

The BOYK BULLETIN

One Year After Terrible Accident, Woman Works to Regain Independence



Mary Meyer

Here at Boyk Law, we do what we do because we cannot stand the injustice of another person's carelessness taking away someone's independence and dignity. That is exactly why we are fighting for Mary Meyer – a wonderful woman whose son reached out to us after Mary was badly injured in a medical transport vehicle.

Before January 2018, Mary Meyer was an incredibly active resident in her nursing home community. She was always cheerful, talking and joking with her nurses and friends. She played Bingo and operated a little craft table where she proudly sold things she had made to other residents. Though wheelchair bound, Mary was always very involved and social, participating in community events and acting as a patient-staff liaison. She never missed a meeting or a chance to run her gift cart, and her life was filled with joy and purpose.

Mary is not the same person today that she was a year ago. On January 5, 2018, a medical transport service took Mary to her dialysis appointment in Toledo. When the driver put her back in the vehicle to take her back home, he failed to secure Mary and her wheelchair. In highway traffic on I-475, the driver suddenly slammed on his brakes. Because she was not re-

strained, Mary and her wheelchair flew forward in the vehicle. She fell from her chair and rolled forward, her head striking the floor before she finally came to rest with her head beneath the driver's seat. Instantly, she was in excruciating pain.

When Mary's son saw his phone ringing that day, he assumed it was his mom. After all, the call was coming from her number. Who else would it be? But when he answered, there was a highway patrolman on the other end telling him his mom had been hurt. When he got to her side, a fireman was holding Mary's visibly twisted and broken left ankle in both his hands.

Because Mary was not secured by the person who she trusted to keep her safe on her way home, she broke both her ankles and one of her knees. She endured horrible, day-long pain for months, and her recovery is still ongoing. Even now, Mary still has pain in her ankles every day. Over time, enduring the constant pain has taken a serious toll on Mary's life. She is no longer independent or happy the way she once was. The pain keeps her in bed all day and she lost the ability and will to participate in the activities that gave her so much joy over the years. She is also afraid and anxious every single time she enters a medical transport vehicle for the dialysis she needs to live. Before the accident, Mary had a dynamic personality, a strong will to enjoy life, and an active lifestyle filled with socialization and hobbies. That was all taken from her when someone slammed on his brakes without making sure Mary was safe. At times in the past year, Mary has felt like giving up.

Luckily, Mary has a loving, supportive family on her side, caring staff members at her



nursing home, and a strong legal team fighting in her corner. The team here at Boyk Law is actively pursuing Mary's case and recently filed suit in the Lucas County Common Pleas Court on her behalf. "This was a completely senseless error that ruined a kind, dynamic woman's quality of life," says Attorney Katie Harris, one of Mary's lawyers. "When someone else's mistake takes away our clients' independence and personal dignity, we know we can never replace what they've lost. What we can do is make sure we fight with everything we have to get justice for them, and that's exactly what we are doing for Mary."

Boyk Law is happy to be fighting on Mary's side, and we hope her story motivates medical transport companies to double-check their safety standards and procedures so that what happened to Mary will not happen to anyone else.

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ATTORNEYS

Charles Boyk, Michael Bruno, Katie Harris,
Wesley Merillat, & Leah Michael

WE HAVE 6 OFFICES TO SERVE YOU

DOWNTOWN TOLEDO

405 Madison Avenue, Suite 1200
Toledo, Ohio 43604
(419) 241-1395 Main
(800) 637-8170 Toll-free
(419) 241-8731 Fax

SWANTON

10725 Airport Highway
Swanton, Ohio 43558

FREMONT

The Old Armory
1005 E. State St.
Fremont, Ohio 43420

FINDLAY

612 S. Main Street
Suite 107
Findlay, Ohio 45840

WEST UNITY

123 E. Jackson Street
West Unity, Ohio 43570

BOWLING GREEN

121 E. Wooster Street
Suite 255
Bowling Green, Ohio
43402

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Michael A. Bruno, Super Lawyer!



