of which he has specialized in areas of litigation related to employment discrimination. He became a NYCLA member in 1949 upon receiving his J.D. from Brooklyn Law School and now has Sustaining Member status.

Mr. Schwartz's most recent courtroom victory on June 9 was an age discrimination case in which, after less than an hour of jury deliberations, a \$2.5 million verdict was awarded to the plaintiff. Mr. Schwartz, his daughter and partner, Davida S. Perry, as well as associate Brian Heller, tried the case in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Mr. Schwartz has been integral to several landmark 'first impression' cases cited as precedent in current employment law disputes. Among the most notable of these cases is *McIntyre v. Manhattan Ford*, a sexual harassment and emotional distress case. As lead trial attorney and representative of the plaintiff, Mr. Schwartz won a \$6.6 million settlement. Although the settlement was later reduced by trial and appellate courts, it remains as one of the highest awards for sexual harassment in the U.S. For their work on this case, Mr. Schwartz, along with his daughter and the plaintiff, were honored in a 1999 ceremony organized by the New York Chapter of the National Employment Lawyers Association (NELA/NY) for "Courageous Plaintiffs Who Fought Back."

When not in the courtroom, Mr. Schwartz manages the active employment law practice of Schwartz & Perry and works with law school students as a scoring judge for the New York Regional Student Trial Advocacy Competition, as well as for New York Law School's moot court competition. In addition, his firm created a summer legal internship approximately ten years ago that accepts law students from New York City law schools and provides a hands-on approach to the practice of employment law, as well as valuable access to his extensive experience.

Mr. Schwartz received his LL.M. from the New York University School of Law and has served as a panelist at symposiums at St. John's University, the New York State Bar Association, the Practising Law Institute, the



Murray Schwartz

National Employment Lawyers Association and NYCLA. He is a member of the Lawline.com faculty and has served as a *pro se* attorney at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Additionally, Mr. Schwartz has been featured on Court TV, Fox News and CNN's *Larry King Live*. **Ms. Slotnick is the Communications Assistant at New York County Lawyers' Association.**