1. Lots of interesting material from the Supreme Court. First, the court denied certiorari in the case of Havlak vs the Village of Twin Oaks. Twin Oaks had imposed a license fee for commercial photographers to use its photogenic park. IMLA filed an amicus brief at the 8th Circuit supporting the city and we’re gratified that the 8th Circuit’s ruling will stand finding no fault with the city’s registration requirement under the First Amendment.

2. Also, yesterday the Supreme Court concluded that the Sixth Circuit ignored its direction in interpreting collective bargaining agreements and reversed that court’s decision in a matter involving retiree health benefits and vesting. The Sixth Circuit had a history of finding that benefits vest for life regardless of the terms of a collective bargaining agreement which three terms ago the court struck down. In this case the Circuit tried to use that same concept to find an agreement ambiguous and the SCT in summary reversal said it was again wrong.

   https://www.supremecourt.gov/orders/courtorders/022018zor_fd9g.pdf

3. The Seattle Times reports on the effect of Transportation Network Providers on congestion. The paper notes a study from New York and quotes a professor from University of Washington that seem to conclude that these services increase congestion in the more densely packed neighborhoods. More importantly the transportation planning folks would like more granular data so that they can better plan for traffic but Uber and Lyft seem resistant.


4. Probably the most renowned Supreme Court advocate who is now practicing, Paul Clement and scotusblog founder Tom Goldstein will be participating in a program at our Seminar designed to enable lawyers to understand how to frame a petition for certiorari and a response to a petition and how to prepare for and give an oral argument.

   http://imla.org/events/seminars#AP

5. The Rhode Island Supreme Court sided with the city when revoking a firefighter’s disability pension when he was caught on video lifting weights. A lower court had restored the award. A local news station had captured film of the disabled firefighter vigorously exercising in an expose it broadcast. Congratulations to IMLA Board Member, Jeff Dana, City Solicitor and Deputy City Solicitor Ken Chiavarini for a great win.

Don’t forget our Seminar in DC provides a great opportunity to learn and gain CLE credits while you do. The seminar and hotel are filling up quickly and could sell out, so don’t wait to register. Make sure you consider registering for our Supreme Court practice track. Get more from IMLA by joining. Not a member? Contact us. Sign up at www.imla.org. Have a great day and make it an inspirational one.