

The **BOYK** BULLETIN

CHARLES E. BOYK
LAW OFFICES, LLC

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Ann Arbor Volunteer Group Helping Homeless Turn A HouseN2Home



"HouseN2Home was founded with the idea that anyone exiting homelessness deserves to have a safe, warm, and inviting home. So, we gathered together as volunteers to provide

furnishings to families and individuals transitioning out of local shelters." Says Ruth Ann Logue, co-founder of the organization.

"The idea for HouseN2Home was born in 2017, when a local single mother that we knew, found herself homeless and in a shelter with her three kids." They were able to help find her housing, but quickly realized she needed so much more than a roof over her head to have a comfortable home," said Logue. A group of her friends including Ginger Raymond, Liz Gadway, and Peggy Farrell joined together to help. They gathered gently used furniture and household items from their own homes and purchased other items to help establish the young woman establish hers.

Inspired by that experience the friends developed a shared mission to help others as a new organization called HouseN2Home. "Our goal was to provide beautiful homes for people coming out of a shelter. So that it was filled with everything they could possibly need. We were going to be that group who helped give them a fresh start," says Peggy Farrell, one of the co-founders and treasurer of HouseN2Home.

The group expanded to include about a dozen friends of friends and grew quickly from there.

They moved 32 clients in 2019, and the following year during the depths of the covid lockdown, they furnished 131 homes. By the end of 2021, that number almost doubled again.

They initially stored items in basements and garages, but the need of the community and the number of donations quickly overwhelmed that method. They were granted storage space in the former memory care unit of Ann Arbor's St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. What initially started as a couple of rooms, soon expanded to the entire unit. Donations of furniture and household items like dishes, silverware, and other kitchen items, fill one of the many rooms. Others contain, bedding, pillow, toys, art or electronics, and space for repairing and refinishing furniture that may need a little love.

Chuck Boyk's family got involved with the organization through his daughter Emily, a 3rd-year law student. "She was working as a Student Attorney at the University of Michigan's Child Advocacy Law Clinic, helping a formerly homeless client to regain custody of her children from foster care." Says Chuck. "HouseN2Home furnished her new home and our entire family helped with the move." Afterward, Emily Boyk showed photos of the furnished apartment at a hearing, which helped convince the court to grant her client custody of her children again.

HouseN2Home accepts donations of clean, high-quality furniture, and household items. They also welcome financial support to sponsor moves. But

what they desperately need are more volunteers. "We are at a critical point where the demand for our services has just exploded." Says Logue. "We're getting requests to help someone several times a week. But our volunteer numbers haven't necessarily kept up with that demand. If I could wave a magic wand, we would double the number of volunteers that are here."

HN2H uses word of mouth, social media, and its website to request financial and furniture donations and recruit Individuals and groups to volunteer their time and resources. They also offer team-building experiences for organizations and corporations.

To volunteer, donate or sponsor a move, or for more information, contact HouseN2Home at www.housen2home.org



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AUTO ACCIDENTS • MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
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U.S. Postal Worker Makes the Best of a Serious Accident



Deb White

On February 1, 2019, Deb White was working as a mail carrier and stopped to deliver mail on Holland Sylvania Road in Toledo, Ohio when the driver of a commercial

minivan struck the left rear of the mail truck and drove it up off the roadway. The Toledo Police officer who responded to the scene cited the other for failure to maintain assured clear distance.

This crash caused Deb to suffer a permanently impairing injury to her right ankle that substantially limits her ability to earn a living and support herself. She has undergone multiple surgeries, and now faces a lifelong diagnosis of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome ("CRPS") from this injury, which may worsen in the future.

At the time of this accident, Deb had been a mail carrier for 23 years. She was in excellent physical shape and living a full and active life. She had recently been assigned to a new route, one she waited five years to get.

