



U. S. Department of Justice

Tax Division

Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

February 1, 2005

To: Members of the Tax Division

It is with great sorrow that I bring you the sad news of the death of Mark Stier. Mark passed away early yesterday morning. He had been ill with cancer.

Mark has been a member of the Tax Division since he joined the Civil Trial Section for the Southern Region in August of 1988. He quickly proved to be a fine attorney and a skilled litigator. His docket in the Southern District of Florida required him to balance a high volume of cases with cases of extreme complexity. During his 16 years with the Division, Mark ably handled a large number of cases, including cases of first impression and great difficulty.

Last October, at the Tax Division Awards Ceremony, I had the privilege of presenting Mark the Sustained High-Level Performance Award he had earned for his determined and successful efforts in a number of difficult and sensitive cases.

His colleagues greatly admired Mark's dedication to his work, his integrity, and his unfailing good humor and warmth toward his colleagues. Mark's death is great loss to the Tax Division and to all who knew him.

Mark is survived by his devoted wife Cindy, also a Trial Attorney in the Southern Trial Section, and two sons, Andrew, age 11, and Brendan, age 10. Please include them in your thoughts and prayers.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lee O'Connor".