Our very own, Michael A. Bruno has been named a Super Lawyer for the 4th year in a row. Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high-degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Super Lawyers

selects attorneys using a patented multiphase selection process. Peer nominations and evaluations are combined with independent research. Each candidate is evaluated on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Selections are made on an annual, state-by-state basis. Mike has been awarded with this Super Lawyer distinction for 2007, 2016-2019.

After graduating from The University of Toledo Law School in 1983, Mike became employed as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the adult felony division of the Lucas County Prosecutor's office. From 1983 to 1989, Mike prosecuted hundreds of cases including two death penalty murder trials. Since 1989, Mike has almost exclusively handled personal injury and insurance matters. All told, he has tried more than 100 jury trials throughout northwest Ohio, including a recovery of \$1.25 million against a trucking company for a client seriously injured at a truck stop.

Mike is a member of the Toledo Bar Association and the Ohio Association for Justice. He has attained Board Certification as a Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy.

Mike and his wife live in Sylvania, Ohio, and have three sons and two grandsons. He is also President of the Torch Club and very involved with the Boy Scouts of America.

Congratulations Mike, we are very proud of you and all of your accomplishments!

RECIPE: Margaret Weiss' Banana-Nut Bread

Before working at Boyk Law, I used to take care of the elderly at an assisted living home where I had the pleasure of knowing then-96-year-old Margaret Weiss. Her passion in life was to entertain and make the most delicious food for people. She told me that she would make near 100 loaves of her famous Banana Nut Bread at a time for her church bake sales and other social gatherings. It was her dream come true when she published her cook book. This recipe is the best Banana Nut Bread you will ever eat. I still think about her glowing kindness for others every time I make it. – Lisa Blackburn, paralegal

INGREDIENTS

- ½ C. Cooking Oil
- 1 C. Sugar
- 2 Eggs, Beaten
- 3 Ripe Bananas, Mashed
- 2 C. Flour
- 1 tsp. Baking Soda
- ½ tsp Baking Powder
- ½ tsp. Salt
- 3 tbsp. Milk
- ½ tsp. Vanilla Extract
- ½ C. Chopped Nuts

DIRECTIONS

Beat oil and sugar together. Add eggs and banana pulp and beat well. Add sifted dry ingredients, milk, and vanilla. Mix well and stir in nuts. Pour into greased and floured loaf pan (9x5x3), bake for about one hour at 350 degrees. Cook well and store overnight before cutting. Makes 1 loaf. Good with cream cheese for tea sandwiches.



Accident Tip #446 – Listen To What Your Body Is Telling You



If you have been in a car crash or suffered an on-the-job injury, and are feeling something, listen to what your body is telling you. Whether the symptom is pain, dizziness or a general feeling of something wrong, you need to get it checked out and the clock is ticking. Go to the ER, Urgent Care or to an existing provider who will see you immediately.

I know full well that it is an inconvenience and we all lead busy lives. But a delay or a failure to get an early baseline exam may cost you money or even the ability to collect if the delay is unreasonably long.

Not too long ago I received a Monday morning call from a crash victim who was hit on a Friday and suffered with a headache all weekend. I told him to go to the ER ASAP. Good thing he did. A CT revealed a brain bleed and he was sent by ambulance to another hospital for surgery. He lived and later enjoyed a good settlement.

So, listen to your body. Your health and financial well-being depend on it.

Bone Cement Is Suspected Cause In Early Total Knee Replacement Failures



Patients suffering from chronic joint pain due to arthritis often opt to undergo a total knee replacement surgery. In this procedure, the orthopedic surgeon will replace the damaged joint surfaces with artificial components. These components must adhere to the patient's natural bone. Adhesion is often obtained by using a surgical cement. One particular cement surgeons often turn to is known as high-viscosity cement (HVC). HVC offers a shorter mixing/waiting time and a longer hardening phase. However, there is increasing evidence that the bond that HVC produces is weaker than other cements and results in more early failures. Our firm is currently investigating early failures of total knee replacements. Please contact us for a free case evaluation.

