

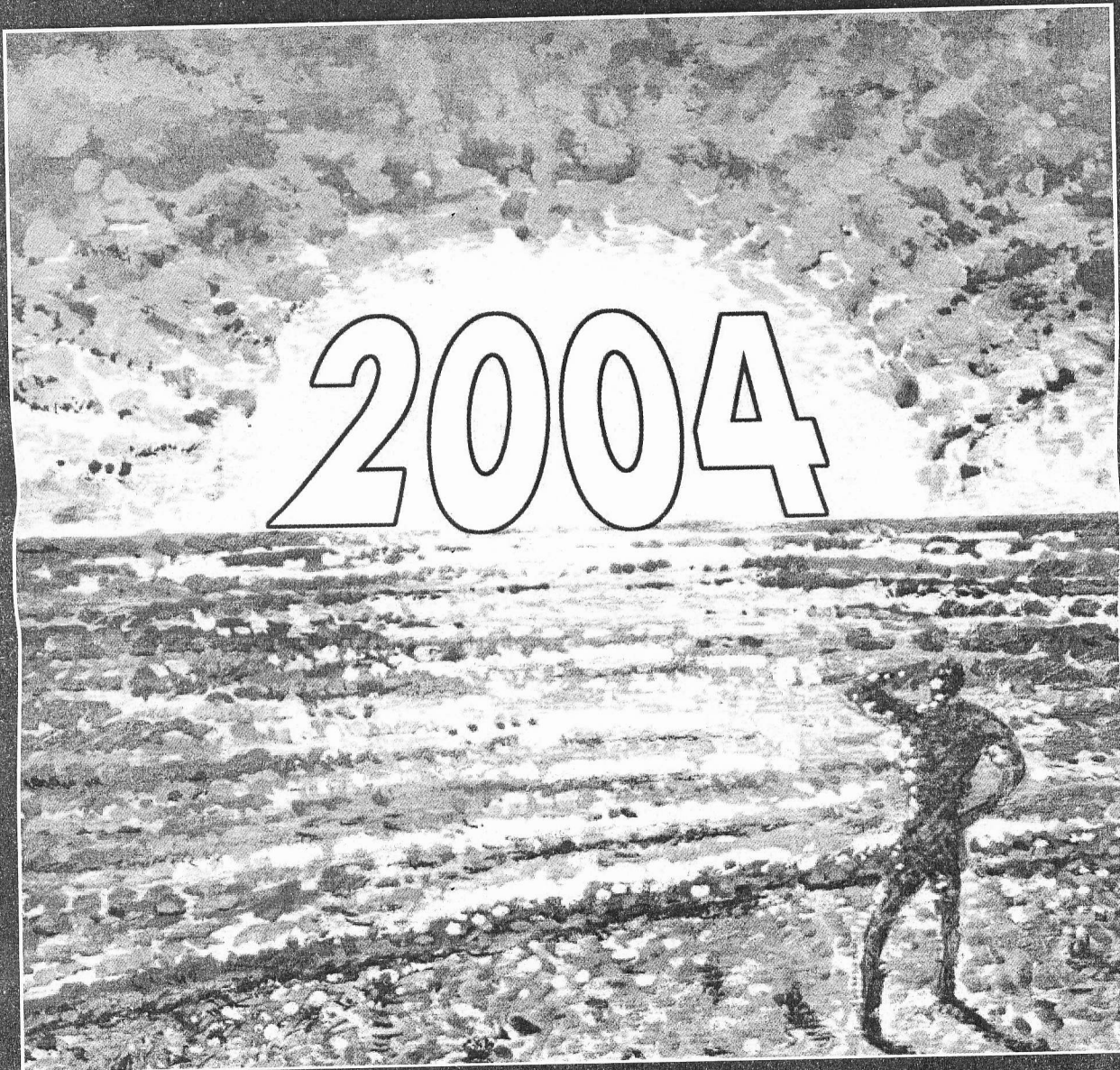
LegalTimes

LAW AND LOBBYING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

DECEMBER 20, 2004

ALM

Inadmissible: Year-end bonuses for first- and second-year associates working in some of D.C.'s largest offices approach \$40,000. **Page 3**



Year in Review

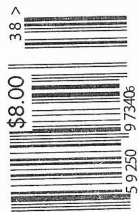
A Special Report, Page 29

Who Would Have Gussed?

