

The **BOYK** BULLETIN

CHARLES E. BOYK
LAW OFFICES, LLC

11 Offices >>> NW Ohio & SE Michigan

Congratulations Charles Boyk Law Family Class of 2023 Graduates

As the 2023 academic year comes to a close, it is time to celebrate the remarkable achievements of our high school and college graduates. These students overcame the unprecedented academic challenges of the pandemic and exhibited exemplary resilience and adaptability. The ability to navigate these challenges with grace is a testament to their determination, strength of character, and their ability to overcome obstacles. Their graduation is a culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance by these students and their families.

Charles Boyk Law Offices congratulates all graduating students this year on reaching this significant educational milestone. However, we are proudly celebrating the accomplishments of a few graduates within our Boyk Law family.

Attorney Andrea Young's son, Hunter Layson, is a graduate of Anthony Wayne High School. Hunter played football, wrestled, and ran track for the Generals. He

plans to attend the University of Toledo this fall.

Paralegal Bobbi Jo Kovac's son, Anthony Kovacs, graduated from Perrysburg High School. Anthony was a student-athlete and played lacrosse for the Yellow Jackets as an attacker. Anthony plans to attend Owens Community College and pursue a degree in their electrical program.

Paralegal Cristina Villanueva's son, Orlando

Villanueva, is a 2023 graduate of Springfield High School. Orlando will attend Defiance College in the fall and major in Biology on a pre-medical school track. He hopes to become a sports medicine doctor.

May your graduation be a launchpad for future successes and opportunities. We commend you for your achievements and wish you boundless success, and a future full of endless possibilities. Congratulations graduates!



Hunter Layson



Anthony Kovacs



Orlando Villanueva

CONTACT US TODAY!

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DOWNTOWN TOLEDO

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FINDLAY

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LIMA

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SWANTON

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Boyk Law Attorney Appointed to Plaintiffs' Committee in Ohio Train Derailment Case

Boyk Law's Wesley Merillat was appointed to the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee ("PSC") in the consolidated class action litigation involving the Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio.

On February 2, 2023, a Norfolk Southern train carrying hazardous chemicals derailed in East Palestine, sending plumes of toxins over the community, onto their land, and into their waterways. The derailment, which is one of the worst in history, ignited a massive disaster and has caused devastating impacts on human health and the environment. The litigation alleges that the train derailment and resulting chemical spill was the culmination of years of the rail industry's efforts to cut costs, slash its workforce, and lobby against safety regulations.

In cases like this – where there are a significant number of suits filed and a huge number

of people and businesses impacted, Federal Courts can appoint a team of select attorneys to coordinate and lead the litigation and oversee the common interests of all the plaintiffs involved.

The U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Ohio considered attorneys with significant experience with complex litigation, and with skills and knowledge to handle this type of litigation. "I am honored to serve alongside an esteemed group of attorneys, to work together on behalf of the individuals, businesses, and community members who have been injured and impacted by Norfolk Southern's dangerous negligence," said attorney Wes Merillat.



Charles Boyk, whose firm has a long history of working on toxic tort and complex litigation cases, noted that "Wes Merillat's leadership appointment is well-deserved. We are proud of his accomplishments and dedication to holding Norfolk Southern accountable to people affected by this disaster."

East Palestine Train Derailment Cases Move Forward



The Norfolk Southern train was carrying 100,000 gallons of ultra-toxic and dangerous chemicals when it derailed in East Palestine. The chemicals dispersed into air, soil, and water. First responders identified the potential of a catastrophic tanker

explosion and Ohio Governor Mike DeWine issued an evacuation order for anyone living within a mile of the derailment.

Norfolk Southern reported to Federal, State, and local governments that the only way to avoid a catastrophic tanker explosion was to conduct a controlled release and burn-off. They detonated explosive charges on these tankers causing them to spill out the chemicals into a trench and set it on fire. This detonation resulted in a large fiery explosion that formed plumes of thick black toxic smoke which filled the sky and rained down on people and property 30 miles in each direction, contaminating the air, soil, surfaces, and water of up to a half million people.

Area residents suffered personal injury, exposure to high concentrations of cancer-causing chemicals, had their property damaged and contaminated, businesses and jobs shut down. People, livestock, plants, crops, wildlife, water, and food supplies were affected.

Attorneys Chuck Boyk and Wes Merillat discuss the East Palestine class action lawsuit on episode 46 of the Boyk Brief Podcast, available on YouTube, Spotify, iHeart, Apple, Amazon, and other podcast platforms.

Toledo Bar Association Hosts Golf Outing

The Toledo Bar Association hosted its Annual Golf Outing on May 22 at Toledo Country Club. Boyk Law's own Andrea Young joined in the fun. It was a great opportunity to meet and socialize with other members of Toledo's legal community and support the TBA Pro Bono Program.



Andrea Young & Sarah Stephens at the 2023 Toledo Bar Association Golf Outing

"It is a chance for our members to come together and also support Pro Bono. We always have a great turnout and this year was no different" said Maggie Humphrey, the Toledo Bar Association's Director of Pro Bono & Community Engagement.

