

The **BOYK** LAW REPORT

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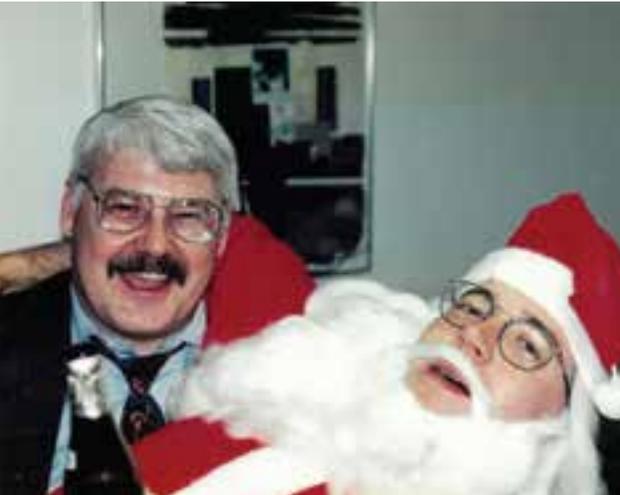
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MASS TORTS • SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

Max Rayle: A Fantastic Lawyer & A Better Person

by Chuck Boyk



criminal, administrative, general, and appellate law from a base in Bowling Green, Ohio, for 37 years. He was the senior partner of the 3-man law firm of Rayle, Matthews, and Coon.

Max's clients were everyone. Rich and poor. Private individuals, insurance companies, and he was a superstar drunk driving defense attorney. Max was the attorney's attorney. When an attorney or judge had a legal issue, Max was the lawyer everyone sought out. His peers knew he was the best.

Max loved the idea of being and representing the underdog. He relished going against the large law firms that tried to paper him to death. Max was obviously very intelligent. What most people did not know was that his secret power was preparation and a tremendous work ethic. He knew the case better than his opponent.

His longtime partner, Scott Coon stated, "You can't pick a better friend, mentor, and partner than Max." Max was a true Renaissance man. He was known for his love of Corvettes and the yearly Indianapolis 500 Party, which he held at his house. Any room he entered, he was the ray of sunshine and entertainment. He argued multiple cases before the Ohio Supreme Court and was very proud of his legally related volunteer work, including the Board of Trustees of the Wood County Bar Association and Public Defender's Commission, and being selected as the 21st "Jester" of the OSBA Board.

Max's will included \$2000 for a wake at The Attic in downtown Bowling Green, after his death. Attorneys and friends, including an Ohio Supreme Court Justice, came from all over Ohio to raise a last drink in honor of Max.



Max Rayle

The best trial lawyer I ever saw in person was Max Rayle. Max was a giant in the courtroom. He was very funny and entertaining and was the life of the party. His humor was self-deprecating. It was "his" courtroom. He was the most trustworthy voice to the jurors, the judge, and other counsel.

I met Max when he represented a young man who ran over a small child who darted into the roadway. The case was in the early 2000s and was a wrongful death jury trial in front of Judge James Jensen in Lucas County. Plaintiffs' attorneys Jim Godbey and George Rogers represented the estate of the boy. I was representing pro bono, the co-defendant's 13-year-old babysitter who let go of the little boy's hand. The huge personalities of Max and Jim Godbey were like 2 grizzly bears fighting in the woods. The end result was a complete defense verdict with Max dominating the courtroom.

After that trial Max became a friend, mentor, and my attorney. In the early 2000s, when I caught an attorney and alleged close friend in my office committing large-scale embezzlement from the law firm, I turned to Max. Max helped me resolve the issue with the mandatory reporting to the bar association and the resulting lawsuit. He continued as the voice of reason for me and my law firm until his death.

Max died much too young at the age of 64 from lung cancer in 2013. He practiced civil,

Boyk Law Files Suit in Death of 16-Year-Old Disabled Resident of Care Facility

Family of Teen Seeks Justice After Son Dies from Fentanyl Laced with Animal Tranquilizer at State-Licensed Care Facility in New Paris, Ohio

Charles Boyk Law Offices has filed a civil lawsuit in Preble County, Ohio on behalf of the family of Jordan Shinn, a profoundly intellectually disabled teenager who died at the age of 16 while under the care of a state-licensed residential facility. The suit alleges wrongful death, corporate negligence, breach of contract, and other claims related to Jordan's fatal exposure to fentanyl, xylazine, and phenobarbital. The civil lawsuit was filed in the Preble County Court of Common Pleas against Foundations and several affiliated corporate entities and individuals.

