

## Six Months of Solo Musings



Recently, I looked up at the calendar and it hit me. . . I've <u>been solo</u> for a bit over 6 months now. Now that I'm six months in, and <u>have 2010</u> <u>behind me</u>, I thought I'd share a few observations and thoughts.

First, and most importantly, the doors are still open and I've hit my rhythm. Many of the jitters that accompanied my <u>first month of solo practice</u> are gone. My systems are in place and I no

longer spend the time I used to figuring out the logistics of running my firm. With the help and advice of many, including, of course, my wonderful wife, the practice is growing and flourishing.

I am learning how to better use technology and the various computer and net related resources without which my practice would be much harder. Among the tools that help me immensely are <a href="Clio">Clio</a>, <a href="Dropbox">Dropbox</a>, <a href="Wordpress">Wordpress</a> and <a href="Adobe Acrobat">Adobe Acrobat</a>. All of these tools allow me to make my practice relatively portable and to keep me accessible and flexible in helping out my construction clients. Without this technology and the use of the "cloud" my practice would be less tenable and more staff would be necessary. Thanks to some of this technology, I can practice lean and mean while maintaining a high level of service.

Of course, I am still a huge supporter of face to face marketing and relationships. Business and relationship development have taken a large role in my new practice. Surprisingly to me, business development has been somewhat easier now that I'm deciding what to do and when. I have found that in many ways I relate to my clients as business owners in a way that I hadn't before. I think that this has helped me come up with practical advice for them as both contractors and business men.

In short, I feel even better now than when I made the jump. The ride has been a great one and I have confidence that I can overcome any further challenges that solo practice throws my way.

Thank you to all of my friends, colleagues, and family members who have supported <u>The</u> Law Office of Christopher G. Hill, PC and me personally. Without your support and

encouragement, both <u>publicly</u> and privately, the last 6 months would not have been half as interesting and fulfilling.

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Please check out my <u>Construction Law Musings Blog</u> for more on Virginia construction law and other topics.