Today, Deb suffers constant pain in her right leg every single day of her life. Aside from the physical pain, Deb is also devastated that she can no longer work the way she once did as she took pride in being a mail carrier. Prior to this crash, she regularly worked overtime and planned to continue doing so until retirement. Now, Deb remains incapable of working more than 6 hours a day and is facing a future where she anticipates she will ultimately be unable to work as a mail carrier as CRPS progresses. These restrictions have serious implications for Deb both personally and professionally. CRPS is a permanent disease with no cure and will progressively worsen over time.

We filed a lawsuit in August 2020, and after a year of hard-fought litigation, we successfully negotiated a settlement for Deb, with only two months to spare before trial. Upon reaching a settlement, Deb said, "I



now have peace of mind after losing so much of my financial independence. With only working reduced hours, I was terrified about how I would pay my mortgage and bills. Stress is one of the worst things for CRPS, so being able to pay off my mortgage early was a huge relief to me."

Despite the struggles that come along with CRPS, Deb is working with doctors and therapists to learn new coping techniques and is managing the symptoms as best as she can.

"I hired Chuck Boyk at the recommendation of a friend and I'm so glad I did. It was almost two years from the day of the accident until the day my case settled, and Chuck and his staff were beside me and fighting for me every step of the way. Everyone that I encountered was extremely caring and understanding. It is clear that Chuck and his staff is passionate about getting the best possible outcome for his clients." - Deb White

Boyk Law Advantage: Nursing Paralegal



Emma Sullivan

All of our legal assistants and paralegals here at Charles Boyk Law have an important role to play when it comes to handling your case, and no one more so than our Nurse Paralegal, Emma Sullivan. With her previous experience in hospital settings and insurance processing, Emma brings a unique, invaluable perspective to the team.

A paralegal is deeply involved in the proceedings of each case, from beginning to end, handling much of the necessary paperwork and communication. A nurse paralegal's job,

with medical documentation, standards, and procedures, and apply that experience in a legal context. The nurse paralegal creates a cohesive timeline of treatment, from the date of an incident to recovery—they review what is sometimes hundreds of medical record documents, and piece together each appointment, diagnosis, prescription, and procedure.

However, their work isn't done there — next comes the analysis of the treatment. Given their medical experience, a nurse paralegal is able to

however, is even more specific, and especially vital for cases that involve medical treatment (such as auto accidents, medical malpractice, and worker's compensation, which are only a few of the types of cases we handle!)

As the title suggests, a nurse paralegal is a paralegal with a medical background. They are familiar

understand why physicians and medical practitioners make the decisions they do, and if those decisions follow what is known as a standard of care. With this knowledge, they are able to direct the flow of research on the part of our firm and bring our attention to the most important details of our client's treatment and health.

"Emma is trained as both a nurse and a paralegal, so she knows what to look for in order to help you prepare and to prove your case," says Attorney Chuck Boyk. She is professionally trained in analyzing medical records. Instead of 2000 pages, she can provide a 15-page summary with all of the important medical information. I can analyze the facts better using the summary and we will give you a copy as well, so you can be better prepared for your deposition. It's a distinct competitive advantage of using Charles Boyk Law"

Having the trained eye of a nurse paralegal available to review and guide the treatment of our clients is just one way we here at Charles Boyk ensure you are getting the best care for your case. With her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, along with her emergency room and Nurse Health Education experience, Emma brings essential skills and expertise to our team to ensure the most thorough evaluation at every step of your case.

Ohio To Put Body Cameras On Every Guard in Every Prison After Inmate Deaths



The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction recently announced that it is implementing a plan to purchase and deploy more than 5,000 body cameras on all its guards and parole officers. It is one of the largest deployments of body cameras in the world and it is designed to hold officers accountable.

Ohio prisons have notoriously been plagued with an increasing number of incidents involving excessive force and sexual abuse by guards. It is not a coincidence that this project is being implemented after an inmate at an Ohio prison died when prison guards pulled him from his cell, got into a fight with him, and then refused to provide lifesaving medical care. Part of the assault was caught on camera verifying the conduct – which led to the guards and medical staff being terminated. It also follows an incident where Chillicothe prison guards beat and paralyzed a young inmate and then laughed and bragged in text messages about how good it felt to have broken his neck and played a role in paralyzing him. The State of Ohio agreed to pay the former inmate \$17.5 million for what the guards did.