Jordan, who suffered from cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and other significant medical and developmental conditions, was a resident of the "Foundations" Intermediate Care Facility in New Paris, Ohio. He had been in the care of the facility since the age of seven. Despite promises by Foundations that he would be kept in a safe, supervised environment, Jordan was found unresponsive in his bed in the early morning hours of July 23, 2023. He was pronounced dead shortly thereafter.

A subsequent autopsy by the Montgomery County Coroner determined Jordan died from the combined toxic effects of fentanyl, xylazine, and phenobarbital. Xylazine, a veterinary tranquilizer not approved for

human use, and fentanyl are potent and often fatal components of illicit street drugs.

The lawsuit, filed by Jordan's mother, Ashley Shinn, and estate administrator Zackary Shaffer, alleges that:

- **Staff at Foundations—including employees with known drug use histories—failed to provide proper supervision, left personal belongings accessible to residents, and did not conduct or document mandated rounds as required;**
- **Despite repeated observations of staff members visibly impaired—such as falling asleep, nodding off, or exhibiting signs of drug or alcohol use while responsible for vulnerable residents—Foundations failed to take any corrective or disciplinary action to protect those in their care.**
- **The facility had no security or visitor logs, permitting unmonitored access to vulnerable residents;**
- **Foundations rehired at least one employee despite her known criminal drug record, complaints of impaired performance, and prior termination. This same employee was the last person to see Jordan awake/alive and she died of a drug overdose roughly one year after Jordan's death;**
- **The facility was undercapitalized and inadequately staffed, violating numerous state and federal care standards;**
- **The Ohio Attorney General and Preble County Sheriff's Office have both opened investigations following the Coroner's ruling of homicide.**



Jordan Shinn

"This tragedy should have never occurred. Jordan was a completely dependent child entrusted to a facility that promised to care for him," said lead attorney Charles E. Boyk. "Instead, due to reckless and systemic failures in hiring, supervision, and safety, Jordan died from lethal drug exposure inside what should have been a secure, structured medical facility."

The complaint also seeks punitive damages against the corporate and individual defendants, citing willful, wanton, and reckless disregard for the rights and safety of residents like Jordan.

Lexis+AI by Zac Shaffer

As technology continues to expand and develop, the driving factor that an attorney attempting to utilize AI in their workplace must consider is the accuracy and efficiency of the software. Whether you prefer Westlaw, Lexis Nexis, Decisis, or another case law research software, deciding what software to use comes down to one specific question: What is the most cost-efficient and time efficient software to use? In previous years, this question would come down to cost and preference. However, as technology continues to advance, attorneys must also consider what other features this software can provide. After testing both Westlaw and Lexis' version of AI, it is this author's opinion that Lexis AI is the superior research software available for numerous reasons.

First, Lexis+AI truly saves hours on any research assignment or project you may have. The software uses Protégé as its AI assistant. Protégé to Lexis+AI is the technological equivalent of Siri to Apple or Google to Android. In my experience, legal researchers take one of two stances on beginning a research project (and much like Coca-Cola v. Pepsi, there is no in-between...don't get me started on RC Cola fans). Either you start with the case law and work your way back, or you start with Google and

then narrow your research from there. While both methods of research have their clear advantages, both waste a fair amount of time as you delve through the catacombs of precedent. Using Lexis+AI, however, is the best of both worlds. Protégé's search engine combines the intuition and broadness of internet database searching with legal research. Having been a Lexis+AI member for nearly two months now, I can honestly say that I have saved hours of research time. In an industry where the phrase "time is money" is more than just a famous quote, this type of advantage cannot be overlooked.

Second, Lexis+AI's interface and adaptability are extremely user-friendly. As the tech-savvy attorney in the office, I get the pleasure of looking into and testing out new technology and software invented to make law firms more efficient. While enjoyable, it does come with its own hurdles. The biggest challenge, however, is training and ensuring that everyone in the office knows the full advantages of new technology and, more importantly, that everyone knows how to use it. As you can imagine, the more complicated a tool is to use, the harder it is to learn how to use it. That is not a problem with Lexis+AI. Its interface is easy to use regardless of your tech-savviness or level of expertise; you can learn how to use the basic necessities of Lexis+AI easily. Even some of the more intricate tools will take an amateur researcher seconds to learn compared to other options. To me, if you can

navigate Google with its numerous "sponsored" sites and advertisements, you will be able to learn the full benefits of Lexis+AI without breaking a sweat.

