

Lenahan & Dempsey open in Tunkhannock

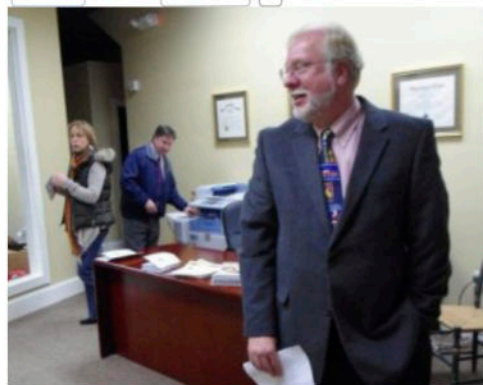
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Local attorney Tom Daniels in his new office at Penn's Corners in Tunkhannock. STAFF PHOTO/VIRGINIA CODY

BY VIRGINIA CODY

Wyoming County Press Examiner

Lenahan & Dempsey, the personal injury attorneys featured on various TV commercials, pride themselves on multi-million dollar settlements.

One look at its website, and you'll see "Lenahan & Dempsey negotiates \$2.5 million..." "...wins \$1,200,000 jury verdict," ".....settles case for \$1,460,000..."

No doubt about it, the firm is high powered, and very successful.

And now, adding to its numerous locations in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and Stroudsburg as well as Bradford and Sullivan Counties, the company has opened a new office on the corner of Tioga and Bridge Streets in what has been long known as Penn's Corners.

Attorney Tom Daniels, a Tunkhannock native, is the firm's only local attorney.

But, Daniels said, the firm will also be opening an office in Montrose in the near future.

Why Tunkhannock was chosen as the site for a new personal injury legal firm could be summed up in the message seen on the billboards the company's hired: "Injured by a big truck?"

The increased truck traffic throughout the county, Daniels said, makes it inevitable there will be accidents.

"I'm afraid it will be a big thing," he said.

"We do workman's comp, commercial real estate, business law."

In addition, he said, the firm is able to apply its skills to mineral rights leasing.

And, he said, people who are suddenly finding themselves in an economic position never before experienced need to start thinking about estate planning.

"They need legal advice on how to protect those assets," Daniels said.

Daniels has been working for Lenahan & Dempsey for 15 years, having come to the firm from a position he held in New York. He is thrilled to have been able to "come home."

"It was a perfect opportunity," he said, but then laughed over the fact that right after his return to his roots he found himself flooded by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

The decision to actually open the Tunkhannock office was a customer-oriented decision, he explained.

"Scranton was always the focal point," he said explaining that clients had been coming to the firm's Scranton office for quite a while.

But the client base started increasing.

Ever since the firm opened its Tunkhannock office on Oct. 1, Daniels has been seeing more and more walk-ins.

"So now we come to them instead. It's more convenient for our clients."

Lenahan & Dempsey, he said, is a family firm made up of nine lawyers from the two families plus a number of other attorneys.

"Because we're a family firm, and I'm not from either family, we have a good sense of community," he said. "We try to be proactive in the community. We were one of the sponsors of Christmas in our Hometown. And we gave out 1,900 backpack buddies to children in the community around Halloween."

Backpack buddies are small disc shaped lights attached to a backpack.

"Those are really good things for children who are standing at a bus stop in the mornings when it's dark outside," he said.

Additionally, he said, because he is actually from the local area, he's able to continue with one of his own community efforts, the local Boy Scouts.

The only type of law Daniels said he does not get involved in is domestic casework.

"But being from town, I can easily refer people to attorneys I know will be able to handle their cases," Daniels said.