PRESS RELEASE

United States Tax Court Judge David Laro passed away on September 21, 2018. The Court recognizes his life’s accomplishments and valuable contributions.

President George H.W. Bush appointed Judge Laro on November 2, 1992. Judge Laro dutifully continued working until his death. He expeditiously authored more than 600 opinions covering a myriad of tax issues and innovated various techniques to make the litigation process more efficient. He especially enjoyed the genuine camaraderie that he shared with his colleagues.

Judge Laro received degrees from the University of Michigan (B.A.), the University of Illinois Law School (J.D.), and New York University Law School (LL.M. Taxation). Before joining the Court, he had a diverse and distinguished career. He founded his own law firm and practiced law in a variety of settings. He had a successful business career as an Officer and Director of both Durakon Industries, Inc., and Republic Bancorp, Inc., the latter of which he co-founded. He served the public as a Regent, University of Michigan Board of Regents; Member, Michigan State Board of Education; Chairman, Michigan State Tenure Commission; Commissioner, Civil Service Commission of Flint, Michigan; Commissioner of Police for Flint, Michigan; Member, Political Leadership Program, Institute of Public Policy and Social Research; Member, Ann Arbor Art Association Board of Directors; and Member, Holocaust Foundation (Ann Arbor). He loved teaching as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law School; Instructor, National Institute for Trial Advocacy; Visiting Professor, University of San Diego Law School (both domestically and in Paris, France); and Member, National Advisory Committee for New York University Law School. He co-authored a leading treatise on business valuation and assisted in formulating the tax and other laws of various Eastern European countries.

Judge Laro was well-respected by his colleagues, the parties who appeared before him, and the many other individuals who had the good fortune of meeting him. His charm, empathy, fairness, loyalty, and humility will be missed by all.