Finally, one of my favorite tools that Lexis+AI offers is its ability to draft documents. Lexis+AI offers the ability to draft documents such as demand letters, medical summaries, complaints, interrogatories and other legal documents. In addition to drafting documents, it can also review documents like motions or other pleadings that have been drafted or filed. The application of this tool is endless and Lexis's software is constantly growing, adapting, and improving. Like all other AI sources, it is still important that you maintain accountability and responsibility for any output. There may be mistakes, typographical or otherwise, but just like using an assistant to work on your cases, you need to review the work. But, just like saving hours on research, by having Lexis+AI start the drafting process, you will be freed up to spend more time on your clients and your practice.

While everyone's opinion is different on which legal research system is better, it is my opinion that Lexis+AI is the best option available. Like Westlaw and other big name legal software, Lexis+AI isn't the cheapest option compared to other AI tools. But, when you consider the reliability of the research and the features that it offers, Lexis+AI is the best tool for efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and reliability that I have had the pleasure of using.

Important Safety Update for Ozempic & Similar GLP-1 Drug Users



If you've taken Ozempic or similar medications, there are growing legal and medical concerns you should know about. Thousands of people are developing serious and unexpected side effects from these drugs—ranging from vision loss to severe gastrointestinal issues.

What Is Ozempic?

Ozempic is a prescription medication used to manage type 2 diabetes and support weight loss. It is part of a class of drugs called GLP-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1s for short). Other similar drugs in this class include Wegovy, Rybelsus, Mounjaro, Zepbound, and Trulicity.

How Many People Use It?

The popularity of GLP-1 drugs has surged in recent years with prescriptions increasing over 2000% just between 2019 and 2022. Research indicates that about 1 in 8 U.S. adults have used or are using a GLP-1. This rise is fueled by their effectiveness in promoting weight loss and manufacturers promoting this through marketing, particularly through social media. The millions of Americans using these medications is generating billions in revenue for the manufacturer. But with this large and growing market of users, the potential impact of undisclosed side effects is huge.

Co-Counsel Opportunities

Whether you have an injury case that is outside your core practice area, a case you do not have time or the resources to pursue on your own, or a case outside your geographic area, our firm would love to talk with you about a referral or being associated as co-counsel.

We are proud to work with co-counsel throughout the country. And when those cases resolve, we are honored to pay significant referral and co-counsel fees.

For more information about Co-Counsel Opportunities, contact Charles E Boyk Law Offices, by phone at 419-241-1395, email at referceb@charlesboyk-law.com or visit our website, www.charlesboyk-law.com/referral

What's the Issue?

Since hitting the market, hundreds of thousands of GLP-1 users have reported suffering adverse reactions/effects. Many of these users report very similar side effects that manufacturers did not clearly disclose to the FDA, medical community, or to patients on their warning labels. These include:

- **Gastroparesis** (a condition that slows or stops the movement of food from the stomach to the small intestine)
- **Intestinal/bowel obstruction or blockage**
- **NAION** – (non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy) which can cause sudden and potentially permanent vision loss.

Medical studies support users' claims, linking GLP-1 medications to these injuries. Alarming, a recent Harvard Medical School study that found diabetic patients taking certain GLP-1s had a 400% increased risk of vision loss compared to other diabetic drugs. For overweight patients, the risk was greater than 700%.

What's Being Done?

Because of the growing number of cases, lawsuits have been filed by individuals who developed serious gastrointestinal injuries after using GLP-1 drugs. In February 2024, these lawsuits were combined into a multidistrict litigation (MDL) in federal court in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Judge Karen Marston is overseeing the litigation. Cases involving NAION are currently being handled outside this litigation. But these claims are continuing to grow and may also be consolidated in the future.

Who Are the Defendants?

