

# Goldman & Braunstein, LLP

Protecting the rights of property owners throughout Ohio

## Attorneys Who Stand By You, All the Way to the VERY End



*"These guys were so overwhelmingly impressive by how far they were willing to go to help me. They restored my faith in lawyers."*

- Charles Wyandt, farmer

### Our Client

Charles Wyandt already had one pipeline on his 112-acre farm in Huron County. So when Sunoco wanted to lay its own pipeline along the same route, the company tried to utilize a right-of-way agreement dating back to 1942. Wyandt suspected that old agreement was long since "served and satisfied." But he also realized, whether he liked it or not, that the Sunoco pipeline was on its way. After listening to William Goldman and Michael Braunstein speak at a concerned landowners' meeting, Wyandt was confident he had found the representation he needed to ensure he was treated fairly.

"Initially you think 'yea, yea, yea, here's another lawyer.' But Mr. Braunstein explained that he does this work because he likes it. Every morning he gets up and knows he's doing the right thing by landowners. I thought to myself, 'Now here are the people to represent us. It's not just about the money.'"

### The Threat

Sunoco's line would run through a 55-acre premium field on Wyandt's farm, land that consistently grows 250 bushels of corn per acre. Wyandt knew the line was "forever," so not only did he want fair compensation, it was critical the acreage be fully restored.

For one year Wyandt talked with Sunoco's landsman, trying to negotiate an agreement, but "he just wouldn't listen." Wyandt knew the deal being offered wasn't a good one. And he didn't like Sunoco's tactics. "These guys intimidate elderly landowners. Sunoco's representative told me the company would just use eminent domain to lay the pipeline and there would be nothing I could do about it. It was very frustrating."

### How We Helped

At the initial landowners' meeting, Wyandt remembers Goldman & Braunstein talking about how they work, and the way they follow through, all the way through. But he never imagined he would need his attorneys' help for two years, long after the pipeline had been constructed. But that's exactly what happened.

There were problems up and down the line during the installation. Then more issues a year later with Wyandt's field tile. With every complication, Wyandt called Goldman & Braunstein. They were there to battle it out, to ensure the work was eventually done right.

"They stayed with me all the way, right up to as recently as two months ago. This is months and months after they had been paid. "

### The Results

The settlement Goldman & Braunstein negotiated was substantially greater than the original settlement Sunoco first offered, and included a newly amended easement agreement more palpable to Wyandt. Most importantly, Goldman & Braunstein stood by Wyandt every step of the way, just as they had promised, to ensure his land was properly restored.

*"Goldman & Braunstein made Sunoco stand up and take responsibility. These attorneys did everything they said they would do and followed through right up to the end. I am 100% pleased with how they handled this."*