From Supreme Court rulings to contracting scandals, military detention to civil litigation, copyright bills to the presidential election, 12 legal thinkers discuss the year's most surprising developments. Points of View, **Page 66**

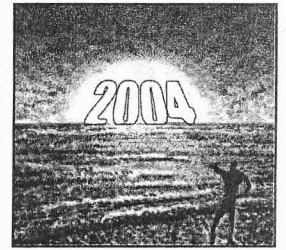


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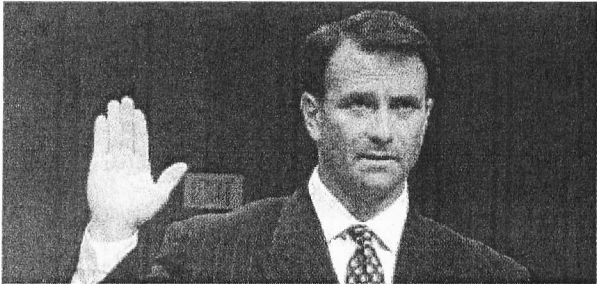
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It Was Not Their Year



Year in Review 2004

Investigated. Attacked. Defeated. Jailed. The players who'd like to forget 2004.



JACK ABRAMOFF. See Jack rake in millions in fees from Native American tribes. See Jack exchange e-mail messages with his cronies, calling clients "idiots" and "troglodytes." See Jack's high-profile lobbying career nose-dive into a swamp of Senate and criminal investigations.

OHIO. Media swarmed. Lawyers braced for a fight. But the Buckeye State didn't budge for the Big Story. Bush beat Kerry in Ohio by 118,775 votes—and with the victory won the presidency.

RIGGS BANK INSIDERS. Fulbright & Jaworski chair Steven Pfeiffer and Wilkes Artis' Charles Camelier face a RICO suit with other board members in the Pinochet money-laundering mess, and General Counsel Joseph Cahill was demoted. Are criminal charges next?



ELENA SASSOWER. First, the judicial watchdog got into trouble for causing a ruckus at a Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing. Then, while representing herself at a week-long jury trial over the incident, she appeared to frustrate everyone involved in the case, particularly the judge. Now, she's serving a six-month jail term.

THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN D.C. Federal prosecutors are still trying to clean up the mess created by then-Assistant U.S. Attorney G. Paul Howes more than a decade ago. Convictions were challenged and sentencing deals were made after the public release of an internal Justice Department report detailing Howes' misconduct in the 1992 Newton Street drug case.



JOHN EDWARDS. Why is this guy still smiling? The Grin Reaper scythed the sunny senator's presidential bid and denied him a stint as vice president. Now he'll just have settle for being rich and good looking.



AIR FORCE LAWYERS. Talk about turbulence. The judge advocate general was demoted for inappropriate sexual relationships, and GC Mary Walker's reputation was blemished by her role in contracting scandals and controversial interrogation policies.

THE FEDERAL COURTS. The budget picture may be slightly brighter these days, but with 1,300 jobs lost over the last two years, the judiciary is still coping with fallout from underfunding.

THE FDA: Outcry over the drug approval process. Nasty-grams from senators and consumer groups over cozy relationships between regulators and the industries it oversees. Failures to warn about the risks of teens using antidepressants. It's enough to give an agency a bad case of heartburn.

DUCKS: Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and Vice President Dick Cheney seem to enjoy hitting the duck blinds for a little gun-toting R&R. But the birds weren't the only ones feeling blasted. In March, Scalia issued an angry 21-page memo refusing to recuse from a case involving Cheney after questions were raised about a hunting trip the two took to Louisiana.

ARLEN SPECTER. It's not easy being an old-school Republican these days. Just ask the senior senator from Pennsylvania. After suggesting that Bush judicial nominees might have a tough time if they oppose *Roe v. Wade*, Specter lost his last remaining shred of support from GOP conservatives.

