

The **BOYK** BULLETIN

CHARLES E. BOYK
LAW OFFICES, LLC

11 Offices >>> NW Ohio & SE Michigan

Boyk Law Files Suit Against City of Toledo For Deadly Police Pursuit Practices

Toledo Police engage in vehicle pursuits at a rate 350% higher than the national average, as per the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics. The majority of their high-speed chases often stem from minor traffic violations. The tragic case of Mohamed Souare exemplifies the severe consequences of TPD's pursuit practices and the need for change.

A U.S. citizen and Army National Guard member, Souare was an innocent bystander who fell victim to a pursuit initiated after a minor infraction. Despite knowing the driver's identity, residence, and only a minor offense being involved, a pursuit was initiated by TPD and conducted at speeds over 110 mph through residential neighborhoods. Ultimately, the chase ended with TPD units crashing into each other, and a fatal collision involving Mr. Souare.

Boyk Law filed a civil suit on behalf of Mr. Souare's family in federal court. "Toledo's pursuit practices prioritize suspect apprehension over public safety, deviating from the practices in other major cities and placing innocent citizens in harm's way," said the family's attorney Charles Boyk. "Our suit not only seeks to recover wrongful death damages for Mr. Souare's widow and his two young children but also seeks to help drive needed changes in TPD pursuit policies to protect the public."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, local police agencies nationwide conduct an average of 8 pursuits per 100 officers employed. The Toledo Police annually conducts close to 28 pursuits per 100 officers – 350% more than the national average. Most of these pursuits are for a minor traffic infraction.

Over 36% of TPD's pursuits result in an accident. These pursuits not only result in injuries to suspects and officers but the vast majority of pursuit injuries are suffered by innocent bystanders who happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

While other cities restrict pursuits unless they involve violent felony offenders who present a greater and immediate danger to human life, TPD's pursuit practices place apprehension of the fleeing suspect, not public safety, as the paramount objective. When injuries occur to innocent citizens, TPD justifies its actions and blames the fleeing driver.

Charles Boyk Law Offices filed suit against the City of Toledo on behalf of Mr. Souare's family. We are hopeful that, in addition to bringing justice to Mr. Souare's family, the City of Toledo is forced to confront and change its practices for the safety of the citizens it is sworn to protect.



CONTACT US TODAY!

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Michigan Governor Signs Law Repealing Immunity for Drug Manufacturers

On December 7, 2023, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Senate Bill No 410. This bill repeals a 1995 law that provided immunity to drug manufacturers from product liability. Previously, the Michigan Product Liability Act (1995) exempted drug manufacturers and sellers from liability if the drug at issue obtained FDA approval and had compliant labeling. The only exception to immunity was if the FDA determined that fraud or bribery influenced the approval process – making it nearly impossible for Michiganders to sue big pharma.

For nearly 30 years, this law prohibited Michigan residents from recovering in state

or federal courts for injuries caused by prescription drugs. Under the new law, this immunity is repealed. Michigan plaintiffs are now allowed to claim and prove a product defect.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel celebrated the new law in a statement: “The Michigan Product Liability Act has been used for far too long to shield pharmaceutical companies from accepting responsibility when they knowingly defraud and harm the public[.] I applaud the legislature for finally addressing this one-of-a-kind bill that placed protections for large corporations over the safety of Michigan residents.”



Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer

Boyk Law Paralegal Takes on New Role



Sarah Sharpe with Prince

Paralegal Sarah Sharpe has helped countless clients during her 6-year career as a paralegal with Charles Boyk Law. She loved helping make people’s lives better by going the extra mile to close their cases. The same passion she used to help clients will now be focused on creating and building partnerships with our clients and vendors as our New Relationship Development Manager.

Sarah was so very dedicated to her clients that it became difficult for her to pursue her personal goals. She wanted to move into

marketing but didn’t want to take away from her time working and fighting for them. She ultimately decided to accept a new position with the firm but took the time to train a successor to take over cases and provide our Boyk Law clients with the same excellent customer service that they’ve come to expect.

Sarah steps away from her desk job and into an exciting, yet different direction. She is ready to take her act on the road. Sarah plans to visit each of our community offices and introduce herself to area business leaders. Her goal is to build relationships with outside vendors, encourage new business partnerships, and create more community involvement opportunities for the firm.

“Unless you’ve been injured in an accident or have personally dealt with our firm,” says Sharpe, “you may not know about Boyk Law. I want to grow our business through partnerships and awareness.”

Sarah wants to build amazing relationships but her mission remains the same, to help people and improve their lives. She believes that spreading the news about Charles Boyk Law is a great way to help the most people.

CHARLES BOYK LAW STAFF & CLIENTS SOCK IT TO THE HOMELESS

Charles Boyk Law wishes to send out a HUGE Thank You to everyone who donated to the Sock It to the Homeless campaign. We dropped our multiple donations of new socks to help Toledo’s Homeless keep them warm during the winter season. We were amazed to see how much of the community came together to help this cause! Together our small acts can make a huge impact. For more information about the sock drive and to see us drop off your donations, visit the Charles Boyk Law Offices Facebook page, www.facebook.com/reel/1121075005919924



Emily Warnimont Joins Boyk Team As Intern Law Clerk

We're thrilled to introduce our newest team member, Emily Warnimont, our intern law clerk. Emily grew up in Miller City, Ohio in Putnam County. She attended Miller City High School and went on to get her undergraduate degree in Paralegal Studies. She is now in her second year as a full-time student at the University of Toledo's College of Law.