"It's a great way to connect with other local practitioners. I've made many friends and have met a lot of wonderful people participating in the Toledo Bar Association's events. I look forward to next year," says Boyk Law attorney Andrea Young.

RECIPE:

Sunsational Summer Strawberry-Watermelon Lemonade

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 cups boiling water
- 2 cups fresh strawberries, hulled and quartered
- 1 medium-sized melon
- 1 - 12 oz can frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed
- 3 tbsps. lemon juice
- Ice cubes

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Dissolve sugar in boiling water.
2. Place strawberries and watermelon in batches in a blender; cover and process until blended.
3. Pour blended fruit through a fine-mesh strainer; transfer to a large pitcher.
4. Stir in lemonade concentrate, lemon juice and sugar water.
5. Serve over ice.



Charles Boyk Law's Bikes for Kids Contest Accepting Nominations

Nominations for the 15th Annual Charles Boyk Law Offices Bikes for Kids contest are open through



June 25th. Parents, teachers, family, and friends are encouraged to enter a child into the Bikes for Kids contest by telling us why they deserve a bike. Children can be nominated by anyone for any reason. Charles E. Boyk Law Offices will choose 10 nominees to receive a free bike.

Watch for weekly video profiles of Bikes for Kids winners on WTOL TV's Your Day program, weekdays 9-10 am, and shared on Boyk Law social media. You can also view profiles of past winners at www.bikesforkidstoledo.com

Operation Clean Duds – Making a Difference



Charles Boyk Law supports Operation Clean Duds which provides laundry assistance to veterans and underprivileged families in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Paulding, and Williams counties. The 501 (c) (3) charity was founded by retired Army veteran Jasmine Conley to help people in need. The organization hosts events at area laundromats and provides laundry supplies, bags, and quarters.

“Operation Clean Duds helps ease their financial hardship and improves self-esteem, mental and physical health, and move on with their lives,” says Jasmine Conley. “We’re making lives better, one load at a time!”

The organization also works closely with veterans and is a Wounded Warrior Project-approved resource.

Operation Clean Duds receives funding from United Way, as well as corporate and individual donors. For more information on how to donate or volunteer, visit www.operationcleanduds.org

CASES OF INTEREST: JUNE 2023

Mother, Daughter, & Pets Rear-Ended By Semi-Truck

Our client and her daughter were traveling on State Route 34 and had slowed to make a left turn when a semi-truck smashed into the back of their vehicle. Their vehicle was impacted with such force that the rear of their van folded up into the middle seat. One of our clients suffered significant injuries including multiple fractures in her spine. At the time of the accident, our clients had a dog and a hedgehog in the vehicle. Luckily, the animals were unharmed, but the supplies and cage were completely destroyed. Our office recovered reimbursement for their property and is seeking compensation for their medical bills and pain and suffering.

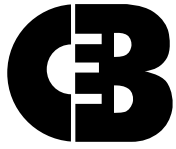
Employee Trips Over A Metal Rod In Parking Lot

Our office represents a woman who was walking to her car after leaving work when she tripped on a metal rod protruding from the surface of the parking lot. As she walked to her car, her shoe got stuck on the upright piece of metal causing her to fall face first. She injured her face and chest and fractured her elbow. Our office is pursuing a workers' compensation claim and an injury claim, seeking compensation for her injuries, lost wages, and pain and suffering.

Disabled Elderly Woman Dropped Off Transport Bus

Our client, an elderly woman in a wheelchair, was loaded into a medical transport vehicle so she could be transported to another facility. She was not secured properly and fell out of the back of the vehicle, onto the ground and landed on her back. Due to the fall, she suffered a brain bleed, multiple broken ribs, and a long hospitalization.





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June's Raving Fan of the Month

“I couldn't dare attempt to write enough good things about the results, treatment, and respect I got and have for Boyk Law Offices. Well done.”
– *Phillip E.*

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

THE BOYK BRIEF



NEW! Episode 45 with Brightz

Attorney Mike Bruno talks with Eric Finch, Co-Founder of Brightz, LTD, a Toledo-based business that began with the idea of a 12-year-old kid. He and his father, Ron, developed LED lighting that was intended to decorate his bedroom, but Eric immediately tried the prototype on his bike. It created a successful business with products that are now sold in major retail stores like Meijer, Walmart and Target.

Today, Brightz makes colorful and vibrant LED lights for bikes, trampolines, camping tents, and even cornhole boards to keep the fun going even when the sun goes down! In this podcast episode, Eric shares his journey from 12 years

old to present day, discussing the history and growth of the company, and how they helped create the nationwide popularity of nighttime bike rides called 'Glow Rides,' or 'Glow Rolls' which usually feature bikes equipped with their products.

Brightz is partnering with Charles Boyk Law this year on our Bikes for Kids contest and will provide their LED lighting products to all of our bike recipients.

You can find this and all of our Boyk Brief podcast episodes at www.charlesboyk-law.com/the-boyk-brief-podcast

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

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