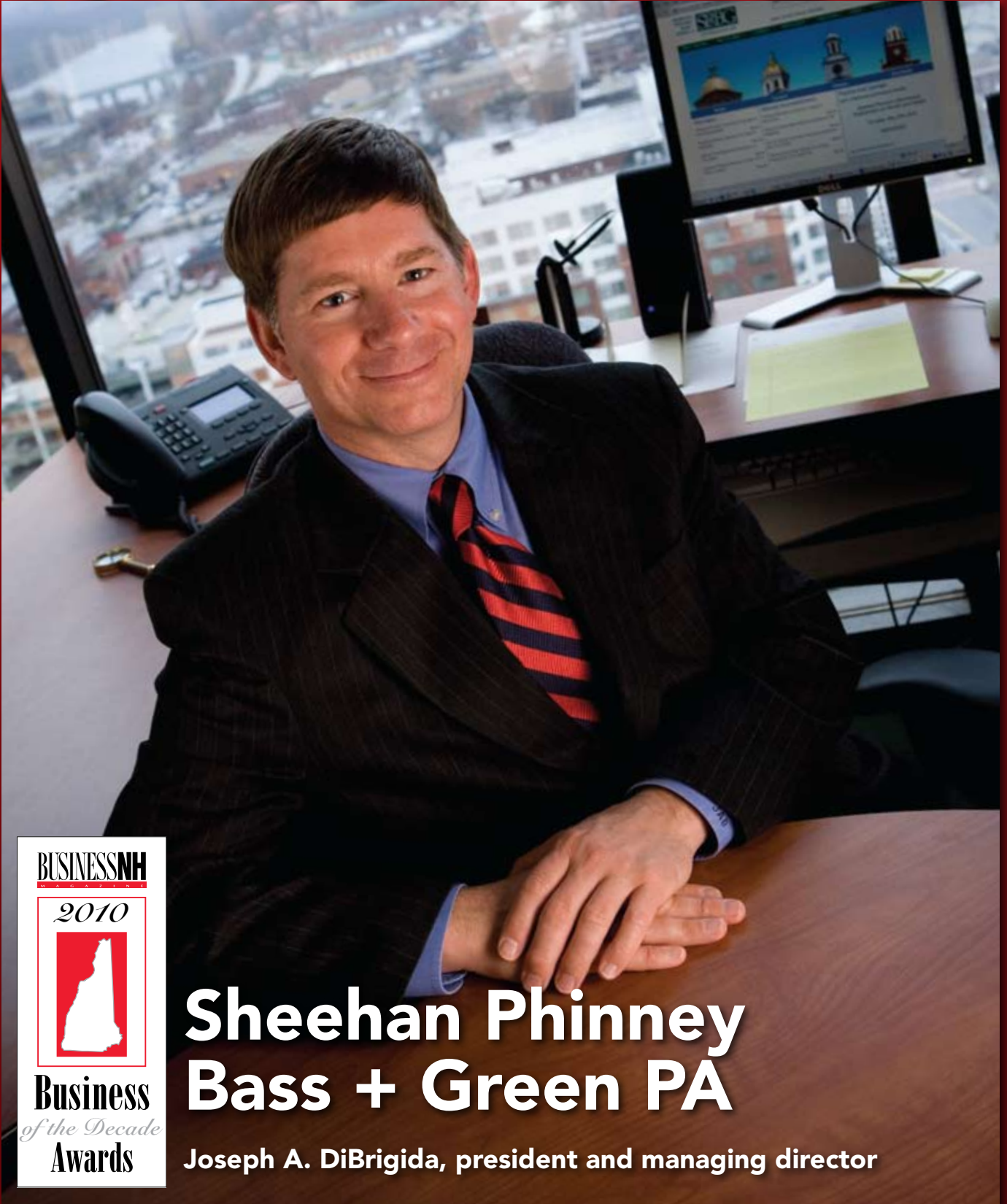




Business of the Decade



**Sheehan Phinney
Bass + Green PA**

Joseph A. DiBrigida, president and managing director

Business Services

A congressman, U.S. senator and a U.S. attorney general are but a few of the distinguished leaders who practiced law at Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green PA during its 73-year history. The firm has represented some of the biggest names in the Granite State's business community and helped to shape the state's laws. And as it extends its reach into Boston, the firm shows no signs of slowing.

Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green PA, headquartered in Manchester, has grown into one of the largest and most influential law firms in the state with 118 employees in offices in Concord and Hanover as well as in Boston, Mass. It is also affiliated with the state's largest lobbying group—Sheehan Phinney Capitol Group in Concord. The firm's attorneys, clients and cases have played important roles in shaping policy and even the state's economy. When the firm represented Nashua's Edgcomb Steel in the 1950s, it not only helped Edgcomb Steel win one of the state's largest land damages cases in NH history, but also helped to establish eminent domain rules still in place today.