Emily Warnimont

Emily has already interned in the Wood County Court of Common Pleas for Judge Kuhlman and Toledo Law Firm Marshall Melhorn.

In addition to her school and Boyk Law commitments, she is also an associate member of the University of Toledo's Law Review. We're excited to have her talents and enthusiasm on the Charles Boyk Law team.

RECIPE: Sizzling Stovetop Sticky Terriyaki Wings

This recipe is for 4 large wings but can be expanded to cook a large skillet full. Use about 2 tablespoons of sauce for every 4 wings.

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 large chicken wings
- 2 tablespoons teriyaki sauce
- 1 fresh red chili pepper (optional)
- 2 green onions

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Put the wings into a hot pan – they should fit snugly. Brown them for about 1 minute on each side.
2. Add the teriyaki sauce and just cover the wings with water. I recommend Kikkoman Original Takumi Collection Teriyaki Sauce because it is flavorful, thick, and infused with sesame seeds.
3. Add slices of red chili pepper or other favorite to the simmering water, if you like your wings spicy.
4. Cook until the chicken is cooked through and tender, and the sauce reduces and thickens.
5. Turn the wings and coat them in the sticky, teriyaki sauce.
6. Remove the wings to a plate or bowl and add a splash of red wine vinegar to the pan to loosen and pick up the thickened sauce. Pour over the wings to fully pick up the goodness left in the pan.
7. Top the wings with chopped green onions and gather a lot of napkins.



CASES OF INTEREST: FEBRUARY 2023

Teenage Passenger Killed in Single-Car Accident When Driver Flees Police & Runs Stop Sign

Our client was the front passenger in his friend's vehicle at the time of this accident. Initially, the driver of the vehicle was signaled by police to pull over after the officer witnessed the vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. While the police attempted to initiate a traffic stop for this speed violation, the driver failed to stop. As a result, the officer engaged in a pursuit, which was terminated just after a few minutes prior to this accident. Over a mile away from where the pursuit was terminated, the driver was still traveling at an unsafe speed when they failed to stop at a posted stop sign, causing the vehicle to veer off the right side of the road. Ultimately, the vehicle struck two trees before coming to its final rest. Our client was pronounced dead at the scene. Due to the recklessness of the driver, our client tragically lost his life at the young age of seventeen. Our office is pursuing a wrongful death action on behalf of the surviving family.

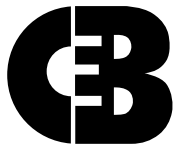
Woman Resuscitated After Accident Ejects Her From Vehicle

Our client was T-boned by another driver, which caused our client's vehicle to turn over multiple times, crossing the median. As a result, she struck another vehicle in the opposite lane of traffic. This three-car accident led to our client being completely ejected from the driver's seat in her vehicle. The client was initially found to be deceased but was resuscitated shortly after the accident, leaving her on life support for an extended period. She suffered various other injuries such as fractures in her leg, pelvis, ribs, and various parts of her spine. Since the accident, our client has been receiving intensive care and underwent several surgeries. Miraculously, our client is at a point where she is currently trying to learn how to walk again. Our office is pursuing a negligence claim against the driver who T-boned our client.

Man Severely Injured In Accident When Other Party Runs Red Light

Our client was traveling through an intersection and was suddenly struck by another vehicle that had just run a red light. At the time of this accident, our client was transporting patients as a part of his employment. Upon impact, both our client and the patient he was transporting suffered injuries. Our client sustained a fractured sternum, collapsed lung, phrenic nerve damage, and numerous other injuries that have required lengthy hospital stays and multiple procedures. Our office is pursuing both a workers' compensation claim and a separate negligence claim against the other involved driver on behalf of our client.





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Boyk Law Updates Our Bowling Green Office

Charles Boyk Law's Bowling Green Office has a new home. We're still in the Sentinel Building at 121 E Wooster Street but have moved to Suite 100 on the first floor. The whole building is being renovated and Boyk Law was relocated to a prime location. We now have our own entrance right off Wooster, only steps from the heart of downtown B.G. The new location has great natural light coming through two large windows and is spacious and comfortable. Contact our office at 419-241-1395 to schedule an appointment to meet one of our attorneys in Bowling Green, or at any one of our eleven offices across Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan.

January's Raving Fan of the Month

“Was great working with this team. Katie was always so patient and explained every step and they made sure that I got the money that I deserved. Definitely recommend!”

– Brianna L.

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

TERESA RICHARDSON BRINGS LEGAL EXPERIENCE TO BOYK LAW

Teresa Richardson has joined Charles Boyk Law as an Administrative Legal Assistant. She has worked in multiple law firms during her career and brings a wealth of experience with her to her new role at Charles Boyk Law.

Teresa will provide clerical support to the Mass Torts and Litigation Department and help with other cases as needed. She will also be working on Probate issues, dealing with Minor settlements and Estate Assets.

She attended Anthony Wayne High School before getting her Associates Degree from the University of Toledo to become a Legal Assistant. Teresa lives in Whitehouse, Ohio. She has a daughter who also attends Anthony Wayne and plays in the Marching Band.



Teresa Richardson

Teresa says the staff at Boyk Law's Holland Office is “very nice and welcoming” and she loves the location. We are also happy to welcome her to our team.

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

Call (419) 241-1395 or e-mail marketing@charlesboyk-law.com