There is no dispute that law enforcement and corrections officers put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe and the vast majority of them are professional and upstanding officers who protect civil rights. But there is also no dispute that there are some that dishonor the profession by betraying their power and the public's trust. Holding these bad actors accountable is the only way to change the system.

Our firm investigates and brings legal action against individuals and organizations who violate civil rights laws. If you have suffered serious injury or were sexually abused by law enforcement, contact us to see how we might be able to help.



Client Birthday Celebration



Happy 101st Birthday to Tom Browning, client, and neighbor of Boyk Law Attorney Mike Bruno. Tom is a WWII Veteran who was a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. He worked for O-I and Owens Corning in their Information Technology Department, helping to shepherd them through the dawn of the computer age. Happy Birthday Tom!



CASES OF INTEREST: MARCH 2022

Semi-Truck Runs Red Light & Causes Collision in Intersection

Our client was traveling southbound on Locust Street in Oak Harbor, approaching the intersection of Water Street. At the same time, a semi-truck driver ran a red light, unlawfully proceeded into the intersection, and smashed into the front driver's side of our client's vehicle. Emergency services came to the scene and removed our client from his vehicle. Our client was then taken to the hospital and was admitted to the ICU. He was found to have a broken pelvis, broken sternum, broken ribs, and a ruptured spleen. He was hospitalized for several weeks followed by in-patient rehab and recently released home to the aid of home healthcare.

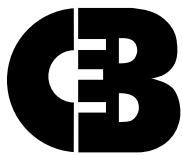
Clamp Left Inside Patient After Bariatric Surgery

Years after undergoing bariatric surgery our client began experiencing significant bleeding and constant pain. She suffered nerve pain down both legs and pain in her abdomen. After undergoing a subsequent surgery, it was discovered that a clamp was left from the bariatric surgery and was found to be lodged in her uterus and embedded in her nerves. She was advised that another surgery was needed to remove the clamp and a complete hysterectomy would have to be performed. Our office is pursuing a medical malpractice action against the bariatric surgeon.

Employee Suffers Ankle Fracture After Slip & Fall Incident at Work

While on the job, our client slipped and fell on ice. She immediately experienced intense pain in her right ankle and foot and was taken to the hospital. There she underwent imaging and was found to have fractured and dislocated her ankle. Our client followed up with an orthopedic doctor who found her ankle broken in three places. Our client was scheduled to have an internal fixation procedure. However, the doctor had concerns that several more surgeries would be needed to repair the ankle. Our office is pursuing a workers' compensation claim on behalf of our client.





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March's Raving Fan of the Month

"Charles Boyk and team are some of the best, hardest working people! When my son was in his accident the first thing they wanted to know was if he was okay? Like a family! They were attentive to our case and gave get advice in our situation. Would definitely use them again! Great people!!" - Jamie S.

Have a positive review to share? Go to boykreviews.com to tell us about your experience!

RECIPE:

Lip Smacking Stovetop Teriyaki Wings

INGREDIENTS:

- Chicken Wings
- Bottled Teriyaki Sauce – (Kikkoman Takumi Collection recommended or other thicker sauce). If you prefer, substitute a thicker style barbecue sauce
- Scallions
- Hot sauce or chopped spicy pepper of your choice (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cook the wings in a pan over med heat to slightly brown the outside skin.
2. Add water to the pan until the level reaches just over halfway up the wings.
3. Add 2 Tablespoons of sauce for every four wings in your pan. (i.e., 20 wings = 10 tablespoons of sauce)
4. Add chopped peppers or a dash or two



- of hot sauce to suit your taste (optional)
5. Cook until the water boils away, turning the wings periodically so they cook evenly.
6. As the water evaporates the remaining sauce will thicken and coat the wings.
7. Remove the wings to a bowl or serving dish and drizzle the remaining sauce over them.
8. Add chopped scallions (optional)
9. Enjoy

New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know!

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