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Law Bulletin photo by Paul McGrath

Banner & Witcoff managing partner Marc S. Copperman, the Wizard of Oz, celebrated Halloween at the firm Wednesday with his family: wife Chris Cooperman (from left); sons Lucas, Kaleb, and Sam; and daughter Abigail.

Prospect of tasty treats entices costumed kids

By ADAM W. LASKER

Law Bulletin staff writer

The Wizard of Oz had control Wednesday of a Chicago law firm, where a young Harry Potter was also seen walking the halls.

Officials at Banner & Witcoff called Batman & Robin, but only the sidekick could make it. A member of the S.W.A.T. Team arrived to rescue lawyers hiding behind their desks, but the six-year-old in riot gear was of little help — he was too distracted by the bowls full of candy.

Banner & Witcoff, an intellectual-property “boo-tique” with about 30 attorneys in its downtown office, hosted an afternoon of Halloween fun on Wednesday for children of lawyers and staff.

“Outside life has always been important to the members of our firm, and we thought that bringing families in for Halloween was a good idea,” said Marc S. Cooperman, the firm’s managing attorney.

Dressed as the Wizard of Oz, Cooperman brought his four children to the office: Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man and Lion. Those roles were played by Abigail, 4, Kaleb, 8, Lucas, 4, and Sam, 19 months, respectively.

Cooperman’s wife, Chris, completed the family theme

dressed as Glenda, the good witch.

“It looks like everyone’s having a good time,” Cooperman said.

Some lawyers remained at their desks trying to work as about 30 kids rambled down the halls and stopped at each office to “trick-or-treat.” One lawyer improvised a way to offer treats in his open doorway without having to get up from his work.

“Those are boxes of production documents for litigation,” attorney Jason S. Shull said from his chair. “They make a pretty good table for my candy.”

Legal assistant Monique Chan brought her son Cedrick, 6, who was a stunning resemblance of Harry Potter.

“This is a lot of fun,” Cedrick said.

Shannon Salamone, also a legal assistant, brought her sons Daniel, the S.W.A.T. Team member, and Anthony, 2½, who was dressed as a little devil.

Kim J. Mininni, an office administrator, coordinated the day’s activities, which included games, music and arts and crafts for the kids. She brought her son Ian, 2, who was dressed up as Robin.

“His brother is Batman, but he’s on a field trip so he couldn’t make it,” Mininni said.