

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Levin & Perconti File Suit on Behalf of Man Run Down by Intoxicated City Worker
27-year-old seriously injured in Gold Coast accident**

CHICAGO, June 6, 2011 - Steven M. Levin and Susan L. Novosad of Levin & Perconti filed a lawsuit today in the Circuit Court of Cook County on behalf of Stephen Dewart, 27, and his wife for the injuries he sustained in a recent pedestrian accident. Dewart was one of eight people struck by Streets and Sanitation worker Dwight Washington's vehicle on May 21 at the corner of Rush and Cedar streets. Washington, 61, tested over the legal blood alcohol limit and police found an open bottle of brandy in his truck.

Dewart, who lives in Chicago and grew up in Lake Bluff, was participating in a wedding photo shoot for his wife's company when Washington lost control of the city-owned vehicle and struck Dewart and the others. "Stephen suffered several spinal fractures, a broken fibula and a broken tibia, and was hospitalized for six days. He had a rod surgically placed in his lower right leg and is presently wheelchair bound," said Levin. "He is home now, but will require a lengthy and arduous period of physical therapy and rehabilitation."

The lawsuit names Washington and the City of Chicago as defendants. The suit claims that Washington was driving under the influence of alcohol at high speeds and failed to yield to pedestrians or slow his vehicle to prevent a collision. It also claims that the City is responsible for the actions of its employees. Additionally, the lawsuit claims loss of consortium for Dewart's wife.

"Stephen was supposed to start law school last week, but had to defer his admission for a year in order to recover from his injuries," said Levin. "Unfortunately, Mr. Washington's carelessness and the City's failure to supervise its employees have severely impacted this young family's future. We hope that this lawsuit will bring them fair and reasonable compensation. We also hope that it will prompt the City to create more effective drug and alcohol screening processes for employees, especially those operating large vehicles and heavy machinery."

Levin & Perconti is a nationally renowned law firm concentrating in all types of personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home abuse and neglect, and wrongful death litigation. The lawyers at Levin & Perconti are committed to protecting and vindicating the rights of people who are injured by the negligence of others. Please contact the firm at (312) 332-2872 or visit www.levinperconti.com for more information.

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Please call 312-332-2872 to speak to Mr. Levin or to receive a copy of the complaint.