JULIA HABEGGER CROWNED 2019 MISS POINT PLACE/SHORELAND



Julia is involved in many clubs and activities at her high school, and she enjoys volunteering at shelters and in the community. The Point Place/Shoreland community means a great deal to Julia. She especially enjoys its unique activities like the Point Place Parade, which gives citizens a chance to come out and celebrate the reasons they are proud of their hometown. Above all, Julia loves how close the community is, and how the people of Point Place/Shoreland look out for each other no matter their differences.

The Miss Point Place/Shoreland contest was sponsored by the League of Extraordinary Gratitude and Service (LEGS). After submitting written answers to questions, writing an essay, and completing interviews with several judges, Julia was selected as the winner from three finalists. She was crowned on December 1 at the annual Christmas in Point Place/Shoreland festivities, where she was congratulated by Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz and Toledo District 6 Councilman Chris Delaney.

Boyk Law is excited to announce that one of its very own team members, Julia Habegger, was crowned Miss Point Place/Shoreland for 2019!

Julia was born and raised in the Point Place/Shoreland community. She is a fifth-generation member of the community and is incredibly close to her large family of lifelong Point Place/Shoreland residents. One of those family members is her grandmother – Boyk Law's extraordinary workers' compensation paralegal Cynthia Walborn, who celebrated 10 years with the firm in 2018.

Julia has always dreamed of being a role model for younger generations. She hopes to inspire young people to choose the right path by showing them that people have an enormous opportunity to be successful if they set ambitious goals and believe in themselves. Throughout 2019, Julia will proudly represent the Point Place/Shoreland community at local events. She is honored to have a leadership role in the community she loves, and the Boyk Law family is proud to see her out doing so much good in the world. Congratulations, Julia!

CASES OF INTEREST: JANUARY 2019

Man Struck and Run Over by Business Owner

Our firm is representing a 53 year old man for serious injuries he suffered when a business owner ran him over. Our client arrived for a scheduled appointment at a home-based dog grooming business. While our client was in the process of getting his dog out of his vehicle, the dog groomer's husband backed his car up into our client and ran him over. While the dog was able to escape injury, our client was not so fortunate. He was transported to Fulton County Hospital where he was diagnosed with a fractured leg and torn cartilage in his knee. He is facing an extensive recovery with possible surgery.

Widower Hit & Injured by Distracted Driver

Our client, a 75 year old widower, was on his way back from visiting his wife's gravesite when he was violently rear-ended by a uninsured motorist while stopped at a red light. Our client regained consciousness in the hospital, having no idea where he was or what had happened. He suffered 9 fractured vertebrae, fractured ribs, facial lacerations, and a traumatic brain injury. It is suspected that the at-fault, uninsured driver, was texting or otherwise distracted at the time of the collision.

Pedestrian Run Over at Hollywood Casino

A 52 year old woman was in the parking lot of the Hollywood Casino when a driver backed into her and ran her over. The driver of the vehicle seemed oblivious she had hit anyone and continued to back over the woman – until she was finally stopped by another pedestrian. Our client was transported to the hospital with a traumatic head injury, along with hip, spine, knee, arm, and leg injuries.



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 Charles E. Boyk

 charlesboyklaw

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Charles E. Boyk
Law Offices, LLC
405 Madison Avenue, Suite 1200
Toledo, Ohio 43604
Phone: (419) 241-1395
Toll-Free: (800) 637-8170
Fax: (419) 241-8731

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January's Raving Fan of the Month

Boyk Law was very assertive, helpful, and professional.

- Skyler S.



New address or phone number?

Help us stay current by letting us know!

Call Sarah Sharpe at (419) 241-1395

or e-mail her at

marketing@charlesboyk-law.com

Boyk's Shelter Pet Project

Tis the season for giving

Help Save Them All this Holiday Season

Lucas County Canine Care and Control and Boyk Law have formed a unique partnership to spotlight a Boyk's favorite shelter dog each month and raise awareness for the hundreds of homeless dogs in Lucas County.

Every month Boyk Law will feature our chosen favorite special shelter dog and will share all about him or her! We will capture our audience's heart by sharing sweet photos and sharing our firm volunteers' experiences spending quality time with these canines and getting to know our favorite.

We are super excited for this partnership and look forward to all these dogs making special appearances in our upcoming newsletters.

