

American Iris Society

Fall 2019 Report of General Counsel

AIS Group Tax Exemption. There have been no recent applications from affiliates for inclusion in the AIS group tax exemption. Usually I have two or three to report, but there have been none this fall.

I have been working with Jill Bonino and Lori Galetti to try and recoup money paid to Natale & Sons as a deposit for award medals. When the prototype came back different than what was ordered, the order was cancelled and Natale & Sons refused to refund any of the deposit. Before deciding whether to file suit in Rhode Island where Natale & Sons is located, I suggested that Jill attempt to get a chargeback first. We are in the midst of that process.

Finally, this is my last report as general counsel. I first took the position in 2013 and have been fortunate enough to work with many, many people who are devoted to the iris. I have also learned a great deal about the intersection of horticulture and the law! Thank you for the opportunity to work with such a fabulous organization.

Dale Strauss, an attorney with Stubbeman, McRae, Sealy, Laughlin & Browder, Inc., in Midland Texas will be assuming all the responsibilities and opportunities of the general counsel position. Dale is very knowledgeable about both the iris and the law, and I am confident the Board is in good hands. <http://www.stubbeman.com/About/Dale-Strauss.shtml>