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"Conversations with the Profession" Part Three of a Three-Part Series

Series Supported by Fox Rothschild

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For the third and last "Conversations with the Profession," Drexel Law hosted Tom Kline of Kline and Specter, P.C.

Mr. Kline presented on the theme, "Something Good from Something Bad: the Real Role of the Trial Lawyer," focusing on the well-known *Hall v. SEPTA* case, which he tried in 1999. Below are selected photographs from the evening's presentation and dinner.



4:30 p.m. - (l. to rt.) - Tom Kline, Esq., Acting Dean Jennifer Rosato, and Lou Fryman, Esq. The moot court room at Drexel College of Law again set the scene for the 3rd and final 2006/07 "Conversations with the Profession."



As the "Conversation" begins: Lou Fryman, former managing partner of Fox Rothschild, the firm that sponsored "Conversations with the Profession," introduces Tom Kline, Esq., guest presenter.



Tom Kline presented on the theme, "Something Good from Something Bad: the Real Role of the Trial Lawyer." He went on to present one of his more famous cases against SEPTA vs. a young boy injured at a Philadelphia subway station.



"Hall vs. SEPTA" - a screen shot of the *Philadelphia Daily News* published on November 15, 1999 after the jury awarded to Shareif Hall a \$50 million dollar judgment for the loss of his foot on a faulty, SEPTA-owned escalator.



Tom Kline displays one of the key physical evidence presented at the trial. Though SEPTA has a cap on jury awards of \$250,000, Mr. Kline sought to fight the cap and sue for a much higher amount.



Shareif's clothing worn on the day of the accident, his torn sneaker, and faulty escalator parts were meticulously laid out during the presentation.



This is the sneaker that got caught in the faulty escalator that Shareif Hall wore on the day of his accident, showing the area of his sneaker that got caught in the escalator "comb."



Tom Kline reads from his trial notes. One SEPTA report, dated 19 days before the accident, said the Cecil B. Moore Station escalator needed repairs or it "will not be safe to operate."



Drexel Law students asked questions about the case throughout the session. SEPTA appealed the jury's verdict, and the case was eventually settled.



5:30 p.m.: "Dinner and Discussion:" - Drexel Law student Mike Lee (ctr.) asks questions about the trial before dinner begins while Acting Dean Jennifer Rosato (rt.) looks on.



Drexel Law students gather to enjoy a light supper and talk informally with Tom Kline on the second floor mezzanine.



Drexel Law student Tedeiasha Rowe (l.) and Tom Kline share conversation about the responsibilities of lawyers to society-at-large.

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3320 Market Street • Philadelphia, PA 19104 • 215.571.4815 • Email: LawAdmin@drexel.edu
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