Some of the biggest names in NH business have turned to the firm for its legal expertise, including Tyco Industries, Skillsoft Corporation, Texas Instruments, Canobie Lake Park Corporation, Citizens Bank, Dartmouth College, Easter Seals NH, Exeter Hospital, Hypertherm, Life is Good, Northeast Delta Dental, Southern NH University and Stonyfield Farm.

Sheehan Phinney attorneys were instrumental in bringing the Anheuser-Busch brewery to Merrimack and helped in the establishment of Waterville Valley Ski Resort in Waterville Valley. In the mid-1970s, Senior Shareholder Kimon Zachos led a team of attorneys who defended IBM against an anti-trust suit brought by Sanders Associates, now BAE Systems, of Nashua. More recently, the firm successfully represented Black Bear Micro-Roastery, a coffee company in Center Tuftonboro, against trademark infringement allegations brought by coffee goliath Starbucks. The court's decision marked one of the earliest in the country involving the Trademark Dilution Revision Act enacted by Congress in 2006.

The firm's real estate attorneys have assisted real estate developers in building more than 1,200 units of affordable housing in NH during the past decade, while its environmental attorneys have played a significant role in the groundwater clean-up operations at most of the state's Superfund sites.

Sheehan has been able to attract some of the best legal talent to its doors. Perkins Bass served four terms in Congress and Warren Rudman served two terms in the U.S. Senate. During the past decade, current shareholder Katherine Hanna served as the chief policy advisor and legal counsel for Gov. John Lynch. Former shareholder Thomas Burack is now commissioner of the NH Department of Environmental Services.

Many of its attorneys have been named among the best in their field by Chambers USA, Woodward/White and Martindale-Hubbell. Four of Sheehan's attorneys have been invited to join the American College of Lawyers. Bruce Harwood was inducted into the American College of Bankruptcy Lawyers in March, joining only two other members in NH; and Susan A. Manchester was elected in 2005 as a member of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, becoming the first woman in NH to be elected and only the second member from NH. "We've always had community and state leaders come from the firm," says Joseph A. DiBrigida, the firm's president and managing director. "The type of person we attract tends to be people who want to achieve in their chosen areas and to be a leader in the community."

Sheehan Phinney is unique in its field in many ways. The firm is also the only NH firm chosen as a member of Lex Mundi, the world's leading international association of law firms. That gives

clients the means to tap into local representation around the world. And while there has been a long history of Massachusetts law firms opening offices in NH, Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green was the first NH law firm to reverse that trend and establish a full-service law office in Boston in 2002. However, it remains firmly committed to its NH roots and continues to grow here.

Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green is also a leader in the community as well as a place where giving back is a priority. The firm is an active member of the NH Bar Association's Pro Bono program, which provides legal services to those unable to pay for them. In 2009, the firm established the Kimon S. Zachos Pro Bono Hero Award, honoring its senior attorney, a longtime pro bono supporter and honorary fellow of the NH Bar Foundation. The award is given to an attorney who makes a special contribution to the firm's pro bono endeavors. In 2008, Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green created the William S. Green Memorial Fund, in honor of a founder and long-time firm president who passed away in 2007, with an initial contribution of \$300,000. The fund provides grants to charitable, religious and educational causes consistent with Green's interests during his lifetime. The first grants in 2009 included the Makin' it Happen Coalition's Youth Leadership Program and the International Institute of NH to offer low-cost immigration legal aid.

"We want to have our priorities straight. It's been passed down, understood and honored by the next generation. It's our legacy," DiBrigida says of the firm's volunteer and charitable efforts. "We give people the autonomy to follow their own interests and give them the time to do that. We think it pays dividends for the community and for us." Among the 70 nonprofit boards and committees that the firm's attorneys serve on are Heritage United Way, Leadership NH, Southern NH University, the Business and Industry Association of NH, NeighborWorks Greater Manchester, The Music Hall, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Manchester, NH Women's Bar Association and the Currier Museum of Art.

"The firm is an important part of the New Hampshire landscape, allowing staff time to serve in many civic and political capacities, while leading efforts to establish the Manchester Airport, Leadership New Hampshire and Manchester, and serving the various chambers of commerce," says Larry J. Gammon, president and CEO of Easter Seals NH, the Education/Nonprofit Business of the Decade. "The firm has remained locally owned, gives enormous financial resources and time to our state and encourages involvement and community action as part of the expectations of its associates." ★

Business of the Year Honor Roll Business Services	
2001	Nixon Peabody LLP in Manchester
2002	Unitil Corporation in Hampton
2003	High Point Communications Group in Bow
2004	Landmark Benefits in Hampstead
2005	College Bound Movers in Amherst
2006	Lavallee/Brensinger Architects in Manchester
2007	Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green PA in Manchester
2008	McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton Professional Association in Manchester
2009	Jordan Signature Heating in Exeter