The lawsuits focus on two major pharmaceutical companies:

- **Novo Nordisk**, maker of Ozempic, Rybelsus, and Wegovy
- **Eli Lilly**, maker of Mounjaro, Zepbound, and Trulicity

These lawsuits allege that the companies placed profits over patient safety – claiming the makers knew about the potential harm their drugs could do, but decided against adequately warning patients and doctors about the full range of potential side effects.

What Should You Do?

If you've taken any GLP-1 drug, including Ozempic, Wegovy, Rybelsus, Mounjaro, or Trulicity are experiencing symptoms like persistent gastrointestinal pain or vision changes, it is important to talk to your doctor. If you have been medically treated for any such conditions after using GLP-1 drugs, you may have a claim. Our firm is actively investigating GLP-1 cases and are available for a free consultation if you have questions, or would like us to review your case.

ABOUT THE CO-COUNSEL NEWSLETTER

Charles Boyk Law was founded more than 20 years ago with the intent of helping people in need. Behind a team of outstanding lawyers, professional support staff, and state-of-the-art technology, our firm has grown to become one of the leading personal injury law firms in NW Ohio and SE Michigan.

We consider it an honor to be contacted by attorneys, both locally and across the U.S., who are seeking co-counsel to help litigate complex personal injury cases. It is an even greater honor when those attorneys refer us a case involving their loved ones or friends.

Our co-counsel newsletter is tailored to attorneys. It highlights examples of cases we are handling and provides updates on litigation. If you have a personal injury case you are looking to refer, we invite you to consider our firm. Our team of attorneys and professional staff have the experience, knowledge and resources to provide your clients with the best representation and maximize the recovery.



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A Newsletter by Attorneys, For Attorneys

The BOYK LAW REPORT

VOLUME 2 • ISSUE 11
AUGUST, 2025

▶▶▶ Toledo Bar Association CLE Opportunities



ADVOCATING OPPORTUNITY

TVPA (Trafficking Victims Protection Act) in Real Life: Understanding & Responding to Labor Trafficking Cases

August 27, 2025, 12:00 – 1:30 pm, Live Interactive Webinar, 1.5 General Credit Hours

Description: Although human trafficking has become a familiar topic, significant deficiencies remain in identifying and responding to labor trafficking. Unfamiliarity with these cases, among other factors, limits our ability to connect with labor trafficking victims and direct them to available legal remedies. This also limits the scope of policies, procedures, and laws directed at human trafficking broadly. There is a need for improvement and this presentation seeks to address that.

In doing so, this presentation will deconstruct the elements and nuances of labor trafficking cases. This will involve breaking down force, fraud, and coercion, with special attention to coercion; establishing the line between those elements, traffickers' actions, and labor; and presenting tools for real-life application of the labor trafficking framework set out by the TVPA. The presentation will highlight barriers intertwined with many cases and will explore some of the legal remedies available to victims of trafficking. At the conclusion of the presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge to interactive case studies. Attendees should leave with an improved understanding of labor trafficking, how to identify and respond to it in everyday cases, and legal remedies available to trafficked individuals.

Presenter: Rebecca J. Bundy, Esq., Advocating Opportunity, a Staff Attorney with Advocating Opportunity, specializing in immigration and expungements.

Improving Outcomes for Families: How Co-Parenting Apps Can Prevent Families From Returning to Court & Keep Them On Track For Success

September 11, 2025, Live Interactive Webinar, 1.0 General Credit Hour

The OurFamilyWizard app (OFW) is frequently included in parenting agreements as a way to reduce litigation and improve family outcomes. Learn how OFW can simplify co-parenting communication, prevent coercive control, and streamline the work of practitioners. This training will also include our new updates and information regarding our new Calls feature.

Communication problems plague families in divorce or separation. While more of the correspondence is moving to email and texting, from the court's perspective, these forms of communication are often unreliable and easy to manipulate. In turn, court dockets are continually overloaded with custody cases coming back to court due to communication breakdowns, often with insufficient evidence. This presentation will advise family law practitioners of communication technology ordered by the court in high-conflict custody and visitation cases. Practitioners will learn how to stay informed of co-parent communication using online tools. Each attendee will receive examples of agreements and court orders currently used to specify parent and practitioner use of OFW, as well as a full demonstration of the available features on OFW.

Presented by: Guiseppe Fricano, Professional Liaison for OurFamilyWizard.

New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know! Call 419.241.1395 or e-mail marketing@charlesboyk-law.com